



Hello! Welcome to the Arizona Early Intervention Program's (AzEIP) newsletter.

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Spotlight



Sarah Patrick Greene, ICC Chair

With many years of dedicated service supporting her community, Sarah Patrick Greene has been a committed advocate and champion for fostering communities and empowering individuals and families with disabilities. She has served extensively on the Interagency Coordinating Councils for Infants and Toddlers (ICC), a committee composed of devoted families, state agencies, early childhood organizations, and community partners working in collaboration with the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP).

Throughout the years, in various capacities, Sarah contributed her expertise and deep passion to ensure effective early intervention services for Arizona's families and young children.

Sarah and her family moved to Arizona in 2014. She initially served on the ICC Collaboration and Education Subcommittee before seeking a gubernatorial appointment. Sarah was appointed to the ICC by Governor Doug Ducey in 2018. She participated in various subcommittees, such as the Family Engagement Committee and the Development Committee, as a parent, and accepted a leadership role after being nominated and approved as the Vice-Chair in 2021. On January 1, 2023, Sarah moved into the role of Chair of the ICC. Under Sarah's leadership, the ICC has worked to enhance early intervention services statewide. Beyond her professional and community commitments, Sarah is a proud mother of 15-year-old twins, one of whom is on the autism spectrum, which further fuels her dedication to this important work. One of Sarah's sons is an AzEIP Alumni. Together, Sarah and her family have successfully navigated and completed their early intervention journey through services in both California and Arizona.

At the end of this year, Sarah will be stepping down as the Chair of the ICC. Governor Katie Hobbs issued a commendation in recognition of Sarah Patrick Greene for her dedicated service to the State of Arizona's Boards and Commissions.

Currently, Sarah resides in Gilbert with her husband of 23 years and their twin boys.

For any parents looking for ways to make an impact in their communities, Sarah recommends outreach to your local school districts, working with Empower Families, and engaging with groups that have mission statements that align with similar values.

To learn more about the ICC, visit the website:

<https://des.az.gov/services/developmental-disabilities/early-intervention/icc-for-infants-and-toddlers>



Community Outreach

This month, the Arizona Youth Partnership (AZYPA) hosted a Read-On Express event for families in Gila County. The event was held at the Old Train Depot in Globe. Liaisons for the Department of Economic Security (DES) Child and Community Services Division, including AzEIP, attended the event to share DES resources with participants. All the children received books. Many families listened to stories, enjoyed hot cocoa, rode the train, and visited with Santa. Vendors hosted tables to share information and provide activities to join in the festivities. AZYP reported 1475 participants, including 645 children and 830 adults, celebrating the community!

Thank you

Public Participation on Revised Policies and Procedures Follow-Up

During the second half of 2025, AzEIP launched a series of public comment periods on proposed revisions to our policies and procedures (P&Ps). Proposed revisions included changes to the text as well as improvements to the structure and organization of our P&Ps. AzEIP received a robust response of a total of almost 250 public comments. Each public comment is being reviewed individually, and feedback and recommendations are being incorporated into the final drafts of the revised P&Ps. AzEIP is proud to have received such strong public participation and is thankful to all of the individuals and organizations who participated.

A free resource for Arizona families!




Birth to Five 
HELPLINE
877.705.KIDS
"Nothing Out of the Question"
"Toda Pregunta es Buena"



Do you have questions about your child's development? We can help!
¿Tiene preguntas sobre algún área del desarrollo de su niño pequeño? ¡Podemos ayudar!

A Free Service of  southwest human development
Creating a Positive Future for Young Children

BirthToFiveHelpline.org

Help your child grow and thrive

  **Download CDC's free Milestone Tracker app** 
Two million downloads and counting!

 Track & Share Milestones |  Get Tips & Activities |  Learn When to Act Early

Learn more at cdc.gov/MilestoneTracker

Encircle  Families



HOW DO WE HELP PROBLEM SOLVE?

CONNECTIONS

Our Parent-to-Parent program connects families with trained volunteers who have walked a similar path and are ready to offer compassionate support, understanding, and guidance.

HEALTH INFORMATION

When a child is diagnosed with a disability or complex medical need, families often don't know where to start. We help them understand systems of care and partner with providers to support their child's well-being.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

We help parents understand their rights and how to collaborate with schools through trainings and one-on-one guidance. We work with educators to provide them with the parent perspective and encourage partnership.

BEHAVIOR SUPPORT

Behavior is a form of communication—even when it's hard to understand. Encircle Families offers guidance, from basic strategies to more intensive support for families navigating challenging behaviors.

Encircle Families helps families navigate the complex systems of care and connect them with valuable resources in Arizona. They offer parent-to-parent support, health information, special education support, and training.

Upcoming Trainings and Events

- January 7 Positive Behavior Support
- January 8 IEP Training

Register at <https://encirclerfamilies.org/events/>



Professional Development Course Starts January 5

Join other learners in a cohort offered through Arizona State University.

Assessment Processes in Early Intervention begins on January 5. During the month-long online course, facilitated by an instructor, participants will explore how early experiences shape a child's emotional and psychological development. Learn more about the importance of early detection and intervention, equipping learners

with the knowledge to identify potential mental health challenges, and how to apply evidence-based strategies to support infants and their caregivers effectively.

<https://educatorhub.asu.edu/catalog/assessment-processes-early-intervention/>

For AzEIP Families

Arizona Early Intervention Program

AZEIP
FAMILY CONNECTION

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026
12 - 1 pm or 6 - 7 pm

Engage with AzEIP Leadership Team and learn about Family Resources Centers

- Ask questions & share your thoughts.
- Choose the time that's best for you.
- All families receiving early intervention services are invited.

Video call link:

<https://azdes.zoomgov.com/j/16027914312>

Dial by your location

• [+1 669 254 5252 US \(San Jose\)](tel:+16692545252)

• [+1 646 828 7666 US \(New York\)](tel:+16468287666)

Meeting ID: 160 2791 4312

For More Information Contact:

AzEIP (602) 532-9960 azeip@azdes.gov





Follow on Facebook

The Arizona Early Childhood Community Facebook page, hosted by the Interagency Coordinating Council's Family Engagement Committee, provides various early intervention resources and community events for families. Follow Arizona Early Childhood Community on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/azearlychildhoodICC>



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