

Lebanon County Early Intervention Times

Fall 2026



What is P3D?

*Parents as Partners in Professional Development
Learn how families can get involved!*

P3D brings together families of children receiving Early Intervention or Family Support Services. Family members share their experience to improve training, resources and family engagement.

WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN P3D?

- ✦ **Participate** in family engagement, leadership development, informational sessions, and networking events.
- ✦ **Contribute** to professional development.
- ✦ **Share** your EI family story at events such as State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) meetings.
- ✦ **Receive** reimbursement for your expenses and an honorarium per guidelines.
- ✦ **Learn** about other family engagement opportunities such as SICC Family Meet and Greet.

READY TO GET INVOLVED?

Share your voice. Connect with other families. Support Early Intervention and family engagement!

Questions? Contact Sarah Holland
sholland@parenttoparent.org



SCAN TO JOIN P3D



El Times

FALL 2026

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Lebanon County Early Intervention Program

220 E. Lehman Street • Lebanon, PA 17046

717-274-3415 • <http://www.lebanoncountypa.gov>

Activity Corner

Little Pumpkins, Big Fun!

Simple pumpkin-themed activities to inspire play, learning, and lots of fall fun!



Sing a Pumpkin Song

Sing *Five Little Pumpkins* together and use your fingers, or five little pumpkins, to act out the story. Repeating songs helps children build vocabulary, rhythm, and early language skills while having fun!

*Five little pumpkins sitting on a gate,
First one said, "Oh my, it's getting late!"
Second one said, "There are witches in the air,"
Third one said, "but we don't care!"
Fourth one said, "Let's run and run and run."
Fifth one said, "I'm ready for some fun!"
Ooo ooo the wind, and out went the lights,
And five little pumpkins rolled out of sight.*



Explore a Pumpkin

Let your little one explore the pumpkin by touching, scooping, and describing its different textures. Talk about how it looks and feels—wet, slimy, stringy, or cool! It's okay to get messy but always supervise closely and keep small items like pumpkin seeds away from babies.



Visit a Pumpkin Patch



Explore pumpkins of different sizes, shapes, and colors! Let your little one touch and compare them, and if you can, enjoy a fun and bumpy hayride together. It's a great way to explore and

experience the sights and sounds of fall!



Decorate a Pumpkin



Let little ones decorate a pumpkin with finger paint, yogurt, or pudding. They can also use stickers or Washi Tape to add designs. This fun activity encourages creativity while helping build fine motor skills!



Pumpkin in the Kitchen

Get your little one involved in making a pumpkin treat! Let them help scoop, pour, and stir ingredients while you bake or roast pumpkin together. You could even make your own pumpkin puree for baby to try. It's a fun way to explore new tastes, build skills, and create special memories.



Read a Pumpkin Book

Reading together helps build early language and listening skills. Try a pumpkin-themed flap book or touch-and-feel book, and check out these fun titles at your local library:



- ★ *Duck & Goose, Find a Pumpkin* by Tad Hills
- ★ *The Itsy Bitsy Pumpkin* by Sonali Fry
- ★ *I Love You, Little Pumpkin!* by Sandra Magsamen
- ★ *Five Little Pumpkins* by Tiger Tales
- ★ *I Love Fall!* by Alison Inches
- ★ *You're My Little Pumpkin Pie* by Nicola Edwards
- ★ *Where is Baby's Pumpkin?* by Karen Katz
- ★ *Biscuit Visits the Pumpkin Patch* by Alyssa Satin Capucilli

"Pumpkins, falling leaves, and little giggles make autumn one of the sweetest seasons of all."



Developmental Milestones: 3 Years

Every child develops at their own pace. How your child plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves provides important clues about their development. See what milestones you can expect as your child approaches age 3.

What are developmental milestones?

Developmental milestones are skills that most children (75% or more) can do by a certain age.



Language/Communication Milestones

- ✦ Talks with you in conversation using at least two back-and-forth exchanges
- ✦ Asks “who,” “what,” “where,” or “why” questions, like “Where is mommy/daddy?”
- ✦ Says what action is happening in a picture or book when asked, like “running,” “eating,” or “playing”
- ✦ Says first name, when asked
- ✦ Talks well enough for others to understand, most of the time



Social/Emotional Milestones

- ✦ Calms down within 10 minutes after you leave her, like at a childcare drop off
- ✦ Notices other children and joins them to play



Cognitive Milestones (learning, thinking, problem-solving)

- ✦ Draws a circle, when you show him how
- ✦ Avoids touching hot objects, like a stove, when you warn her



Movement/Physical Development Milestones

- ✦ Strings items together, like large beads or macaroni
- ✦ Puts on some clothes by himself, like loose pants or a jacket
- ✦ Uses a fork



HAVE CONCERNS?

