

## Tip Sheet: Making a Referral to SUCCESS

Young children engage in the classroom environment in a variety of ways. As early learning providers, your goal is to promote all children's development and emerging skills in the classroom. However, there are times when you struggle to know the best way to support a child in your classroom. For these children, SUCCESS can help. SUCCESS is a free service that pairs early learning programs with an Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant to support the social, emotional, and behavioral health needs of identified children. The following tips can help you determine whether a referral to SUCCESS is right for you and your program.

### Children are commonly referred to SUCCESS because they need support to:

- Follow classroom rules and behave appropriately in the classroom
- Get along with peers
- Express strong emotions appropriately
- Get along with adults
- Build confidence in their ability to learn and play independently
- Adjust to a stressful life event or family transition

### A referral to SUCCESS might be a good fit for you, the child, and the child's family when the following is true:

- The child is exhibiting a developmental, emotional, or behavioral challenge that is beyond what is expected for the child's age (e.g., more intense or frequent, hard time rebounding).
- The behavior is impacting the child's ability to learn or to get along with classmates and teachers.
- Teachers and/or families are stressed by the developmental, emotional, or behavioral challenge.
- Your program and the child's family would like help developing a plan to address this child's needs in the classroom and at home.

### Families are important partners in the consultation process and must agree to all referrals to SUCCESS

If you and the family determine that accessing additional resources and supports for the child will be beneficial, consider the following when discussing a referral to SUCCESS.

- 1. Review the brochure together:** Discuss the goals of SUCCESS and the types of services offered. It is important to highlight that SUCCESS services begin with a brief consultation (e.g., classroom observation, standardized questionnaires, and conversations with program staff and families) which leads to the provision of feedback and recommendations. Short-term follow-up supports are also available to families and programs to integrate assessment recommendations.
- 2. Review the Family Agreement Form:** Give the family a copy of the form to read and sign if they agree to their child's participation. Explain that by signing the form, the family gives permission for their child to participate in SUCCESS services and for the early learning program to provide information about their child to SUCCESS.
- 3. Make a plan for next steps:** If the family agrees to participate in SUCCESS, let them know what the next steps will be.
  - Early learning program will contact SUCCESS to provide information and submit the referral paperwork.
  - SUCCESS consultation will be scheduled.

All referral forms can be downloaded from our website (<https://exceed.ri.gov/success/>).

To learn more about our services or to make a referral, please visit our website or call  
**401.793.8700.**