

Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Early Intervention

Quarterly Meeting

August 7, 2026



HOUSEKEEPING



Interpretación en español: haga clic en el globo blanco en la parte inferior de la pantalla con la etiqueta "Interpretation." Luego haga clic en "Spanish" y seleccione "Mute original audio."



ASL interpreters have been "Spotlighted" and live closed captioning is active

- Raise hand, say first name and **speak slowly**



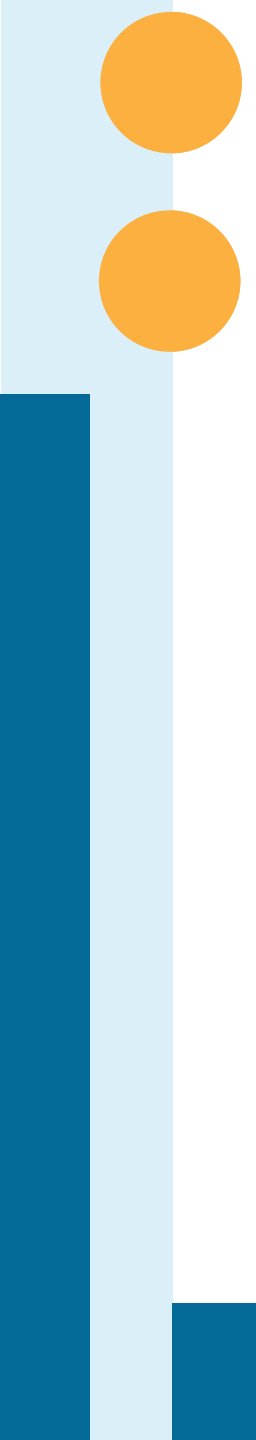
This meeting is being recorded



Materials are available at: <https://www.dds.ca.gov/services/early-start/state-icc-on-early-intervention-overview/>



Submit written comment via email to: earlystart@dds.ca.gov



HOUSEKEEPING-INTERPRETATION SERVICES

ASL INTERPRETERS

- ASL interpreters will be spotlighted during the meeting.

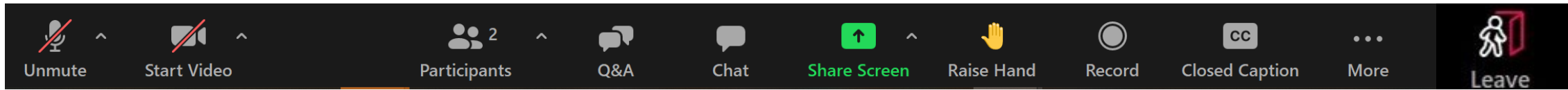
WHEN SPEAKING

- Please introduce yourself by stating your full name and who you represent.

PLEASE SPEAK SLOWLY

- To support our interpreters with accurately interpreting the information discussed during the meeting, please speak slowly.

ZOOM TIPS



Unmute
mic only
when it's
your turn to
speak



Turn your
webcam
on/off



Chat is available
for all attendees;
send chats to
“Everyone”



During public
comment,
please use
the raise
hand feature



Leave the
webinar at
the end of
the meeting

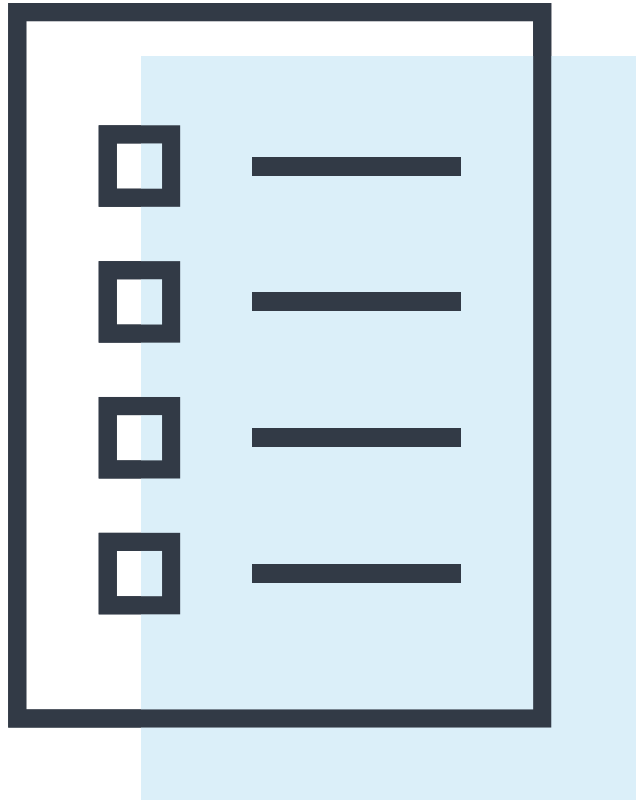


- Features will vary based on the version of Zoom and device you are using
- Some Zoom features are not available for telephone-only participants

