



## Overview

Elwyn SEEDS provides Service Coordination for all children receiving preschool early intervention in Philadelphia. Elwyn SEEDS acts as the Local Education Agency and coordinates IEP meetings, bi-annual re-evaluations and ensures timely delivery of services and successful transitions for children moving from ChildLink to preschool early interventions as well as children transitioning from Preschool early intervention to the Philadelphia School District. SEEDS Service Coordinators work with families, team members, and provider agency personnel to initiate, coordinate and facilitate smooth transitions when families enter or leave the system.

SEEDS Service Coordinators also act as a resource to orient new families to Early Intervention and services for their child and work in partnership with families and special education staff to establish positive rapport and trusting relationships through ongoing communication.

SEEDS Service Coordinators make sure that children receive the appropriate services specified in their IEP and that they are delivered in the least restrictive environment. Services may be delivered in a number of settings, including:

- Early childhood Head Start centers
- Early childhood education centers
- Early childhood special education centers
- Approved Private Schools
- Residential facilities
- Centers with itinerant services outside the home
- Inclusive reverse mainstreaming programs
- In the child's home

Services specifically for children with autism are also provided in a variety of settings.

Services are coordinated through our network of 15 provider agencies located throughout the city.

## Our Commitment

SEEDS is committed to maximizing each child's unique potential. Our program is family-centered and focuses on the concerns, priorities, and resources of the family and the individual strengths and needs of the child. It takes into consideration the crucial, constant role that the family plays in a child's life. Families are treated as valuable partners and are encouraged to participate at all stages of decision making. The family and the special education staff work together as a team to plan an Individualized Education Program (IEP) that will address the child's educational needs. SEEDS programs and services are based on best practices of early childhood education and development, special education, and interagency collaboration. Families and professionals work together to create a framework for successful learning throughout a child's life.

## Program Services

Children grow and learn at different rates. Children between the ages of 3 and 5 who do not meet developmental targets may be eligible for preschool special education to help maximize their potential for learning. The services provided are based upon the individual needs of each child and are provided in the least restrictive environment (LRE) appropriate to meet those needs. The SEEDS staff consults with parents and service providers throughout the process.

Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) can be provided in a variety of settings, including:

- child care center
- preschool
- Head Start
- child's home
- other community setting
- early intervention center, including Autistic support class, vision support class, hearing support class, early intervention in specialized classes, early intervention with opportunities for integration with typically developing peers, medically fragile class, or approved private school.

The services each child receives are documented in an Individual Education Plan and may include any or all of the following:

- speech and language therapy
- special instruction
- occupational therapy
- physical therapy
- vision and hearing services
- identified family services
- other services, as necessary

## Certifications

SEEDS' subcontracted agencies are certified by one or more of the following:

- Department of Public Welfare
- Keystone STARS
- National Association of the Education of Young Children Accreditation
- Department of Education Private Academic School License
- Pennsylvania Department of Education Approved Private School License