Improving Equitable Access to Services Through

Infant and Early Mental Health Care Pathways

Infant and Early Mental Health (IEMH) Care Pathways can mitigate the impact of developmental risk, reduce the need for intensive interventions, improve well-being across the lifespan and address a gap in mental health supports and services. 27% of kindergarten-aged children in Canada are at risk for a developmental delay which can significantly affect their overall health and quality of life (Early Development Instrument Report, 2021). IEMH Care Pathways are designed to enhance community collaboration, strengthen organizational capacity to identify developmental concerns early and streamline access to the appropriate supports and services for children from birth to age 6.

Legend



Green Tiles are the steps families need to take to access timely and appropriate IEMH services.

Ladders show how IEMH Care Pathways overcome the barriers and challenges to offer an equitable delivery of services.



Red Tiles are the current barriers and challenges families experience when trying to access IEMH services.

Snakes represent how families can experience setbacks when trying to access appropriate services.



Agency B creates a treatment plan for your child that you can implement at home and share with your child's educators.



Your child's educators are happy to connect with Agency B and receive the treatment plan. They begin to implement it right away!



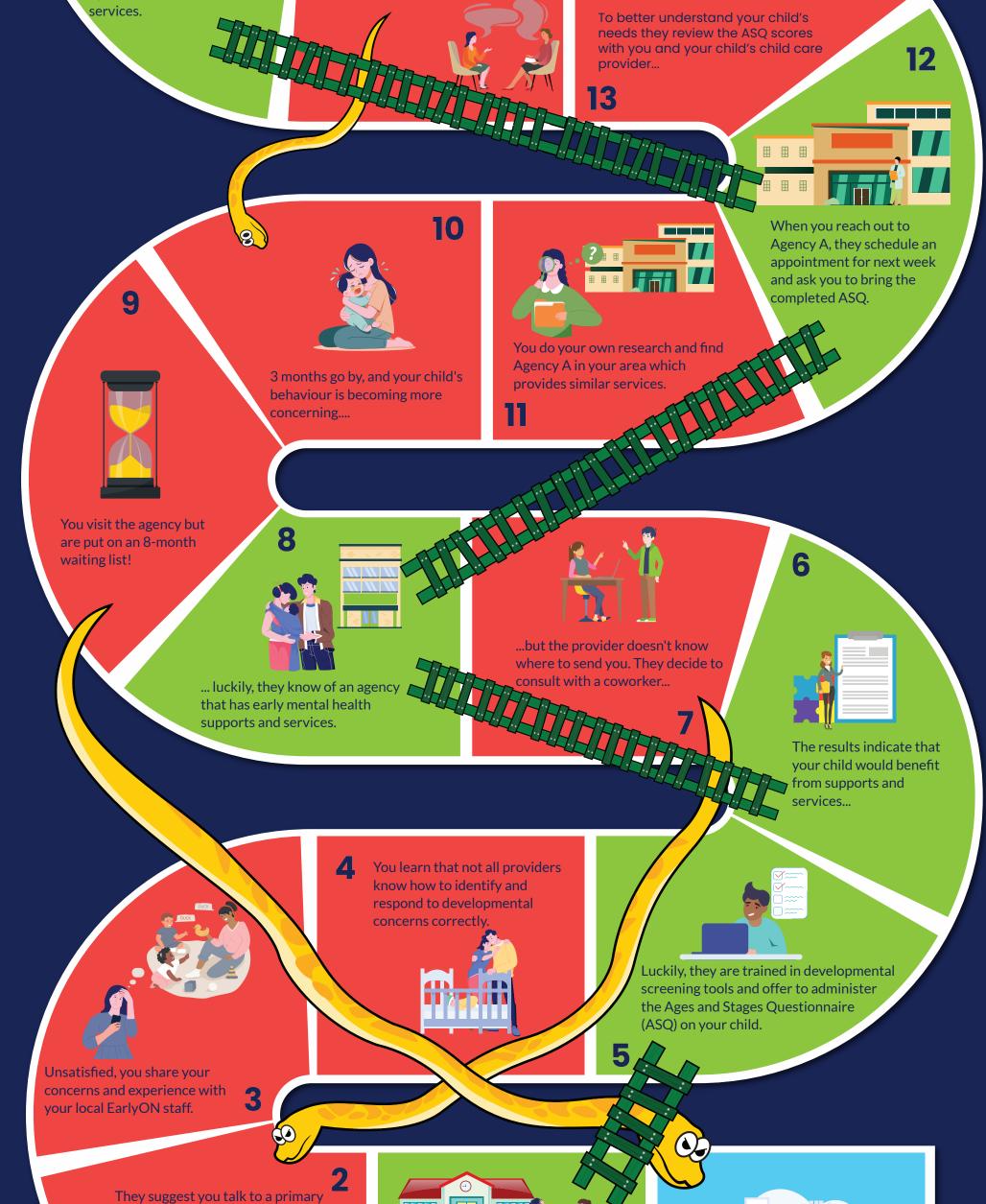
Your child is finally receiving the services they need and you are seeing improvement in their behaviour! But was it easy to get the support your child needed?

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And they decide to send you to Agency B, one of their partner agencies, for more appropriate services.

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...unfortunately, due to limited resources, the only way to access SOME of the services they offer is to give your child a diagnosis.



informed by the practitioner to wait and see how your child progresses.

care practitioner. You are

You share your concerns with your child's child care provider.

START

You have a concern about your little one's development. Who do you talk to?

For further information on the IEMH Care Pathways initiative, please contact us: iemhp.mail@sickkids.ca