If your child is already receiving EI services, reach out to your service coordinator to discuss any new concerns.

If your child is not receiving EI services, anyone can make a referral for a developmental evaluation at no cost.



Email dgray@sam-inc.org



Call 717-723-1638

! WHAT YOU CAN DO for your 3-year-old

As your child's first teacher, you can help his or her learning and brain development. Try these simple tips and activities in a safe way. Talk with your child's doctor, teachers, and/or therapists if you have questions or for more ideas on how to help your child's development.

- ✦ **Encourage your child to solve her own problems with your support.** Ask questions to help her understand the problem. Help her think of solutions, try one out, and try more if needed.
- ✦ **Talk about your child's emotions and give him words to help him explain how he's feeling.** Help your child manage stressful feelings by teaching him to take deep breaths, hug a favorite toy, or go to a quiet, safe place when he is upset.
- ✦ **Set a few simple and clear rules that your child can follow.** Such as, use gentle hands when playing. If he breaks a rule, show him what to do instead. Later, if your child follows the rule, recognize and congratulate him.

Meet EI

Each quarter we will highlight individuals who provide Early Intervention support in Lebanon County.



CORRIE PODSCHELNE
Evaluator from TMB Therapy



MY JOURNEY

I grew up in Milford, Pennsylvania, in the Pocono Mountains, and graduated from Delaware Valley High School. I earned a Bachelor of Science in Human Development and Family Studies from Penn State University. For more than a decade, I've worked with young children and families in roles including Teacher, Special Instructor, Service Coordinator, Early Education Liaison, and currently, Special Instructor Evaluator with TMB Therapy.



WHY I LOVE EI

I enjoy working in Early Intervention because early support can make a meaningful difference in a child's development. As a mother of two, I understand the challenges of parenting and find it rewarding to support families as they navigate their child's development. I especially value learning about each child and family during evaluations, identifying their strengths and needs, and helping families feel informed, supported, and confident in their next steps.



BEYOND WORK

Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my family, staying active, gardening, and photography. I love coaching my daughter's baseball team, cheering on my son at his sporting events, and backpacking with my husband. I also enjoy walking my Collie, Indigo, reading, cheering on the Atlanta Braves, and visiting Hersheypark with my kids.



MY JOURNEY

Born and raised in New Jersey, I knew from an early age that I wanted to work in education. After babysitting and nannying for local families, I pursued a degree in Early Childhood Education at Kean University. I began my teaching career in 2015 and later moved to Pennsylvania in 2018. While settling in Pennsylvania, I earned my Master's in Special Education from Edinboro University and substitute taught in districts around Lebanon County before joining Lebanon School District. I taught first grade for over five years before transitioning into the field of EI.



WHY I LOVE EI

Both of my sons received support through Early Intervention, giving me firsthand experience with the impact this program can have on children and families. Each child and family I work with continues to teach me something new and inspires me to be a lifelong learner. I am honored to support families in my community and grateful to have a career where play is such an important part of understanding and supporting early development.



BEYOND WORK

Outside of work, I enjoy reading, staying active, singing, and spending time with family and friends!



MARIELLA SHOEMAKER
Evaluator from TMB Therapy



UNDERSTANDING EI & GETTING INVOLVED



Early Intervention Technical Assistance (EITA)

Find family connections, Early Intervention resources, and important forms to help you navigate services.

www.eita-pa.org



Lancaster-Lebanon Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC)

Bringing families and community partners together to ensure young children have access to the supports, services, and resources they need to grow and reach their full potential.

www.lancastercountybhds.org/402/Lancaster-Interagency-Coordinating-Council



Competence and Confidence Partners in Policymaking Early Intervention (C2P2EI)

Build your skills and confidence as a parent leader in Early Intervention. Learn about best practices, helpful resources, and policy issues affecting young children and families.

For more information, contact Maggie:

mparke@parenttoparent.org



State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC)

Advises Pennsylvania's state departments on Early Intervention while supporting collaboration and family engagement statewide.

www.eita-pa.org/state-interagency-coordinating-council



CHILD DEVELOPMENT & EARLY LEARNING



The Basics

Five simple, science-based ways to support your child's learning, development, and brain growth from birth through age five.

thebasics.org



CDC's Milestone Tracker App

Track your child's milestones from age 2 months to 5 years with easy checklists and tips.

<https://www.cdc.gov/actearly/milestones-app>



Zero to Three

Information and resources that support the healthy development of babies and toddlers.

www.zerotothree.org



Brain Building Through Play

Age-based play activities that support learning, development, connection, and growing independence.

developingchild.harvard.edu/resources/handouts-tools/brainbuildingthroughplay



FAMILY & PARENT SUPPORT



Parent to Parent of PA

Connects families on a one-to-one basis with trained Peer Supporters who provide free, confidential support and information based on their child's or family's needs.

