An Evidence-Based Individualized Program for Toddlers with ASD

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he Toddler Initiative is an extension of the intervention and professional development model created by the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders, which mainly focused on the ages from 3-21 years receiving intervention services through the public schools. For toddlers with ASD in the U. S., Part C through IDEA is the publically available service system, and it differs substantially from public school models.

Features of the Model

- Measureable Goals established for toddlers and families. They draw from multiple sources of information. Goal Attainment Scales are created to measure child/family progress.
- Program quality assessed with the Autism
 Program Environment Rating System-Infant/
 Toddler (APERS-IT). Program quality serves as the foundation for implementation of EBPs.
- Evidence-based practices identified from research literature review and evaluation of intervention literature. Eleven practices were found to have evidence with toddlers.
- Selection of EBPs to use with toddlers and families matches outcomes with interventions found in literature as well as child characteristics and provider knowledge.

The Toddler Initiative Provider **Current/Future Toddler Family Priorities** Influences **Knowledge and Environment** Characteristics Skill Goals **EBP Selection** Outcomes **Implementation** Social Reinforcement Prompting El provider and Child Process Communication Time Delay DTT caregiver(s) Family Parent Implem. Naturalistic Behavior Provider **Visual Supports PECS Practice Fidelity** Goal Attainment **Activity Systems** Checklists FCT, FBA Scaling Program **Professional** Quality Development **Model Features** EBP Inventory APERS-IT **TRAINING** COACHING Positive Relationships Behavior Physical Environment Teaming **Technical Assistance Online Foundations Activity/Daily Routines** Assessment & **Coaching - onsite** Course **Intervention Strategies** IFSP Develop. **Onsite Training** training coaching logs Coaching **Self Instructional Child Development Online Modules** Communication **Coaching - remote** Webinars

Implementation

- Professional development made to happen through professional development that has three features
 - o System-level planning and support
 - o Training through workshops
 - o Follow-up support through TA and Coaching





