



eein Mentorship Program
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Glossary of Mentorship Terms

Early Education and Intervention Network of NH (eein): a membership organization for professionals and families involved in supporting infants and young children, birth to six years, with special needs. eein's mission is to provide a collaborative forum for identifying issues and providing information and support to promote best practices in early intervention and early childhood special education. Activities include: trainings, newsletters, and mentorships.

Early Supports and Services (ESS): NH's system of early intervention and family support to children, birth to three years old, with developmental disabilities and their families who qualify for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part C.

Preschool Special Education: NH's system of providing educational and therapeutic services to preschool children, age three to six, with developmental issues that qualify for services under IDEA, Part B, section 619.

Mentorship: a partnership for learning that involves a short or long term relationship between a "novice" and an "expert"; a process of career laddering within a professional field; a team concept which includes benefits to the organization, profession, and mentor/mentee; a mutual opportunity to strengthen skills in a safe environment through personal reflection.

Individual Mentorship: a relationship between a mentor and an individual mentee that provides up to 15 hours of one-on-one information sharing. The relationship is mentee driven and works toward meeting identified goals in the mentor's area of expertise.

Topical Mentorship: a small group workshop experience on a defined topic that offers opportunities for questions, reflection, sharing among group members, and an abbreviated individual mentorship with the mentor/presenter.

Mentor: a term that originated in Homer's poem, The Odyssey, for a wise, faithful guardian that promoted a friend to develop a fuller sense of self; an expert on a topic that guides, advises, coaches, teaches and supports the mentee's professional development and growth; someone familiar with the NH ESS, Preschool Special Education, and/or child care systems who is capable of reflecting and learning within a mentorship relationship.

Mentee: a novice or less experienced professional, in a particular area, who desires to learn more about an identified topic in an individualized manner with a mentor; a person willing to engage in personal reflection and experienced based learning to further their skills or move up a career ladder.