



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES
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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

www.nj.gov/health

MARY E. O'DOWD, M.P.I.
Commissioner

September 4, 2013

Marilyn Arons, Director
The Melody Arons Center of Applied Preschool Research & Education, Inc.
210 Carlton Terrace
Teaneck, New Jersey 07666

Dear Ms. Arons,

Your letter to Commissioner O'Dowd dated May 31, 2013 has been referred to me for response. Specifically, you asked that the Melody Arons Center be included in the Central Directory of New Jersey Early Intervention Services (Central Directory). As the lead agency for the New Jersey Early Intervention System (NJEIS), the New Jersey Department of Health is committed to meeting its obligation to maintain a Central Directory with accurate, up to date information. 34 C.F.R. 303.117.

After reviewing your website, I recommend certain revisions for consideration in the Central Directory. Carefully review posts existing throughout your website to ensure they clearly identify, and conform to, Federal and State regulations. I direct your attention to updating the following areas on your site to represent the most accurate and current information.

- Part C Federal regulations were finalized in 2011. <http://idea.ed.gov/part-c/regulations/1>
Remove information about the proposed rule and how to comment on the rule proposal.
- Include that Individuals with Disabilities Education Act dispute resolution options are available at no cost through NJEIS.
- "Busy Box" resources should identify early intervention services for infants and toddlers. Remove information about preschool services for children age three to five to provide greater clarity for parents seeking early intervention services for infants and toddlers.

Published Central Directory resources inform interested parents of services available in the State for eligible infants and toddlers with disabilities, as follows:

- Public and private early intervention services;
- Education, training and support for families of infants and toddlers with disabilities;
- Research and demonstration projects conducted in the State related to infants and toddlers with disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to address your concerns. I appreciate your commitment to the children and families of New Jersey.

Sincerely,

Terry Harrison
Part C Coordinator
NJEIS