

# Early Childhood Mental Health Program



A program of Sinnissippi Centers,  
the **Early Childhood Mental  
Health Program** introduces  
specialized assessment and treatment  
services for **children ages 0 to 5**  
using a relationship-based approach.



SINNISSIPPI CENTERS  
Providing care, offering hope

# Early Childhood Mental Health Program: What is it?

**The Early Childhood Mental Health Program** brings specialized infant and early childhood assessment and treatment services to our area.

A significant body of research shows that **infancy and early childhood are critical periods** for improving overall social and emotional development.



**Everyone plays a role in  
Early Childhood  
Mental Health**



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# Infant Mental Health

Infant mental health, **or the well being of baby**, can be described as the ability for young children to experience, regulate and express their emotions, form healthy, secure relationships and explore their world and learn.



## Key findings about early childhood mental health

- **Early treatment services** can prevent later problems such as violence, school problems and other risk factors.
- Shows there are **many protective factors** which support the infant, family, community and culture.
- Establishes the **sensitive period of brain development** for expressing and regulating emotions and forming secure relationships is **during the earliest years** of life.
- Demonstrates **the utmost importance of the parent-child relationship** in supporting all areas of development.
- Shows the power of **relationship based therapeutic** interventions.

# What can the Early Childhood Mental Health Program provide?

- Social, emotional and mental health assessments to determine how young children are developing and if treatment is appropriate.
- Provide relationship based interventions with the child and parent/caretaker in their home whenever possible using evidence based and promising practice methods.
- Complete periodic screenings in all areas of development.
- Provide additional support for children in other areas such as day care, pre-school, and school.



- Interagency collaboration and coordination with primary care and other service providers to support best practice standards.
- Provide referral and linkage to other areas providers if additional services are needed by the child and family.

**815-284-6611**  
**or**  
**800-242-7642**

# How can I make a referral to the program?

- **Sinnissippi accepts referrals from:**
  - Parents/Guardians
  - Community providers
  - Child welfare agencies
  - Day care providers
  - Educators
- **Referrals will be prioritized based on:**
  - Presenting symptoms
  - Concerns
  - Risk factors
- **For further information or to complete a referral form for the Early Childhood Mental Health Program, please contact Sinnissippi Centers' Dixon office at 815-284-6611**



# Early Childhood Mental Health Program



## Dixon office

325 Illinois Route 2

Dixon, IL 61021

PHONE: 815-284-6611

FAX: 815-284-6599

## Mt. Carroll office

1122 Healthcare Drive

Mt. Carroll, IL 61053

815-244-1376

## Rochelle office

1321 North 7th Street

Rochelle, IL 61068

815-562-3801

## Oregon office

125 South 4th Street

Oregon, IL 61061

815-732-3157

## Sterling office

2611 Woodlawn Road

Sterling, IL 61081

815-625-0013

**24 hour toll-free and crisis:  
800-242-7642**

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