ROLL CALL



AGENDA



- Welcome, Housekeeping Items, and Roll Call
- Review Agenda
- Review ICC Mission and Purpose
- Introduction of Meeting Theme: Importance of Early Start/Providers & Families
- Committee Reports
- Public Input
- Break
- ICEC: Infant Development Program
- Early Start Roundtable Video
- DMS Presentation
- Meet Dominic: How AAC Transformed His Communication Video
- Recap and Closing remarks

ICC MISSION AND PURPOSE



To promote and strengthen a coordinated system of services and supports for infants and toddlers, birth to three years old, who have or are at risk for a disability and their families. We are committed to a relationship-based, family-centered approach that fosters meaningful partnerships between families and professionals and encourages effective interagency collaboration.

ICC MISSION AND PURPOSE



As an advisory body to the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS), the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) seeks input and guidance from a diverse group of stakeholders. By incorporating a wide range of lived experiences and perspectives, we aim to ensure that our recommendations are inclusive, culturally responsive, accessible, and reflective of the needs of all communities we serve.

MEETING THEME

Importance of Early Start/Providers & Families



ICC COMMITTEE REPORTS



ICC COMMITTEE REPORTS

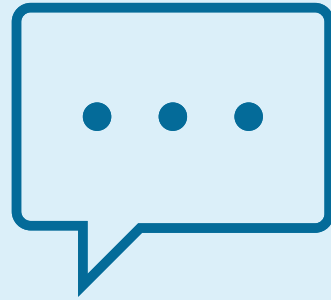


Improving State Systems

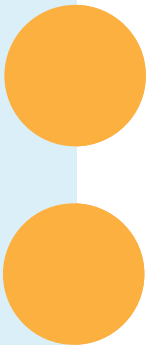
ICC COMMITTEE REPORTS



Communications and Outreach



PUBLIC INPUT



Public Input Guidelines

Comments Can be in Writing or Spoken

All comments are published as part of the public record and posted on the ICC website in the form of meeting minutes

Each Person has 2 Minutes to Comment

We want to make sure there's time to hear from everyone.

Commenting on Behalf of Others

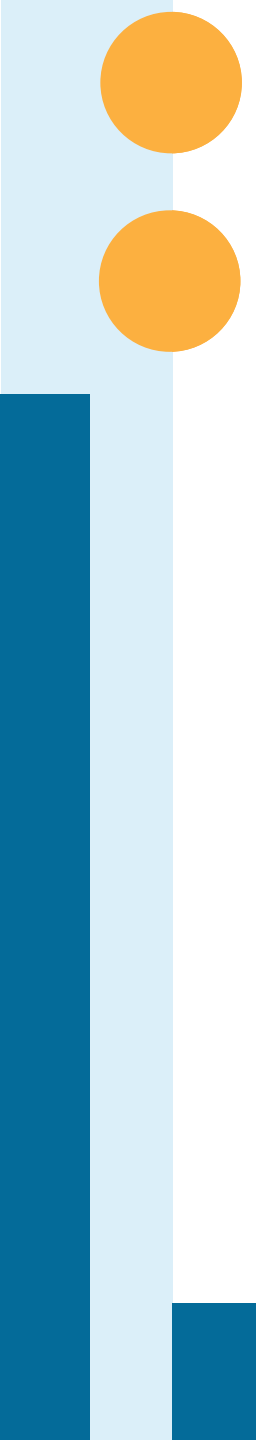
One person is welcome to share input from others, please just be mindful of time, summarize key points and turn in any written statements

Please Be Specific

A clear statement-including specific suggestions for addressing any concerns you may have- is most helpful

Want to share a PowerPoint or Video as Part of Your Public Comment at a Future Meeting?

