

# **NJ Early Intervention Week 2016**

## **May 16th – 21st**

Enter the Annual Early Intervention “Tell Us Your Story” Contest

We invite families who have benefitted from Early Intervention to “Tell Us Your Story.” Your personal story can help other families, early intervention practitioners & community members gain an understanding of the benefits of Early Intervention. Please share your story about:

### ***“How Has Early Intervention Supported Me in Helping My Child Develop and Learn.”***

- Describe a memorable experience about how your practitioner(s) or service coordinator supported you in helping your child to learn, improve, change a behavior, etc.
- Share tips or strategies provided to you while in Early Intervention that helped you help your child develop & learn.

**1st prize – \$100.00 Visa Gift Card\***

**2nd prize – \$50.00 Visa Gift Card\***

All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation & prize winners will be notified via email and/or mail by the week of June 27, 2016.

**See other side for contest rules**

Contest hosted by Helpful Hands, Northeast Regional Early Intervention Collaborative (NREIC)  
All entries must be received (via mail or email) no later than 5:00 pm on Friday, May 27, 2016.

**NJ Early Intervention Week 2016, May 16<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**Helpful Hands, Northeast Regional Early Intervention Collaborative**

**Overview and Contest Topic**

New Jersey Early Intervention Week was created to recognize that all children have special & unique gifts that deserve the care & attention of their families & communities. The state appreciates the challenges families face & the courage needed to do so. The state also recognizes how the New Jersey Early Intervention System (NJEIS) plays a role in supporting families to ensure that all infants & toddlers have the opportunity to develop, grow & ultimately lead productive lives in the community. In that spirit, we invite Early Intervention families to "Tell Us Your Story."

**Northeast Regional Early Intervention Collaborative (NREIC) Contest Guidelines**

Entries should be no longer than 500 words. Submissions can be handwritten or typed. Only **one entry per household** will be accepted including households where two or more children have received or are receiving New Jersey Early Intervention services. **Entry should be based on the experiences of a child & family that have received NJEIS services within the past 12 months (April 2015 to present).** Each entry needs to include the author's name, child's name, address, telephone number, month & year of initial NJ Early Intervention eligibility. **Submissions received without this information will not be eligible.**

**NREIC Contest Eligibility and Entry Rules**

**Participants must be New Jersey residents** living in the NREIC region (Bergen, Hudson and Passaic Counties) and have a child that has received New Jersey EI Services within the past 12 months (**April 2015 to present**). Employees of the Department of Health, NREIC, NREIC Board of Trustees, Service Coordination Units, Regional Service Provider Agencies and their immediate families **are not eligible** for this contest.

**Entries can be sent to:** Helpful Hands NREIC, Attention: Desirée Bonner, 65 Willowbrook Boulevard, Suite 405, Wayne, NJ 07470 -OR- emailed to [desiree@nreic.org](mailto:desiree@nreic.org).

**All entries must be received (via mail or email) by 5:00 pm on Friday, May 27, 2016.**

**NREIC Prizes**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> prize will be a \$100.00 Visa Gift Card\*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize will be a \$50.00 Visa Gift Card\*

All entries will be read without identification by NREIC Board Members & Staff, who include parents of children with special needs, professionals who work in early intervention & other community members. Winners will be notified by June 27, 2016. Decisions of the reading panel will be final.

**(NREIC) NJ Early Intervention Week Contest Entry Form**

Author Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Month & Year of Eligibility for NJEIS services \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Word Count \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the information provided is factual. I certify that I am the author of this entry. I agree to abide by the rules of the Helpful Hands NREIC New Jersey Early Intervention Week "Tell Us Your Story" contest. I understand that my story will become the property of the NREIC to use at its discretion.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NREIC ONLY**

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed by \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_