



First 5 Alabama[®]

Alabama Association for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

The Alabama Association for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (AAIECMH) was formed in January 2017 and will operate under the name of *First 5 Alabama*. During this time, the AAIECMH became a licensed affiliate of the Alliance for the Advancement of Infant Mental Health[®], a global organization that includes those states and countries whose infant mental health associations have licensed the use of the Competency Guidelines[®] and Endorsement[®] for Culturally Sensitive, Relationship-Focused Practice Promoting Infant Mental Health[®] under their associations' names.

Purpose and goals of the Association:

- ❖ to promote throughout Alabama, the healthy social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development of young children through supportive and nurturing relationships from conception through five years of age;
- ❖ to facilitate interdisciplinary cooperation among individuals concerned with promoting conditions that will bring about the optimal development of young children and child-caregiver and child-parent relationships;
- ❖ to encourage the realization that early childhood is a sensitive period in the psychosocial development of individuals;
- ❖ to promote education, research, and study of the effects of mental development during early childhood on later social/emotional/behavioral and psychopathological development;
- ❖ to promote education, professional development, and expertise of a cadre of professionals concerning the mental health of young children, parents, families and other caregivers of young children;
- ❖ and to promote the development of scientifically based and/or informed programs of care, promotion, intervention, and prevention of mental impairment in early childhood.

Who should join? Anyone interested in the healthy development of children pre-birth to age five.

Association membership is also required for those seeking one of the four categories of Endorsement[®] appropriate for practitioners, teachers, counselors, and leaders in the early childhood and mental health fields. Association members get advance notice and first opportunity in training and professional development opportunities and activities of the Association.

Regular Membership

- 1 Year Association Dues \$25.00 (Professional)
- 1 Year Association Dues \$15.00 (Student)
- 1 Year Association Dues \$10.00 (Parent)

- 1 Year Agency Membership (up to 10 staff) \$250 *
- 1 Year Agency Membership (up to 20 staff) \$500 *

* Each person of an agency membership must have completed their own form. (ex: 10 agency members 10 forms)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Title: _____

Agency or Organization: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Checks should be made payable to the **Alabama Partnership for Children** and mailed to:

Alabama Partnership for Children
Attn: AAIECMH *First 5 Alabama*
2529 Bell Road
Montgomery, Alabama 36117

Current Discipline or Expertise:

Early Childhood
EI Provider
Higher Ed/School
Mental Health Professional
Nurse
OT or PT
Parent
Physician
Social Worker
Student
Other:



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Alabama Association for Infant and
Early Childhood Mental Health

Founded January 31, 2017

Founding Partners and Charter Board Members:

Alabama Partnership for Children (manages the Association)
Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention
Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education
Alabama Department of Education
Alabama Department of Human Resources
Alabama Department of Mental Health
Alabama Department of Public Health
Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, Early Intervention

At-Large Board Members 2017:

Madeleine Blancher, M.D.
Jim Raines, TriCounty Mental Health
Dr. Melissa Werner, Adult and Child Psychotherapy
Dr. Amanda Evans, Asst. Prof. of Counselor Education, and
Coordinator of Clinical MH Services, Auburn University

An affiliate of:



Alliance for the Advancement of
Infant Mental Health

For information on the Alliance and the Endorsement® process visit:
<http://mi-aimh.org/for-imh-professionals/endorsement/>

With funding from the Kellogg Foundation

For additional information about First 5 Alabama, please contact:
Jill Tatum at 1-866-711-4025 (for Zero to Five) or jtatum@smartstartalabama.org

For information about Endorsement®, please contact:
Dallas Rabig, LPC
State Coordinator, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH)
Endorsement Coordinator First 5 Alabama
(334) 430-9340 or dallas.rabig@ece.alabama.gov