

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2026

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Nutrition Resources Recipes

(Click the link below.)



Attention Early Intervention Families If you have a parent fee, please remember to pay it each month.

Your bill will come by the method you selected. Either in an email from no_reply@utah.gov or as a letter.

We love serving you and your family!

Tell Us Your Early Intervention Story



Baby Watch Early Intervention including, DDI Vantage, has supported Utah's youngest children and their families for more than 50 years. Our providers work every day—often behind the scenes—to help babies and toddlers reach their full potential.

As we prepare for the upcoming legislative session, **we want to bring your voices with us**. We're gathering letters of support for Baby Watch Early Intervention, as well as letters of thanks to our incredible providers across the state.

How you can help -

- Write a short letter sharing why Early Intervention matters to you.
- Write a note of thanks to the Early Intervention providers who made a difference in your life.

Before January 23rd, 2026

Email your letter to: ddivadmin@ddivantage.org

or



Fill out the google questionnaire by scanning the QR code

or

Deliver to one of our locations listed below

Your letters will be delivered directly to Utah legislators.

Your words can help protect and strengthen these essential services for families.

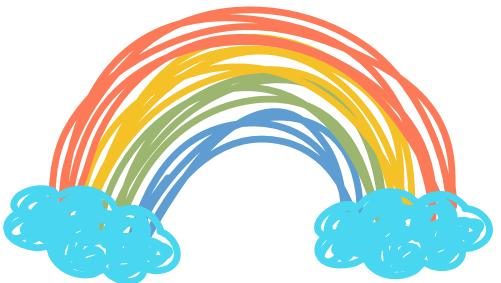
Family Story

DDI Vantage Early Intervention helped my son reach milestones he was struggling with on his own. They gave us practical tools and a deeper understanding of how to support and guide him; especially during these years before he's old enough for school.

Their visits quickly became something we all looked forward to and something we relied on. Every person we worked with was kind, patient, and thorough. The entire process was easy and genuinely empowering.

I honestly don't know how well things would have progressed without their guidance. I couldn't recommend this program more. The support they provided filled a gap that many families simply can't fill on their own.

I hope this program remains open for a long time! Losing it would be a huge loss for both children and parents across Utah.



Olson Family



Utah

Early Intervention- Part C
PROVIDERS CONSORTIUM

EVERY \$1 SPENT EARLY, SAVES UTAH \$7 LATER!

Participants in Part C Early Intervention demonstrated improved social-emotional skills, knowledge and behaviors- with...about one half catching up to a level appropriate for their age. -2022 ECTA

There is an urgent need for additional state funding for Part C Baby Watch Early Intervention to guarantee that families of children with developmental delays receive the specialized support critical for their growth and success.

THE PROBLEM:



- **Reimbursement rates frozen since 2017** causing staff overload, fewer home visits, high turnover, and declining service quality.
- **Programs cannot meet federal "Child Find" mandates**, leaving many eligible children undetected until kindergarten where they require costlier special education.
- **Utah funds only provide 1.7 hours per month per child versus the 4 hour national average.**



THE SOLUTION: \$4.5M ONGOING INVESTMENT

- Identify and serve more children early, when intervention is most effective and least costly.
- Improve outcomes for Utah's most vulnerable infants and toddlers.
- Increase service levels to national standards of 4 hours per month.
- Give 15,000+ Utah children the best start, while meeting federal requirements.
- Strengthen professional workforce, with competitive wages.

**THIS \$4.5 M ONGOING INVESTMENT WILL SAVE \$21.4M IN
PART B SPECIAL EDUCATION COSTS, INVEST NOW-SAVE LATER.**

THE NUMBERS:

15,795 CHILDREN

were provided critical services by highly educated early intervention providers this year.

47% OF THE CHILDREN

who exited the program avoided the necessity for future special education services.

\$10,700,000 SAVED

ANNUALLY by Part C Early Intervention.

9% DECREASE

in the per child early intervention funding—while costs to hire qualified professionals and overall operational costs continue to rise.

8 YEARS

since the last reimbursement rate increase for Part C Early Intervention services.

42% BELOW

national standards. Utah children receive less than HALF the intervention hours they need.

DID YOU KNOW WE:

- Are special education for children from birth to age three.
- Provide services to every child with a substantiated case from DCFS.
- Must start services to eligible families within 45 days of referral; a waitlist is not allowed.
- Screen every child for health, hearing and vision problems.
- Provide mental health support to infants as well as parents.

Cited Sources:





Marsha, **THANK YOU** for your service on our Board of Directors and for the time, expertise, and passion you generously share. Your commitment to our mission helps to drive our success and has strengthened our organization.

Marsha Johnson
Board of Directors from July 2018 - December 2025

Want to a part of us and serve on our Board of Directors?
Click on the link below to fill out an application.





To everyone that helped with our Sub
For Santa program

Thank You

Because of your generous support, gifts
and essentials were provided to 260
children. We greatly appreciate your
kindness and the difference you're
making in our community!

Story Corner



A Few Benefits of Reading Aloud to Children

Language Development

Empathy & Emotional Awareness

Parent-Child Bond

Lifelong Learning

Here are some fun winter books to read to your child

The Mitten

by Jan Brett



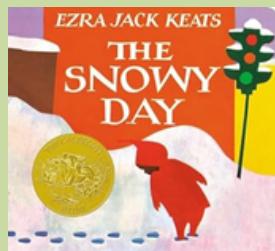
The Very Hungry Caterpillar's

First Winter by Eric Carle



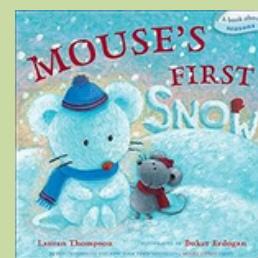
The Snowy Day

by Ezra Jack Keats



Mouse's First Snow

by Lauren Thompson



Touch and Feel Winter

by Scholastic



That's Not My Snowman

by Fiona Watt and Rachel Wells

