

## 12 Component Standards for Judy Centers

All Judy Centers are monitored on a regular basis and are required to meet the following 12 Component Standards:

1. **Full Day/Full Year Programming:** Children who participate in Judy Centers have access to high-quality early care and education programs to meet the year-round needs of children and families.
2. **Provision of Breakfast/Lunch:** Children who participate in Judy Center Partnership, school or center based programs for more than 2½ hours per day have access to appropriate breakfast, lunch and snacks according to USDA guidelines. Eligible programs are required to access federal and/or state food programs, e.g., Free and Reduced Meals, Child and Adult Care Foods Program (CACFP).
3. **Service Coordination and Family Support:** Service coordination at Judy Centers is designed to include the 6 Elements of Effective Service Coordination:
  - a. assessment of needs for children and families;
  - b. a referral process;
  - c. review and evaluation (includes the coordination of intervention services among various programs);
  - d. intervention services;
  - e. monitoring the effectiveness of intervention services; and
  - f. reporting on progress of intervention services. The Judy Center Partnership coordinates its services, programs and activities to avoid duplicating the services offered to families, and to monitor the effectiveness of the family support offered. When a child participates in more than one program, the service coordinator, in collaboration with program and/or agency offices, will identify ONE key contact for that child. The key contact will be the one person who has developed the closest working relationship with the family and will interact with the family so that services are integrated. Several forms of support services are demonstrated and may include home visiting, child tutoring, behavior services and counseling.
4. **Integration of Early Education Services:** Curriculum and assessment for all programs in partnership with the Judy Center are aligned with the Maryland State Curriculum and the Maryland Model for School Readiness (MMSR) Framework and Standards documents for Prekindergarten and Kindergarten.
5. **Family Involvement:** Family Involvement at Judy Centers depends upon the collaboration of all partners to encourage parents and caregivers to become empowered to meet the needs of their families. Family involvement activities include events for children birth through age 5. Events are coordinated among all agencies and a coordinated calendar of activities is regularly distributed to families.
6. **Early Identification/Intervention:** Judy Centers have a plan in place to identify all children birth through age 5 that reside in their respective school zones. This includes those who are enrolled in state or federally regulated programs. Children receive developmental screenings, evaluations and interventions when appropriate. All children birth through age 5, regardless of abilities, are fully included and have access to all programs and services.
7. **Inclusion of Young Children with Disabilities (ages 3-5 with IEPs or IFSPs):** Consistent with the vision of the Judy Centers, preschool age children with disabilities and their families are fully included in all of the services as part of the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) such as pre-kindergarten, family support and involvement, service coordination, and full-day, full-year services. Families who elect the Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP) Option participate in Judy Center activities and are also included in ways that meet their Plan.
8. **Health Services:** Judy Centers ensure children receive immunizations; blood lead testing, as recommended; dental assessment and referral; vision and hearing assessments and referral; mental health assessments and referral, when appropriate; physical growth and nutritional assessments including referral to Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC); referral to local health department (drug and alcohol services), if warranted; and access to health care insurance, including other family members, but especially children (MCHP).
9. **Professional Development:** Staff members of all participating Judy Center programs participate in MMSR training and understand their responsibilities in implementing the MMSR

as appropriate for their program. Joint trainings are held among partners on common topics of interest and needs in order to advance student outcomes.

10. **Adult Education/Family Literacy:** Judy Center parents are encouraged to pursue their own education in order to allow them to better support their children and to afford them opportunities at home, in school, and in the community to become full partners in their child's education. Family Literacy activities are paired with and are an integral part of all programs for children and families involved in the Judy Center Partnership.
11. **Maryland EXCELS/Accreditation/Validation of Programs:** To ensure high quality early care and education programs, all Judy Center early education partners must achieve and maintain state or national accreditation/validation.
12. **Judy Center Partnership/Leadership:** The Judy Center Partnership is actively engaged and is consistently and frequently involved in the school readiness mission of the Judy Center. The Judy Center is well-known in the community. Judy Centers are involved in the mission of its partners, their work benefits the entire community, and they are recognized as leaders in early childhood.