

# **Chautauqua County use of Community Accessibility & Inclusion Grant Funds**



Chautauqua County EI - CYSHCN - CPSE

# Programming Challenges

- **Provider shortages**
- **Access barriers** (*transportation*)
- **Limited access to group settings**
- **Need for extra support** (*diagnosis/family dynamics*)
- **Other factors as a result**
  - Limited guidance for families
  - Increased stress for families
  - Missed opportunities





*Chautauqua County*

# Parent-Child Group Model

- **Accessibility**
  - Two locations
  - Free transportation
- **Blend of Early Intervention & CYSHCN families**
- **Three Components**
  - Skills development session
  - Parent support group
  - Nutrition component





*Chautauqua County Parent-Child Group Model*

# **Skills Development Session**

**Hands-on developmental practice led by  
PTs, OTs, and Special Instruction  
Teachers in a group setting**





*Chautauqua County Parent-Child Group Model*

# Parent Support Group

- **Dedicated parent time**
- **Educational sessions**
- **Therapist-facilitated discussions**
- **Peer network building**
- **Community resource navigation**





*Chautauqua County Parent-Child Group Model*

# **Nutrition and Healthy Meals**

- **Hands on learning**
- **Prepare a meal**
- **Take home recipes and supplies**



# Dunkirk Parent-Child Group



# Parent Support Group



# Nutrition Component



# Playtime!





# Free Transporation





# Impacts for Children & Families

- Earlier identification
- Connections
- Increased knowledge & skills
- Increased parent confidence





# Impacts for Children & Families

*Cont'd*

- Increased services
- Improved family engagement
- Better nutritional opportunities
- Summer programs
- Measurable success





# Long Term Impacts

*for County Programs*

- **Partnerships**
- **Migrant family engagement**
- **Support for families**
- **Inclusion of children with complex medical needs**
- **Transportation breakthrough**
- **Medicaid billing**





# Long Term Impacts

*for County Programs cont'd*

- **Scalable model ready for expansion**
  - Duplicate for Preschool CPSE Programming
- **Utilize past participants for listening sessions/surveys**
- **School & early childhood partnerships**
- **Referrals - filling gaps**
- **Start Strong referrals**
- **Higher education & workforce pipeline**
- **Future EI provider pipeline**





# Ongoing Challenges

- **Funding**
- **Access barriers**
  - Transportation
  - Services
  - Healthy food





# Long-Term Vision

- **Expand County-wide**
- **Strengthen transportation**
- **Integrate EI - CYSHCN - CPSE**
- **Expand grants**
- **Maintain inclusive model**
- **Accessibility**
- **Seamless support**
- **Remove barriers**



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