Email EarlyStart@dds.ca.gov at least 14 days in advance with any audio/visual needs



Housekeeping-Interpretation Services

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BREAK
Return by 10:05 am



ICEC: INFANT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Pam Alexander, Executive Director





Growing Together: Family-Centered Group Early Intervention at ICEC

**Presented By: Pam Alexander,
Executive Director of ICEC**



Icec

Pediatric therapy, rooted in care

Supporting children and families to learn, play, and grow

- Non-profit pediatric therapy provider
- 40+ years serving greater Orange County
- Serve birth - 5 years old
- Transdisciplinary care
- Individual and group intervention
- Longstanding Regional Center partnership



WHY GROUP EARLY INTERVENTION?

Child Benefits

- Peer interaction
- Natural play opportunities
- Skill generalization
- Increased engagement

Parent Benefits

- Coaching
- Support network
- Confidence
- Shared learning

System Benefits

- Efficient use of multidisciplinary teams
- Increased access
- Collaboration
- Family-centered care



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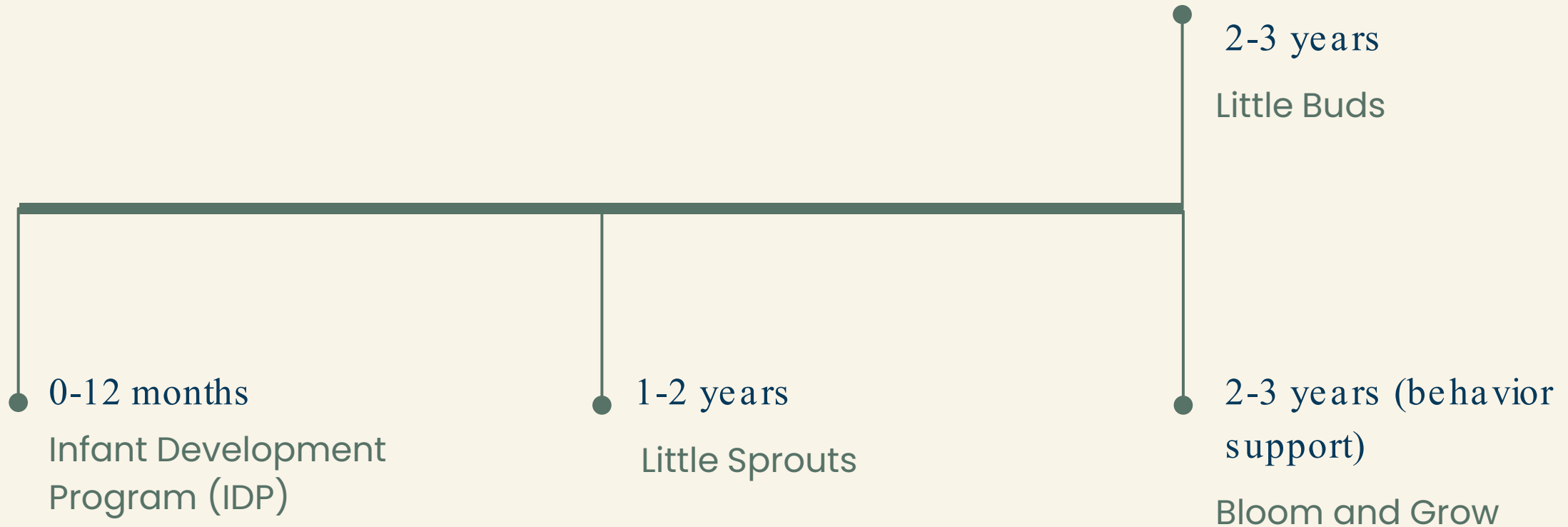
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Our Group Program Continuum





SPOTLIGHT: INFANT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (IDP)

The program provides weekly family-centered early intervention classes and specialized services for infants at risk for or experiencing developmental delays, made possible through the longstanding partnership with the Assistance League of Laguna Beach.

CONT'D



- Weekly program
- Wednesdays
- Laguna Beach
- Partnership with Assistance League of Laguna Beach
- Family-centered
- 0–12 months
- Developmental support
- Parent education
- Marriage and Family Therapist
- New Weekly Theme and Activities



THE PARTNERSHIP



ICEC & Assistance League of Laguna Beach

50+ year community partnership

No cost to families

Community-funded

Shared mission

Sustainable collaboration



Referral Sources

- Regional Centers
- NICU Discharge
- DSAOC
- Social Services
- Alumni Families
- Community



WHAT HAPPENS DURING AN IDP MORNING?