1-888-727-2706

www.parenttoparent.org



PA Family Network

Supports families of individuals with developmental disabilities by providing resources and guidance to promote greater independence, choice, and opportunities throughout life.

www.visionforequality.org/programs/pa-family-network



How has EI made a difference in your life?

We are looking for families to share their family story at our next LICC meeting.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?



Contact Danielle
dgray@sam-inc.org

Upcoming Events

Fun ways to get out into the community!



SUMMER MOVIE SERIES

Enjoy a free movie in the park! Bring lawn chairs, blankets, and your favorite snacks and beverages. Popcorn provided!



Saturday, September 5th

Gates open at 7 PM, Movie begins around 8:30 PM

Coleman Memorial Park, 1400 West Maple St., Lebanon, PA 17046



KID'S STORY TIME & CUPCAKE DECORATING

Join Lancaster Cupcake for a kid's story time and cupcake decorating workshop.

September 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21 & 25

10 AM

111 Springwood Dr, Lebanon, PA 17046

Pre-registration required: <https://lancaster-cupcake-events-lebanon.square.site/>

HARVEST FESTIVAL

A day full of family fun and community spirit including games, fun, and food!



Saturday, October 10

11 AM-2 PM

Coleman Memorial Park, 1400 West Maple St, Lebanon, PA 17046

HERSHEY'S CHOCOLATE WORLD

Trick or Treat Trail

Collect candy at several sweet stops. Candy is free for ages 12 and under.

September 12–November 1

Fridays: 5–8:30 PM, Saturdays & Sundays: 12–8:30 PM



Character Meet and Greets

Create memories with your favorite Hershey's Characters!

Saturdays and Sundays

Visit the Meet & Greet area in the Food Hall for the schedule of appearances.

101 Chocolate World Way, Hershey, PA 17033

TRUNK OR TREAT

Join a fun evening of trick-or-treating! Local businesses and organizations will have decorated trunks. Enjoy photo opportunities and food trucks. For children ages 12 and under.



Tuesday, October 20

6–7:30 PM

Lebanon YMCA Parking Lot, 201 N 7th St, Lebanon, PA 17046 (enter from 7th St and 8th St)

SENSORY FRIENDLY NIGHT

Enjoy Hershey's Chocolate World attractions with sensory-friendly modifications and join Love 2Bee Fit for a 1/2-hour drum session at 6:30pm.



Wednesday, October 21

5:30–7:30 PM

101 Chocolate World Way Hershey, PA 17033

For more information:

<https://www.chocolateworld.com/things-to-do/events/sensory-friendly-night.html>

CLA LEBANON HOLIDAY PARADE

The streets of Downtown Lebanon will come alive with festive floats, marching bands, giant balloons, community organizations, and a special visit from Santa Claus as we celebrate the parade's 50th Anniversary with this year's theme: *The Year of Tinsel – Celebrating 50 Golden Years of Holiday Magic.*



Saturday, November 21

Step Off: 10 AM

Downtown Lebanon, Cumberland St

Parade route: Lincoln Ave. to 9th St

Did You Know?

The lungs are one of the last organs to fully develop, usually around 36 weeks.



INFANT TODDLER WARRIOR NINJA

Hosted by Growing in Motion, enjoy a free open gym for families with children ages 0–3 who are receiving Early Intervention services. A Little Ninja group is also available for families with an autistic child ages 3–5. Connect with other families while children play and explore! Groups meet weekly during a selected month.

 **Ages 0–3: Tuesdays or Wednesdays**

 **9–9:45 AM**

 **Ages 3–5: Wednesdays**

 **10–10:45 AM**



 **2104 Aspen Dr, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055**

Sign-up is required; walk-ins are not accepted. For more information and to sign up:

<https://infanttoddlerninjawarrior.com/>



MUSIKGARTEN

Musikgarten provides early childhood music education that helps infants, toddlers, and children develop a love of music and express themselves through

music. Classes are offered for children ages 0–5.

 **Family Music for Babies (0–18 months): Saturdays, 8 weeks beginning September 5**

 **9:15–9:45 AM**

 **Family Music for Toddlers (16 months–3.5 years): Saturdays, 12 weeks beginning September 5**

 **10–10:30 AM**

 **Cycles of Seasons (3–5 years): Saturdays, 12 weeks beginning September 5**

 **10:45–11:30 AM**

 **Bertha Brossman Blair Music Center, Lebanon Valley College**

For more information and to register:

<https://lvc.edu/about/camps-community-programming/community-music-institute/musikgarten/>

MOMS LINK OF LEBANON COUNTY

Moms Link provides opportunities for learning, friendship, and support for parents and their children in the Lebanon County area. Adults enjoy crafts, games, videos, snacks, and devotionals while childcare is provided each week. Moms, dads, grandparents, and caregivers are welcome!



