



Brenda Fitzgerald, M.D., Commissioner

Nathan Deal, Governor

2 Peachtree St NW, 15th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3142
www.health.state.ga.us

Babies Can't Wait Early Intervention Public Hearing Announcement

The Babies Can't Wait (BCW) Program (<http://health.state.ga.us/programs/bcw>) is Georgia's statewide early intervention system for infants and toddlers with special needs and their families. Babies Can't Wait provides a comprehensive, coordinated interagency system of early intervention services for children with developmental delays or disabilities ages birth to three years and their families. The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) is the lead agency administrative agency for the BCW system. As required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C section 34 CFR §§303.110-303.113, "the State must publish its Part C application or policy in a manner that will ensure circulation throughout the State at least 60-days prior to the date on which the application or policy is submitted and allow an opportunity for public comments on the application or policy for at least 30 days during that 60-day publication period". In order to meet this requirement, BCW invites interested persons to participate in a **60-day public comment period** for the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012 Annual State Application under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Evaluation and Assessment Policy, and Fiscal Policies, from **February 10, 2012 to April 10, 2012**.

The proposed Grant Application, Evaluation and Assessment Policy, and Fiscal Policies can be reviewed during the public comment period online at (<http://health.state.ga.us>) and at a number of locations statewide. Comments may be made in writing, via email or facsimile, or at a Public Hearing. Please call 1-800-229-2038 to find out where you can review the Grant Application with BCW's Evaluation and Assessment Policy, and Fiscal Policies or to find the Public Hearing location nearest you. Public Hearings will be held from **March 5, 2012 through March 12, 2012**. **Times will vary based on locations, beginning at 4:00 PM and ending at 7:30 PM.**

Written, email, and facsimile comments will be received until **April 10, 2012** and should be sent to:

Chase Bolds, Babies Can't Wait Program Manager
2 Peachtree Street NW, #11-222
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-13422
Email: chbolds@dhr.state.ga.us
Facsimile: (404) 657-2763



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For Immediate Release

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT
ON BABIES CAN'T WAIT EARLY INTERVENTION GRANT APPLICATION**

ATLANTA (GA) – The Babies Can't Wait (BCW) Program is Georgia's statewide early intervention system for infants and toddlers with special needs, ages birth to three, and their families. The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) is the lead agency for administration of the BCW system. As required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C section 34 CFR §§303.110-303.113, "the State must publish its Part C application or policy in a manner that will ensure circulation throughout the State at least 60-days prior to the date on which the application or policy is submitted and allow an opportunity for public comments on the application or policy for at least 30 days during that 60-day publication period. In order to meet this requirement, BCW invites interested persons to participate in a **60-day public comment period** for the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012 Annual State Application under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Evaluation and Assessment Policy, and Fiscal Policies, **February 10, 2012 to April 10, 2012**. The public may review the revised policies online (<http://health.state.ga.us>) or at locations throughout the state and comment in four ways:

(1) Written comments will be received until April 10, 2012:

Babies Can't Wait

2 Peachtree Street NW, Suite 11-222

Atlanta, GA 30303-13422

(2) Email comments will be received until April 10, 2012:

chbolds@dhr.state.ga.us

(3) Facsimile comments will be received until April 10, 2012:

State BCW Office Fax: (404-657-2763)

(4) In Person verbal comments at a Public Hearing

DPH invites interested persons to attend Public Hearings and present public comments. To allow an opportunity for all to be heard, comments will be limited to five minutes.

Written, email, and facsimile comments will be received until, April 10, 2012 and should be sent to:

Chase Bolds, Babies Can't Wait Program Manager

2 Peachtree Street NW, #11-222

Atlanta, Georgia 30303-14322

Email: chbolds@dhr.state.ga.us

Facsimile: (404) 657-2763

More information about Georgia's BCW early intervention program is available at (<http://health.state.ga.us/programs/bcw>).

Dates and Locations for Public Hearings:

District	Date/Time	Location	BCW Contact
2 , North Gainesville	March 12, 2012 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Babies Can't Wait Conference Room 1856 Thompson Bridge Road Gainesville, GA 30501	Patricia "Dru" Thomas, EIC 770-531-4053 pdthomas@dhr.state.ga.us
3-1 Cobb Douglas	March 6, 2012 4:30 PM 7:00 PM	Babies Can't Wait Office 1955 Lake Park Drive, Ste 300 Smyrna, GA 30008	Beth Mathison, EIC 770-514-2462 bymathison@dhr.state.ga.us
3-3 Clayton	March 7, 2012 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Headquarters Library 865 Battlecreek Road Jonesboro, GA 30236	Nicole Wilson, EIC 678-610-7252 nlwilson1@dhr.state.ga.us

District	Date/Time	Location	BCW Contact
5-2 , North Central Macon	March 6, 2012 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM	Babies Can't Wait Program Office 2520 Riverside Drive Macon, Georgia 31204	Lisa Wiles, EIC 478-745-9200 lewiles@dhr.state.ga.us
6, East Central Augusta	March 5, 2012 4:00 PM – 7:30 PM	Babies Can't Wait Program Office Building C, 1916 North Leg Road Augusta, Georgia 30909	Tammy Seigler, EIC 706-667-4280 tcseigler@dhr.state.ga.us
9-2, Southeast Waycross	March 5, 2012 4:00 PM – 7:30 PM	Options Building 3 West Altman Street Statesboro, GA 30458	Tracy Weeden, EIC (912) 284-2552 (912) 688-6051 tiweeden@dhr.state.ga.us