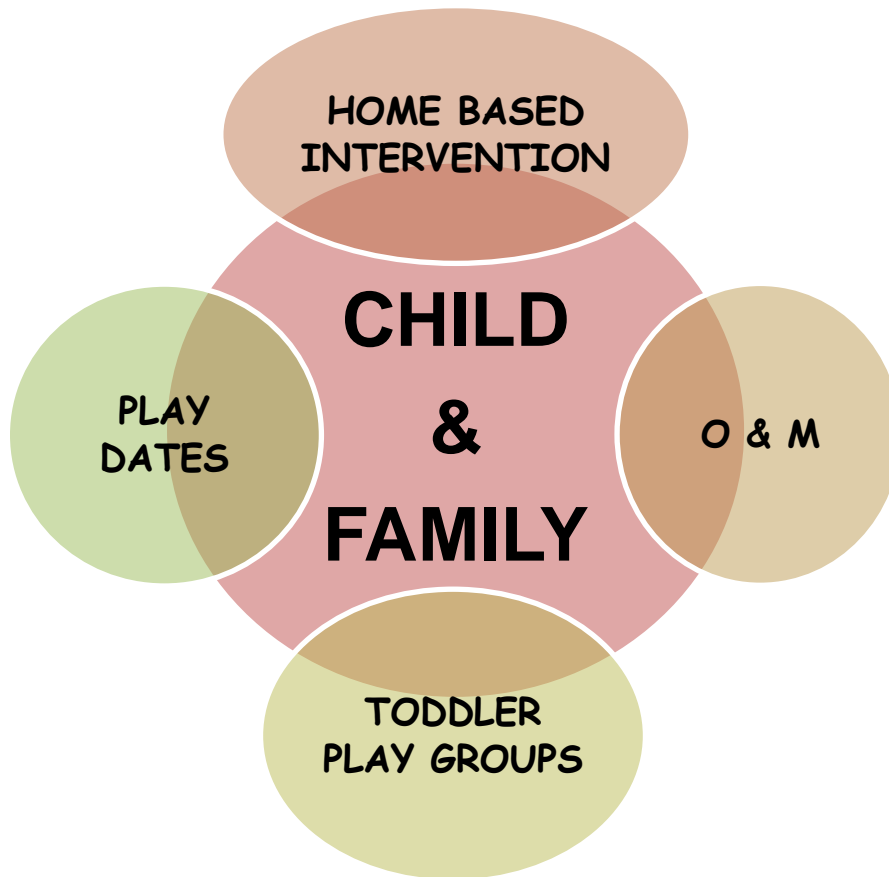


Program Components - Service Options



Home-Based Services

The home offers a natural environment where services are embedded within the child's everyday routines. Vision strategies address the areas of development that the vision loss has impacted such as communication/language, cognition and play, fine and gross motor, social-emotional, and daily self-help skills. Adaptations of tactile, contrast, size, lighting, color, shape, listening, smell, etc. are utilized in assisting your child to maximize any remaining vision and compensate for loss of vision. Strategies are offered in support of the parent-infant relationship, activities with instruction to teach vision and compensatory skills are modeled, and resources of information are provided.

Family Service Option: Up to twice a week (60 minute sessions)

Orientation and Mobility Services

The early concepts of movement, spatial awareness and environmental sound cues will be introduced and taught by the Early Intervention Vision Specialist. These services will be offered in all the environments that are typical for you and your child such as the home, the backyard, the neighborhood playground, and other local community places

that you go. As soon as your child begins to move about their environment, an Orientation and Mobility Specialist will complete a formal evaluation. The Orientation and Mobility specialist will introduce the child to pre-cane devices and/or a cane for use in independent travel and provide specialized instruction when appropriate.

Family Service Option: Up to once a month (60 minute sessions)