- Welcome
- Circle Time
- Therapy Stations
 - Feeding
 - Cognitive
 - Fine Motor
 - Gross Motor
 - Sensory
- Parent Discussion



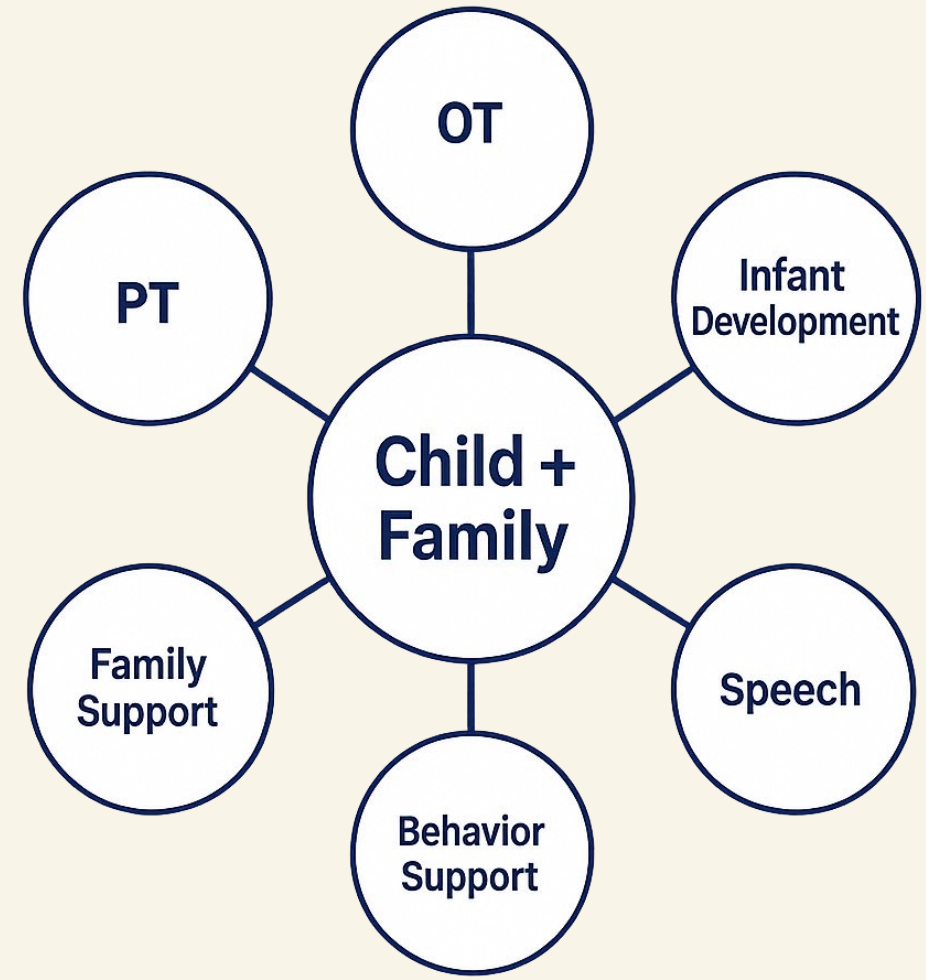
FAMILY-CENTERED CARE IN ACTION

Parents learn

- positioning
- play ideas
- feeding strategies
- communication techniques
- sensory supports



MULTIDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION



OUTCOMES BEYOND DEVELOPMENT

Parent confidence

Caregiver relationships

Reduced isolation

Smoother transition into later services

Community connection



Expanding the Model

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?





LITTLE SPROUTS

Age 1-2

3:1 ratio

- communication
- motor development
- social interaction
- self-help
- play



LITTLE BUDS

Age 2-3

3:1 ratio

- global developmental skills
- peer interaction
- communication
- sensory processing
- multidisciplinary approach



BLOOM AND GROW

Age 2-3

2:1 ratio

Designed for children needing additional behavioral support.

- regulation
- routines
- communication
- parent training
- structured learning
- Emphasize the lower child-to-staff ratio and behavioral focus.

Comparing Our Programs

Program	Age	Ratio	Primary Focus
IDP	0-12 mo	Family-centered	Early foundations
Little Sprouts	1-2	3:1	Early developmental skills
Little Buds	2-3	3:1	Global development
Bloom and Grow	2-3	2:1	Behavioral readiness



WHAT MAKES THESE PROGRAMS SUCCESSFUL?

