**The BRIGHT Coaching Research Study is looking for research participants**

**What is this study about?**

Children develop critical skills during the preschool years. Children with developmental differences or delays may struggle with learning these skills, or learn them in different ways and at different speeds. Getting assessments or services for your child may take time. This can be difficult and stressful for families.

BRIGHT Coaching is a research study about how to support families while they are waiting for services. The study is testing to see if a coach program (telephone coaching sessions, online education and peer support) improves parent/caregiver health and family health care experience.

**Why we need your help:**

We are looking for families to participate in this research study in 4 provinces across Canada: British Columbia, Manitoba, Quebec, and Nova Scotia. You are being asked to participate because your child was recently put on a wait list for assessments or services for their developmental difference(s).   
It is your choice to participate or not. If you choose to participate in this study, it will have not affect your wait time or the care received from the professionals your child is waiting to see.

**How is this study organized?**

Parents or caregivers participate in this study for 18 months. Participants are randomly assigned in either of the two groups:

* Participants in Group 1 will have a telephone call with a trained coach once every two weeks. Each call will take about 45 minutes to 1 hour. The coach will help guide parents through different topics including child development and the service providers and health professional they may see. These participants will also have access to a secure online website, where they can learn online educational material & share with other families online about their experiences.
* Participants in Group 2 receives care as usual, but does not participate in the coach program until after the study is over 18 months later. At the end of the study, Group 2 gets a telephone session with the coach and access to the online tools (online education and peer support).

Both Groups participate in 3 series of research questionnaires\*: at enrolment, 9 months after enrolment, and 18 months after enrolment. Both groups also receive care and services as usual.

*\*At each series of research questionnaires, you will complete 9 to 10 questionnaires, and this will take you about 3 hours. Most of these questionnaires will be completed in the comfort of your home online or in paper form, and some questionnaires will be done with a research assistant on the phone. You can complete these questionnaires all at once, or a few at a time, as long as they are all done in 14 days.*

We organized the study this way so we can understand if there is any difference between the two groups. It will help us know if the coach program is helpful. The hope is that this coaching program can help parents/caregivers and families like yours during this challenging transition.

**Are you eligible to take part?**

€ Your child is between 2 ½ years old and under 4 years old (30-48 months).

€ Your child is believed to have a difference or delay in one or more developmental areas (such as in the way your child moves, thinks, talks, interacts, or behaves)

€ Your child is waiting for assessment and/or intervention services for this developmental difference or delay. This means that your child has been newly referred to a public program within the last 3 months (e.g. clinic, community centre or hospital). (You are still eligible if your child has received services in the past in infancy.)

€ You live in British Columbia, Quebec, Manitoba, or Nova Scotia.

€ You are willing to participate in 3 research assessments.

€ You are comfortable speaking, reading, and writing in English or French, and receive services for your child in English or French (without an interpreter).

€ You have regular access to the internet, using a desktop, laptop, or mobile device.

€ You are not currently participating in or have not previously participated in another coaching program.

**Want to know more about the study?**

If you are interested in learning more, please contact your local BRIGHT Coaching Research Assistant/Coordinator at the email address and phone number provided below. Thank you for your interest!

Sincerely,

BRIGHT Coaching research team

**Shayna Pierce**

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