

What is the Parent's Role?

Parent actively participates to:

- ◆ Identify activities, and learning opportunities the child and family enjoy
- ◆ Try out some of the practices talked about with the coach
- ◆ Decide which practices work or what needs to be done differently

Parent's responsiveness to their child is key to promote improved child participation

What is the Early Interventionist's Role?

Primary coach supported by a team of skilled professionals

Primary coach visits regularly to:

- ◆ Explore activities, learning opportunities, and practices with the parent
- ◆ Try out some of the practices talked about with the family
- ◆ Find out which practices work and what might need to be thought about differently with the team

Birth to 3 Guiding Principles

- Children's optimal development depends on their being viewed first as children and second as children with a disability.
- Children's greatest resource is their family
- Parents are partners in any activity that serves their children.
- Just as children are best supported within the context of family, the family is best supported within the context of the community.
- Professionals are most effective when they can work as a team member with parents and others.
- Collaboration is the best way to provide comprehensive services.
- Early intervention enhances the development of children.

Some brochure contents adapted from Script for Explaining an Evidence-Based Early Intervention Model (D. Rush & M. Shelden, 2008)

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"Meet Your Birth to 3 Team"



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Wisconsin's Birth to 3 Program believes in using practices supported by research. These practices are commonly referred to as evidence-based practices. An approach to providing services and supports to families includes three important components (1) natural learning environment practices; (2) coaching as an interaction style; and (3) a primary coach approach to teaming. This three-component model meets the requirements of Part C of the IDEA and uses family-centered help-giving practices as the foundation for the supports.

Every family has access to a full team of professionals:

A primary coach approach to teaming ensures that every family has access to a full team of early interventionists that always includes a Service Coordinator and can include an Early Intervention Special Educator, Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, and a Speech and Language Pathologist.

The team is responsible to support the primary coach through team meetings, to share information and ideas, to participate in joint visits to provide support or answer questions, and to attend IFSP meetings.

MEET OUR BIRTH TO 3 TEAM

**Jennifer Wikowski
Special Needs Supervisor**

Jennifer started her career with PCHHS in September 2007 as a Juvenile Court Intake Worker and was previously contracted with PCHHS for 2.5 years as a Community Resource Specialist and Children and Family Program Development Specialist. She has an educational background in Sociology, with an emphasis in Social Work, and is passionate about advocating for children and families. Jennifer continues to be dedicated to the development of evidence based practices, community collaboration, and provide comprehensive services to families in portage County.

**Lisa Kujawa, CSW
Birth to Three Service Coordinator**

Lisa is a Certified Social Worker and began her career at PCHHS in 1999 working with adults and teens with developmental disabilities. She transitioned to the Birth to Three Program in 2001. Lisa enjoys meeting families in their homes and in their community. She likes to help empower families to be their child's best advocate.

**Rochelle Check, SAC
Birth to Three Service Coordinator**

Rochelle started her career at PCHHS in 2012 working with children with mental health needs, and she has a background in social work and counseling. She transitioned to the Birth to Three Program in 2016. Rochelle enjoys helping families recognize and utilize their strengths. She likes working with families to advocate for their child.

**Brittany Peterson, DPT, PCS
Physical Therapist
Pediatric Certified Specialist**

Brittany has experience in all areas of pediatrics. She really enjoys working with children and their families in their own environment to help them learn to move more easily so they can play and participate in daily activities.

**Tami Schroeder, EC:EEN
Early Intervention Educator**

Tami is an Early Childhood Educator that has been working for Birth to Three since 2008. She enjoys coaching families who are struggling with behaviors and childhood development.

**Michele Caldwell, M.S., CCC-SLP
Speech/Language Pathologist**

Michele has over 24 years of experience as a certified Speech Language Pathologist. She earned an A.C.E. Award for excellence in taking continuing education classes, and she brings the most current and evidence based techniques to families. She enjoys empowering parents to feel confident helping their child grow and thrive.

**Kristine Taylor, OTR
Occupational Therapist**

Kristine has 18 years of experience working as an Occupational Therapist in the public school setting. She has recently joined the Birth to Three team and is very excited to work with children and their families to encourage sensory motor skills development and increase participation