



DOH WELCOMES DR. JOSEPHINE SHENOUDA

On March 13, 2023, **Josephine Shenouda** joined the DOH as the new **Early Intervention Director**. Previously with Rutgers University for 12 years as a co-Investigator on the CDC Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network for New Jersey, Josephine holds a Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences from Rutgers Graduate School of Biomedical Science and a DrPH in

Epidemiology from Rutgers School of Public Health. In 2020, she joined the Rutgers School of Public Health faculty as an Adjunct Professor of Biostatistics and Epidemiology teaching Principles and Methods of Epidemiology and Evaluation of Public Health Surveillance. Her research has focused on developing evidence-based strategies for ASD interventions, addressing health disparities in ASD identification and intervention and has recently been published in JAMA Pediatrics and Pediatrics.

During her tenure with Rutgers Josephine and the DOH-EIS team collaborated frequently in support of the ADDM Network and other research and activities related to early intervention.

Over the next few weeks, the DOH team will be supporting her transition to the role of Director by introducing her to NJEIS stakeholders, reviewing the strengths and initiatives currently in motion in NJEIS, along with the areas of critical need and opportunities.

Josephine can be reached by email Josephine.shenouda@doh.nj.gov. She may also be reached through the main telephone line at 609-777-7734.

Welcome Josephine!

PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS OFFICE

As you all know, Beth Lohne has been a vital member of the team in the PSO office for many years, and recently returned to the office as a consultant. DOH is very pleased to announce that as of March 13, Beth is now permanently employed as the PSO Specialist with the Department 😊. Beth now has a new phone number **609-649-9714** and her email is beth.lohne@doh.nj.gov. We are glad to have Beth and Katusca McEntee working with families to respond to their concerns while helping to ensure that the system is compliant with the due process procedures required by Part C.

HEARING CONSULTANTS FOR EIS

In December 2022, Theresa Harp, Hearing Consultant for Family Link resigned her position. Theresa, along with Barbara Hayes established the Hearing Consultant position in 2012 and, during the past 10 years, has shared essential information and provided meaningful support to hundreds of families of children with hearing loss and Service Coordinators. We wish her well in her next endeavors.

NJEIS pleased to announce that Lorraine Solimine and Yvonne Collins have joined the Hearing Consultant team, with Lorraine supporting the Mid-Jersey Cares region and Yvonne supporting the Southern REIC. Many of you will already be familiar with these talented and enthusiastic professionals.

Lorraine brings 19 years of experience as an Audiologist, most recently and continuing as a member of the Sound Start Babies Program in Mountain Lakes in the roles of Assistant Program Coordinator and Audiologist.

Yvonne is a Clinical Expert with over 24 years of experience as a Special Educator and Teacher of the Deaf or Hard of Hearing, currently and continuing with Virtua Health, Pediatric Early Intervention Program.

Along with supporting families, the three Hearing Consultants are updating the Hearing Consultant presentation to Service Coordinators. Please join us in welcoming Lorraine and Yvonne as our newest Hearing Consultants.

RETIREMENT

Lastly, Jennifer Buzby Executive Director for the Southern REIC has announced her retirement date of June 30, 2023. The Board of Directors for the Southern REIC is conducting the search for a new Executive Director. This position has previously been shared within the NJEIS, however stakeholders with interest or questions about the position should contact Jennifer for more information.

While it's too soon to officially say "goodbye" to Jennifer, between now and the end of June we look forward to highlighting her impact on children, families and the EI system over her 42 year career.



The March 2023 Dashboard with regular updates and information for the NJEIS