



TRANSITION:

Sharing Your
Child's
Hopes and
Dreams!



WEST VIRGINIA BIRTH TO THREE

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Transitioning out of WV Birth to Three



Moving from one program to another is called transition. As your child nears age three, your WV Birth to Three team will support you in exploring available community options to help your child continue to grow and develop.

These options may include:

- preschool special education
- Head Start
- child care
- private therapy
- private preschool
- other community activities such as Library Story Hour, Mommy and Me Groups, local play groups

There is a lot to learn so it is important that we all work together through the transition process one step at a time.

To Plan Ahead for Transition

Your family will have an opportunity to:

- Take a leadership role in the transition process.

- Discuss your questions and concerns about your child's transition out of WV Birth to Three.
- Learn about community options and resources that are available within your community.
- Visit possible settings.
- Begin preparing your child by practicing skills he/she child will need to be successful in the next setting.

WV Birth to Three will:

- Provide your family with information about transition.
- Begin the process by developing the Transition Plan with you.
- Assist you in referring your child to the community options of your choice.
- Schedule a Transition Conference with your family, and the program(s) you have selected prior to your child's third birthday.

At the Transition Conference

Your family will have an opportunity to:

- Share your hopes for your child.
- Share information about your child's strengths, abilities and challenges.
- Participate in the transition process at the level that feels comfortable to you.
- Ask questions about anything that is unclear such as:
 - ◊ How will the program decide if my child is eligible for services?
 - ◊ Who can we call if we have questions?
 - ◊ What kind of information and documents will be needed?

WV Birth to Three will:

- Arrange this meeting and be there to support you as you discuss services that may be available to your child. The Transition Conference must occur at least 90 days prior to your child turning three.
- Share information about your child's progress in WV Birth to Three, with your permission.
- Revise the Individualized Family Service Plan/Transition Plan as appropriate.
- Help you identify additional community resources and supports, as needed.

The programs represented will:

- Participate in the transition planning process.
- Explain the opportunities available through their program.
- Explain your child's rights and your rights as a parent.
- Discuss eligibility and enrollment requirements.
- Request your permission for any necessary evaluations.
- Answer questions that you may have.

The Transition Plan and Conference are steps in your family's journey and an opportunity to learn more about possible receiving programs, eligibility requirements or application procedures. It is a time to ask questions, so we may address your concerns, and identify next steps for supporting your child's transition.