Family coaching

Multidisciplinary care

Small ratios

Play-based learning

Community partnerships



LESSONS LEARNED & LOOKING AHEAD



Q & A

Contact Information



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Irvine@iceckids.org



iceckids.org



Thank you for
joining us!



EARLY START ROUNDTABLE VIDEO (ACRC)



DMS Presentation

Sally Shepherd, SRI





Differentiated Monitoring and Support

August 7, 2026

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Differentiated Monitoring and Support



- Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) monitors and supports states in the implementation of IDEA requirements.
- Differentiated Monitoring and Support (DMS) is the process.
- The goal of DMS is to improve outcomes and results for infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities and their families and ensure compliance.
- Monitoring focuses on States' systems of general supervision integrating both results and compliance
- DMS will look at all of these through the lens of improved results and compliance.



Preparing for DMS



- Divided into topic areas for organizational purposes
 - Fiscal Management
 - Monitoring & Improvement
 - Data
 - Dispute Resolution
- Resources provided for DMS and each topic area
 - OSEP website
 - TA Centers
- May include additional focus areas
 - Ex. Child Find



DMS Phases



DMS monitoring will occur in four (4) phases:

- **Discovery** (5 months prior to engagement)
 - Document Request: State will upload documents to an external SharePoint
 - State Overview Meetings
 - Stakeholder engagement
 - Local Component
- **Engagement** (approximately a month)
 - For California this is **May 2027**
 - Onsite and Virtual monitoring interview calls
- **Report Development** (120 days after conclusion of Engagement)
 - Issuance of the DMS Monitoring Report
- **Close-out** (up to one year after the issuance of the DMS Monitoring Report)
 - Review of evidence of correction
 - Technical Assistance

California's Monitoring Schedule

- **Discovery-** November/December
 - Stakeholder Engagement/ Local Component
 - Interviews
 - Families
 - Programs and Agencies
 - ICC members
- **Engagement-** May 2027
 - Interview DDS and other relevant staff
- **Report Development**
 - OSEP releases DMS Monitoring Report
 - October 2027
- **Close Out**
 - Up to one year after the issuance of the DMS Monitoring Report



Interviews



- Individuals that are knowledgeable about California's Part C Early Intervention System
 - ICC members
 - System Point of Entry
 - Agency Directors
 - Parents/Families
- General Information
 - Interview participation is voluntary
 - May be individually or in a group
 - Typically conversational
 - Questions are related to the role of the individual
 - Participants are not expected to have all the correct answers or know the jargon

Examples questions



- **Families**

- Tell me about your experience with Early Start.
- Describe your experience when your child left the Early Start program.

- **Program Staff**

- Do you have a copy of your state's regulations, policies, and procedures for special education? Where/how do you access the regulations, policies, and procedures if you need to refer them?
- How are you involved in IFSP development and meetings?
- How often have you been monitored? If there were any findings of noncompliance made as a result of your LA monitoring activities, how was that communicated to you, and what was required for correction? What was the timeline you were given to correct the noncompliance?

Example Questions for ICC Members



- Describe the frequency and method of meeting with the State Lead Agency (LA).
- Describe the ICC role in advising the state on rules or regulations related to IDEA.
- Describe the ICC role in the development of evaluations and reporting data.
- Describe the state's process on developing and implementing policies related to the coordination of services for children with disabilities.
- Describe the ICC involvement in assisting the LA in effective implementation of the State's Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP).
- Describe the ICC role in advising the State on its general supervision system.
- Describe the most important accomplishments of the State in meeting the needs of infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities, and their families.

QUESTIONS?



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Thank you!



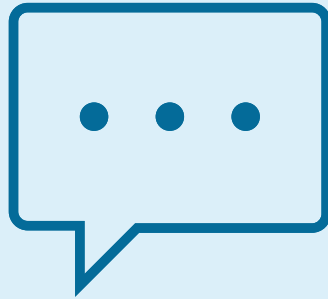
Join our team!

View our open positions at
sri.com/careers

**For more information,
contact:**
Sally Shepherd
sally.shepherd@sri.com

MEET DOMINIC: HOW AAC TRANSFORMED HIS COMMUNICATION VIDEO





CLOSING COMMENTS

For more information, please contact the
BABYLINE: 1-800-515-BABY (2229) or
earlystart@dds.ca.gov

For Children and Youth, please contact
childrenandyouthtransitions@dds.ca.gov