Introducing Utah's Early Childhood Act Early Ambassador

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INTRODUCING UTAH'S EARLY CHILDHOOD ACT EARLY AMBASSADOR

February 17, 2012 by cpehrson

Tracy Golden

The CPD would like to introduce Tracy Golden to our Utah readers. Tracy was recently selected to serve as Utah's Act Early Ambassador for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) "Learn the Signs. Act Early." program.

The Act Early Ambassadors project is designed to develop a network of state-level experts to improve early identification practices for those providing services to very young children. Golden will play an important role in educating Utah's parents, healthcare professionals, and early educators about early childhood development, warning signs of autism and other developmental disabilities.

Golden, a social worker and licensed mental health therapist, is a trainee with the Utah Regional Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (URLEND) Program through the CPD. She was selected as an Act Early Ambassador because of her commitment to improving the lives of children and families and increasing access to services for children with developmental disabilities.

The Ambassador's project is a collaborative effort on behalf of CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD), the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), and the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD). Fifteen Act Early Ambassadors were selected to serve as state liaisons to the Act Early Initiative and act as a community agents to increase awareness activities and improvement of early identification practices.

Alfred Romeo is the Campaign Coordinator for the "Learn the Signs. Act Early." (LTSAE) campaign in Utah. He is working with Tracy Golden to help parents learn about healthy development for their newborns and young children. The LTSAE web site offers a variety of tools and checklists that parents and professionals can use when they have concerns about a child's development.

Tracy can be contacted at golden.actearly@gmail.com for more information and any questions about the campaign in Utah.