



Our staff will work with families to provide Developmental Monitoring and Screening of their child’s milestones. Families can fill out a questionnaire, called the Ages and Stages 3 Questionnaire, to see how their child is developing compared to other children their age. A Child Find Specialist will score the questionnaire and then talk with the family about the results. We will give families information and suggestions on strategies they can use to improve their child’s developmental milestones and assist parents in locating community resources.

The family always has the right to request that a multidisciplinary evaluation be completed via the EI Program at no cost to them.

Developmental Monitoring and Early Intervention services are confidential and free for families, \*regardless of income or immigration status.

\*If you have health insurance, including Medicaid, it will be used to pay for Early Intervention services at no direct cost to you.



*\*A child’s developing brain is most flexible during the earliest months and years of life, this time period sets the foundation for lifelong health and wellbeing\**

If you have questions about the Child Find Program you may contact:

**Tina Dougherty Irwin, LMSW  
(845) 486-2833.**

If you are interested in making an Early Intervention referral, please call:  
**(845) 486-3518**

**Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health  
*Early Intervention Program  
Child Find***

8/2022



## ***Dutchess County Early Intervention Child Find Program***



**85 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 106  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601**

Child Find is part of the Early Intervention Program of Dutchess County’s Department of Behavioral & Community Health under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA). It is designed to identify, track, and screen children from birth to age 3 who may be at Risk for Developmental Delays or Disabilities. This could include those children who were evaluated but did not qualify for Early Intervention services at this time.



Babies and toddlers learn and develop differently. One child may talk later. Another child might walk earlier.

Often parents do not need to be concerned about these differences. But some children may benefit from Child Find, a program designed to see how children are developing and how much progress they are making.

Your doctor, social worker or daycare center might have asked us to contact you.

This is important because research shows that the younger a child is when they get help for delays, the better the outcome may be.

Your child might benefit from developmental monitoring if he or she is younger than 3 years old and:

- Was born at less than 33 weeks
- Spent more than 10 days in neonatal intensive care
- Weighed less than 4 pounds at birth
- Had lead test results that were too high
- Missed or failed an initial newborn hearing screening
- Has been affected by homelessness or domestic violence
- Has a teenage mom
- Has a mom who did not receive prenatal care.

We will listen to your concerns and work closely with you to measure your child's progress.

Every few months until your child's third birthday, we will mail you some simple questionnaires about how your child:

- Let's you know what they want
- Moves their body
- Uses their hands and fingers
- Solves problems
- Plays alone and with others

We will review your answers, and then let you know how your child is doing.

If your child is doing okay, we will continue to monitor their progress. If the results show that your child may be at risk for a developmental delay, we can help you get the services your child needs through an Early Intervention evaluation.

You can also call us at any time if you have questions about your child's development.



\*Participation in Child Find is voluntary and children may leave the program at any time.