

## **Sick Policy for the First EI Program**

Our staff must remain healthy in order to provide services to you and your family. Some of the children enrolled in early intervention are medically at risk and need us to help keep them safe from exposure to illness. Our sick policy was developed with the assistance of our medical consultant and with guidelines from the Department of Public Health. No one can guarantee that you or your child will be free of exposure to colds and viruses, but following our guidelines should help reduce the likelihood of passing on infections.

### **Please cancel your appointments (Home, Center and Group):**

- If you, your child, or another member of your household has an undiagnosed rash, cough, respiratory infection, diarrhea, vomiting or other symptoms of illness, not related to a medical condition or reflux.
- If your child, or other family member, has a fever or has been on antibiotics for less than 24 hours. The child/adult must be fever-free without the aid of medication for 24 hours to resume appointments.
- If you, your child, or other family member is ill with any contagious disease, or have been recently exposed to Covid, flu, measles, chicken pox, mumps, conjunctivitis (pink eye), any other virus, etc.

Please give staff as much notice as possible when cancelling an appointment in order for them to modify their schedule.

### **The First EI Program will help maintain good health standards by:**

- Using universal precautions for infection control by keeping rooms clean, washing toys, washing our hands, and using vinyl gloves when in contact with any bodily fluids (i.e. changing diapers, wiping noses, performing oral motor activities, and first aid procedures.)
- Sending children, family members, and caregivers, home when they are ill. Informing parents about accidents.
- Alerting parents by telephone to exposure to contagious diseases and other medical concerns.
- Early Intervention Specialists will reschedule if your child, or a family member, is sick when they arrive at your home.
- All Early Intervention staff have current First Aid and CPR certification and receive training on universal precautions, diaper changing, and blood borne diseases.