Toddler/Playgroups

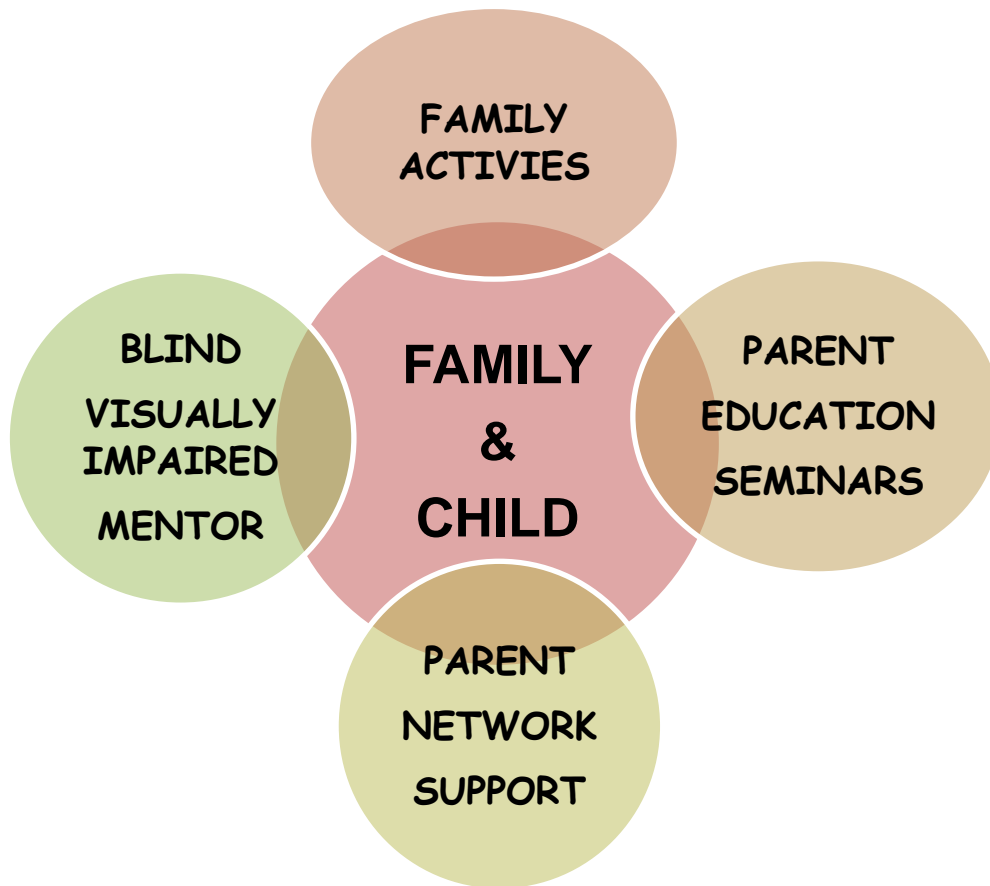
Toddler/playgroup classes offer children ages 18 – 36 months an opportunity to learn in a group setting, to socialize and practice communication/language, and to interact with peer modeling. The classes allow children to function in a more predictable world and to generalize his/her knowledge to other environments and situations. Toddler classes provide the child with visual impairments opportunities to begin to explore and learn with other equipment and modalities that are not available in the home environment such as with a CCTV, other optical devices, electric brailers, etc. The Toddler/playgroup class also provides the parent with opportunities to play and work with their child on specific center based activities as well as networking with other parents. Parents will receive instruction on specific topics of interest to the group. Topics may cover such issues as sensory integration, emergent literacy, visual motor, etc.

Family Service Option: Once per week (75 minute sessions)

Play Dates

Play Dates provide opportunities for 2 to 3 families to get together to meet and build networks. It prepares families and children for a more formalized playgroup setting. The play dates allow the children to have opportunities to socialize, build language/communication, to generalize skills learned in similar settings and to interact with peer modeling. The play dates could be at the home of one of the families, at the park, the community pool, or other natural environments, etc.

Family Service Option: Up to quarterly (60 minute sessions)



Regional Family Activities

Regional activities within the community provide opportunities for children with visual impairments to interact with their world in settings not available in their home environment. Activities may take place at the neighborhood park, swimming pool, a vegetable garden, a fruit orchard, a farm, the zoo, or other location where the child can experience real objects in natural settings. These activities allow families to network, parents to learn additional strategies in working with their child, and the child to build new concepts to better understand their world.

Family Service Option: Up to 4 times per year (2 hour sessions)

Parent Education Seminars

Intensive educational classes are offered to parents on specific topics unique to vision impairment. The classes will be offered in local areas as well as at the USDB sites throughout the state. The topics will be decided as per the need but will cover such areas as: Introduction to Braille; Feeding Issues; Sensory Integration; Visual Motor; Eating Concerns; Tactile Defensiveness; Expanded Core Curriculum; Transition at Age Three; etc.

Family Service Option: Once a week for 4-6 weeks (60 minute sessions)

Parent to Parent Network/Support

Parents will have opportunities to be connected with both state and national family networking/support organizations. Networking/support opportunities will be provided through both formal and informal settings. Informal settings may be play dates, toddler/playgroups, family activities, etc. The more formalized organizations may be with Utah Parents of Blind Children, Family Connect, National Foundation for the Blind, and/or organizations specific for the child's vision diagnosis, etc.