 **Wednesdays, beginning September 10**

 **9:30–11 AM**

 **Church of the Good Shepherd, 1500 Quentin Road, Lebanon, PA 17042**

For more information:

www.facebook.com/MomsLinkofLebanonCounty/

COACHING CORNER

What is FGRBI?

Family Guided Routines Based Intervention is a research-based approach that helps caregivers support their child's learning and development during everyday routines and activities. Early intervention providers coach and partner with families to build learning opportunities into routines that are meaningful to the child and family.

Families Are the First Teachers

Families play an important role in guiding their child's development and are active partners in early intervention. Providers work with families in the child's natural environment, such as the home, using familiar people, routines, toys, and everyday activities.

What Does FGRBI Look Like?

- Family participation: Families brainstorm, practice strategies, and find ways to support learning between visits.
- Provider coaching: Providers listen to family concerns and offer strategies that can be used during daily routines.
- Learning throughout the day: Everyday activities like playing, eating, getting dressed, and helping with chores can become opportunities for learning and development.

FGRBI helps families build on what they already do every day, giving children many opportunities to learn, practice, and grow.

TODDLER AND PRESCHOOL PLAY GROUP

Free community play group for children ages birth–5 and their caregivers to connect, play, and learn together.

 **Every Friday that the Lebanon County School District is in session**

 **Drop in between 9–10:30 AM**

 **22 South 6th St, Lebanon, PA 17042 (use the Parish Office entrance [red doors] on 6th St)**



For more information and updates:

Email Emily at emilydrew@yahoo.com or visit

<https://stlukeslebanon.org/playgroup>

IN THE KNOW

Due process is a formal way for parents and Early Intervention programs to resolve disagreements about a child's services, evaluation, eligibility, or educational program. A due process hearing is conducted by an impartial Hearing Officer who listens to both sides, reviews evidence, and makes a written decision.

A parent or Early Intervention program may request a due process hearing by submitting a written due process complaint to the Office for Dispute Resolution (ODR) and the other party. The complaint explains the disagreement, the facts related to the concern, and what resolution is being requested.



SHARE

Share your concerns with the Hearing Officer.



PRESENT

Present evidence and ask questions.



RESOLVE

The Hearing Officer reviews the information and makes a written decision.

During the hearing, both sides have the opportunity to present evidence, call and question witnesses, and share their concerns with the Hearing Officer. Parents may participate on their own or choose to be represented by an attorney or other qualified individual. Hearings may be held in person or virtually.

After considering the information presented, the Hearing Officer issues a written decision. The decision is legally enforceable and may include actions that the Early Intervention program must take to resolve the dispute.

ODR provides specific information and forms for requesting due process for Infant-Toddler and Preschool Early Intervention.

Families may also have access to mediation and facilitation, which can help resolve concerns collaboratively without a formal hearing.

Learn more: odr-pa.org/due-process



SMART START STORYTIME

Smart Start Storytime is a free program at all Lebanon County Libraries for babies, birth-2 years, and their parents, grandparents, and caregivers. Enjoy books, songs, music, and nursery rhymes while helping your baby build early

reading and socialization skills. No registration is required, and siblings are welcome!

September 14, 2026–May 27, 2027

No storytimes the weeks of:

November 23 • December 21 • December 28 • January 18

- **Annvile:** Wednesdays at 10:30 AM
- **Lebanon:** Tuesdays at 9:30 AM
- **Matthews:** Mondays at 10:30 AM
- **Myerstown:** Thursdays at 11:30 AM
- **Palmyra:** Wednesdays at 12:15 PM
- **Richland:** Thursdays at 10:30 AM

PRESCHOOL PLAYTIME

Let your preschooler burn off some energy at Paramount's preschool gym! The gym features child-sized equipment for children ages 5 and under, plus a trampoline and ball pit. No sign-up is required.

Parents/guardians must stay with and supervise their children. Cost is \$5 per child.

Monday–Friday: 12–4 PM

Thursday: 1–4 PM

Saturday & Sunday: 12–3 PM

• **Paramount Sports Complex, 21 Landings Drive, Annville, PA 17003**



MACARONI KID LEBANON



Macaroni KID shares local events, reviews businesses and attractions, and curates lists of everything from local summer camps to restaurants where kids

eat free. Get a free weekly e-newsletter filled with local adventures for your family.

<https://lebanon.macaronikid.com>



Want to contribute to the newsletter or have a question about Early Intervention services? Contact Danielle:



dgray@sam-inc.org



717-723-1638