

Possible Indications of a Vision Problem



If a child's eyes...

- look cloudy or have unusual shape or size
- turn in, out, up or down or make jerky movements

If a child...

- looks through, rather than at people
- looks away to reach or reaches over/under objects
- tilts or turns his/her head to the side to look
- shows a preference of looking with one eye over the other
- is overly sensitive to bright light
- rubs or pokes his or her eyes

Quality Services

The Sight Center's services are accredited at the highest level of standards by AER, an independent, nonprofit accrediting program that ensures agency standards are current, relevant, and advance excellence throughout our 18-county service area.



The Sight Center
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Early Childhood Low Vision Services



Providing individualized services in the home or community for children with a vision impairment from birth to three years old



The Sight Center
of northwest ohio

The Sight Center's Early Childhood Services

Philosophy

The Early Intervention philosophy is that parents and caregivers are the most important teachers in a child's life. Appropriate Early Intervention services foster meaningful bonds with children.



Purpose

Early Intervention assists a family in understanding the diagnosis, teach specific strategies to encourage their child's development and help them gain the skills necessary for meeting the challenges of parenting a child with a visual impairment.

What To Expect

Early Intervention for a child with a visual impairment under the age of three will begin with a review of medical records.

An individualized assessment using a nationally recognized measure called The Oregon Project Skills Inventory will be completed. Results from this assessment are discussed with the family, caregivers and other service providers.

A plan is created to address development in the areas of Cognitive, Fine Motor, Vision and Compensatory Skills.

The Early Intervention Specialist suggests strategies for activities and provides encouragement to guide each family through the first three years of the child's life.

Our program focuses on helping a child learn to maximize use of remaining vision and to develop non-visual skills to increase independence in communication, play, movement and self-care.

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Certified Staff

Our program is staffed by Certified Early Intervention Specialists with support from other Sight Center staff, including:

- Low Vision Optometrists
- Occupational Therapist
- Certified Orientation & Mobility Specialist
- Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapist
- Social Work & Counseling Providers



Collaborations

The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio EI staff collaborate with other providers including: Help Me Grow, local Boards of Developmental Disabilities, private therapists and physicians to provide a cohesive team approach to intervention to maximize the child's progress toward individualized goals.