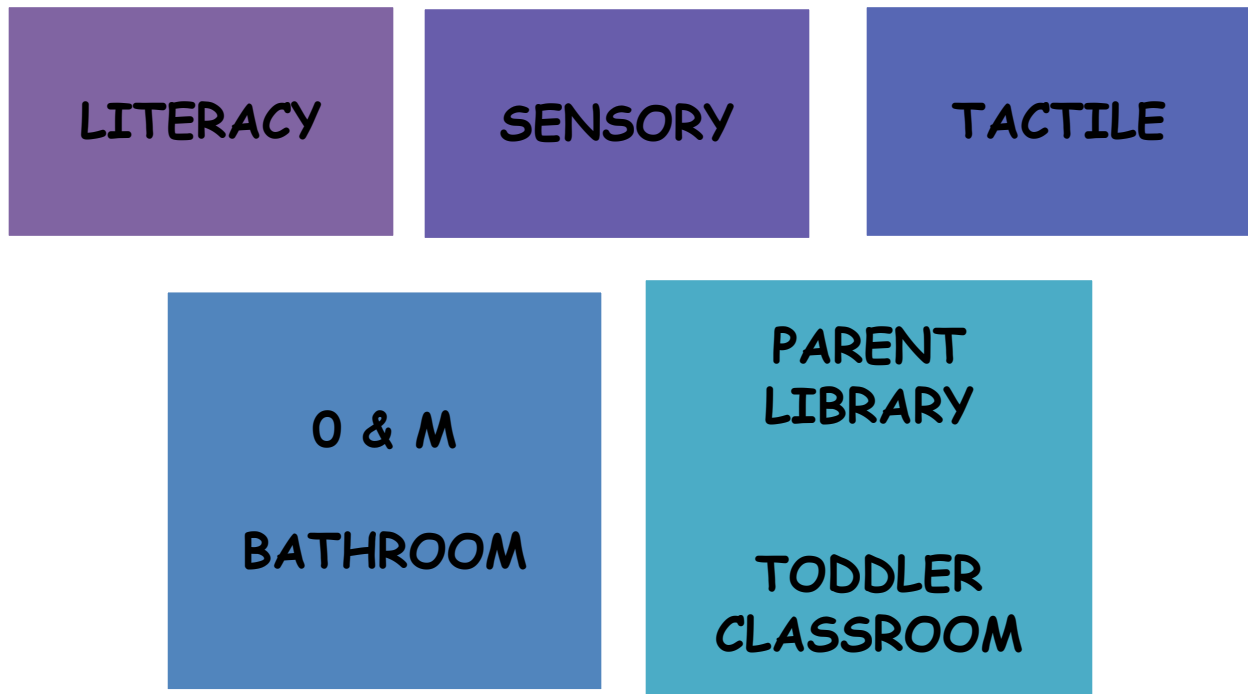
Family Service Option: Per Request

Blind/Visually Impaired Mentor

A blind/visually impaired mentor would be assigned to families requesting this service. Mentors may be adults or students of High School age. Mentors may share experiences, answer questions, provide parents with a view of future opportunities and independence. Blind/visually impaired mentors will assist families in networking with other families that share the same eye condition as their child as well as with other blind and visually impaired adults and/or students. Blind/visually impaired mentors could participate in home visits, play dates, toddler/playgroup classes, and at parent education seminars.

Family Service Option: Per request

Early Childhood Sensory Center



The Early Childhood Sensory Center provides another option for families to obtain information concerning visual impairments and the unique learning needs of their child. Families are invited to visit the Sensory Center as often as the schedule allows. They may experience the Sensory Center for a few hours at a time or extend their stay overnight. The family will be provided with a checklist of possible topics to be covered and the agenda will be tailored to the individual needs of the child and family based on interest in topics identified. The Sensory Center will offer information on topics such as the diagnosed vision condition, attachment, social and play interaction, pre-braille, emergent literacy, sensory motor skills, sensory integration, low vision optical devices, technology, family games and activities that the entire family can participate in, etc. Families and their children will have opportunities to experience materials and equipment not accessible in the home environment.

Family Service Option: Per Request

Areas at the Sensory Center include:

- Literacy
 - ❖ Braille and print books for young children
 - ❖ Books adapted with textures
 - ❖ Book examples for low vision
 - ❖ Story Bags & Story Boxes (how to make & how to use)
 - ❖ Braille readiness tactile activities
 - ❖ Alphabet awareness materials (alphabet bags)
 - ❖ Low vision aids (magnifiers, monocular, CCTV, reading stand, line marker, etc.)
- Sensory
 - Light box and low vision play materials
 - Materials for use with children with CVI
 - Variety of light toys and materials
 - High contrast color toys and materials
- Tactile
 - Materials to use in water play
 - Messy play activities
 - Texture activities and materials; texture play
 - Physical knowledge activities (dirt, rocks, shells, wood, metals, plants, etc.)
- Orientation & Mobility
 - ❖ Sensory motor activity ideas and equipment
 - ❖ Ideas and equipment for working on motor skills, balance, and gross motor play
 - ❖ Examples of adapted mobility devices
 - ❖ Canes

- Bathroom
 - A model for setting up a daily care area with low vision adaptations using contrast, color, size, trays, organization, etc.
 - A model for setting up a daily care area with compensatory adaptations using textures, trays, organization, etc.
 - Bath time activities and positioning equipment
 - Adaptations to use in hygiene such as tooth brushing, face & hand washing, diaper changing, dressing, etc.
 - Adaptations to use in toileting
- Parent Library
 - Videos/DVDs on topics related to visual impairments
 - Books and pamphlets specific to topics on visual impairments
 - Electronic articles and resources available to parents
 - Websites related to specific eye diagnosis
 - Websites related to organizations and parent networking
- Toddler Play Group Classroom
 - Literacy corner
 - Large group area / Smart Board, rhythm instruments, calendar, etc.
 - Sensory play
 - Blocks, cars, construction toys (O & M mapping, etc.
 - Fine motor manipulation
 - Housekeeping and pretend play
 - Snack