

# VCU

## Using Distance Technology to Meet Professional Development Needs of Early Intervention Providers: One State's Vision for the Future

### Rrrrrrrrr... "Just in Time" Information



The challenge of designing and offering quality professional development content that is evidence-based and meets the diverse needs of early intervention providers is a unique opportunity. In Virginia, there are over 1,300 early intervention providers representing more than 20 professional disciplines. Providers need access to "just in time" information and resources to guide their practice and intervention.

#### Empowers Parents

"Even though I have always tried to embed strategies into families' daily routines, I think I can now do even more to build the parents' confidence and competence; endorsing the concept of having families involved is 99% of the success."

#### Landing Pads



• 17% of the visitors access the site to download one of the 15 landing pads.

"After looking at the resources for children that have hearing loss, I was better able to give the family information and write appropriate goals."

#### Orients New Staff & Volunteers

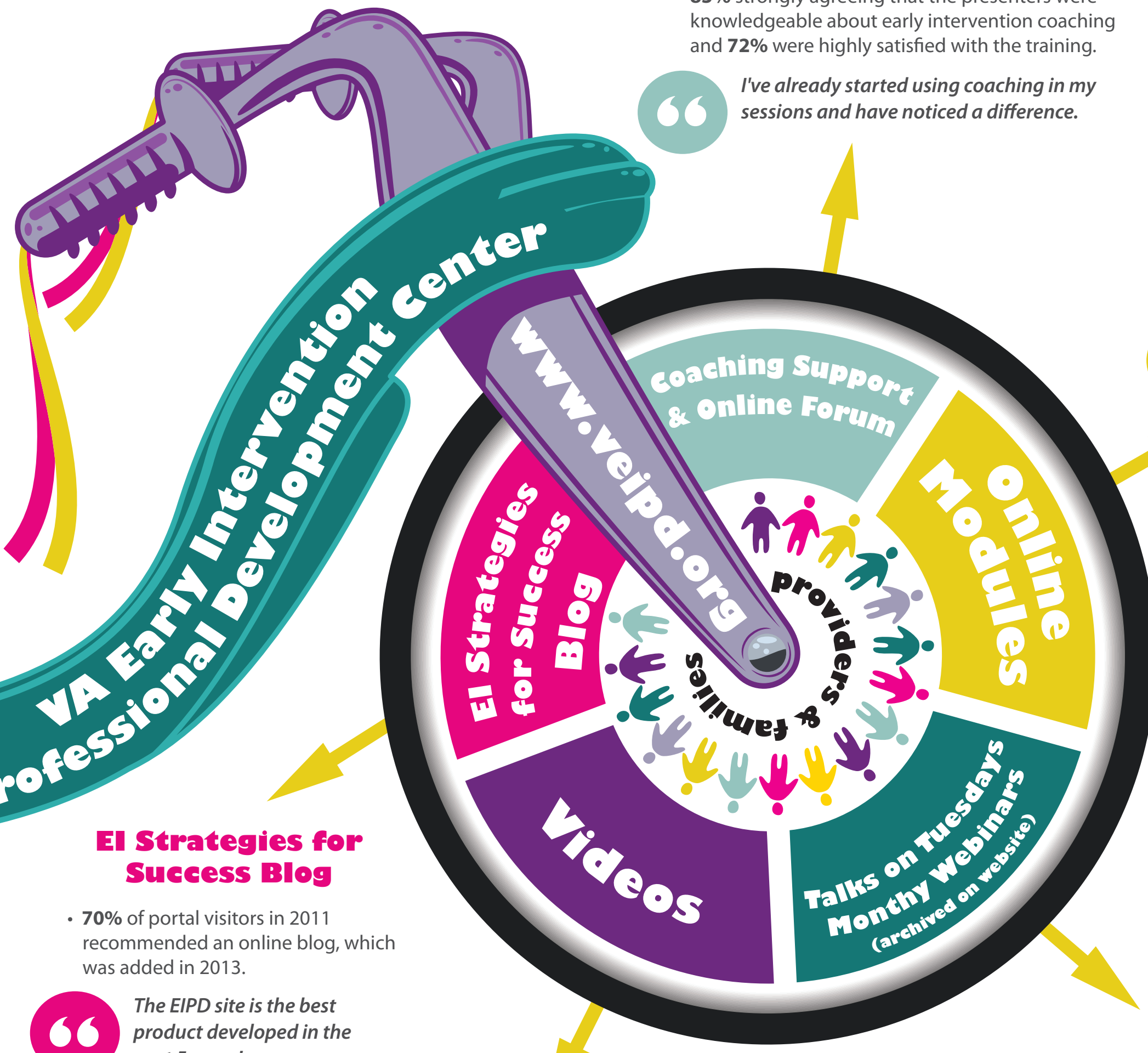


• 37% of portal visitors use the site to orient new employees.

"I have been using TONS of resources from the website as part of my orientation with interns...They've been incredibly helpful!"

**At least 75% of the online survey respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the website is a...**

- VALUABLE RESOURCE for professional development about EI;
- offers a LARGE VARIETY of resources about EI;
- staff PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT can be ENHANCED through resources on the website;
- the website offers a good introduction & orientation for new staff, & information on the website is CURRENT, ACCURATE, and RELIABLE.



#### Coaching Support & Online Forum

- The coaching training was very highly rated, with 83% strongly agreeing that the presenters were knowledgeable about early intervention coaching and 72% were highly satisfied with the training.

"I've already started using coaching in my sessions and have noticed a difference."

#### Online Modules

- At least 96% who completed one of the learning modules agreed that their knowledge increased and that the training will have a positive impact on their work.

"[The portal] has helped me to target specific activities and have support or evidence based research to back up my suggestions to the families...This was a dynamic learning experience. CUTTING EDGE!"

#### Talks on Tuesdays Monthly Webinars

- At least 80% who participated in one of the Talks on Tuesdays webinars agreed that their knowledge increased and that the training will have a positive impact on their work.

"The Talks on Tuesdays have been a great resource for providing information regarding specific disabilities and areas of development which ultimately has enhanced our ability to better determine eligibility and expanding the number of the children we serve."



Deana M. Buck, M.Ed.  
Dana C. Childress, M.Ed.  
Corinne F. Hill, M.Ed.

#### EI Strategies for Success Blog

- 70% of portal visitors in 2011 recommended an online blog, which was added in 2013.

"The EIPD site is the best product developed in the past 5 years!"

#### Videos

- 90% of the professionals who access resources at the EIPD professional development website indicated that they will return to the site within the month.
- 10% of portal visitors use the site to access videos.

"I feel I have sound information to back my delivery of service and knowledge to share with families."

