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Parent Survey July 2006

Issue: ECIS Flexible Support Packages

Dear Parent,

It has come to our attention that the application process for Early Childhood Intervention Services Flexible Support Packages (ECIS FSP's) is lengthy and difficult and that demand for packages far exceeds the number available. In response we have developed this survey, the results of which will help us to effectively inform the Government about these issues. To assist us, please complete and return by 30th August 2006 by fax 03.9885 0508 ; email: liaison@autismvictoria.org.au, phone 0400 226 408 (leave a message for a return call) or post (PO Box 235 Ashburton 3147). You are welcome to write any additional information on the reverse side.

Please tick the box for the most appropriate response where applicable:-

Name & Contact no: (optional).....can we contact you? [] Y [] N

Age of Child..... What is your DHS Region?.....

Q1. How did you find out about the ECIS flexible support packages?

[] ECIS Provider [] Another Parent [] Support Group [] Other.....

Q2. What was the date of your application?.....// 2006

Q3. Applying for support for your child can sometimes be stressful. How do you rate the ECIS FSP application process?

[] Very Stressful [] Moderately Stressful [] Not very stressful [] Not stressful at all

Comments (including length of time taken to complete)

Q4. Applications request information about your child's complex support needs. Was your ECIS Provider also involved in completing the application? [] Yes [] No

Comments (including the amount of time they spent on your application if known).....

Q5. The process involving identification, diagnosis, access to ECIS, together with applications for support at kindergarten (KIS); childcare (SNSS); and School (ENQ) is comprehensive. Considering that you are already using (or waiting for) an ECIS service how would you rate the importance for FSP providers to utilise the information about your family that already exists?

[] Very Important [] Important [] Not very Important [] Not important at all

Q6. Was your application successful? [] Yes [] No Q7. What is your FSP value \$.....

Q8. What services will your package purchase?

.....

Q9. These packages were announced in May 2005 and became available from April 2006 or later in some regions. Timely access to services has a positive impact upon the wellbeing of a family. What date did you/will you begin to receive the services purchased?/...../ 2006

Q10. There have been more applications for packages than the 355 packages available. If your application was not successful, have you been placed on a waiting list for the next round of allocations?

Yes No Comments:.....

Q11. Current FSP guidelines prevent the purchase of therapy if your child already receives therapy through your ECIS provider. How would you rate the importance of being able to purchase additional therapy services through your ECIS provider?

Very Important Important Not Very Important Not Important at all

Q12. Thinking about your current early childhood intervention services, please describe the **types** (eg. OT, parent education etc) of services and the **intensity** (e.g. hours per week, and number of weeks per year) of services you and your family receive from your ECIS provider.

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Q13. How would you rate your level of satisfaction of the **types** of services you receive?

Very Satisfied Satisfied Not Very Satisfied Not satisfied at all

Q14. How would you rate your satisfaction of the **intensity** of services you and your family receive?

Very Satisfied Satisfied Not Very Satisfied Not satisfied at all

Q15. How long did you have to wait for these services?

Q16. This initiative recognizes that children with an ASD are a priority and that current ECIS places valued at about \$4800.00 p.a. do not meet their individual, high and complex needs. Enhancing ECIS places for children with high and complex needs would aim to supply adequate levels of therapeutic interventions and support services to assist a child's development to meet *all* the needs of the family. How would you rate the importance of creating "Enhanced ECIS Places" for children with an ASD?

Very important Important Not Very Important Not Important at all

Would you like to receive regular email updates of Autism Victoria lobbying activities? Yes No

If yes, what is your email address?.....

Thank you for supporting our efforts to raise this issue with Government.



Meredith Ward
Government & Public Relations Liaison

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