

**Infant Development Association of California  
Southern California Regional Conference**

**Effective Collaboration: Together We Are Unstoppable**



**Keynote Description  
Friday, March 3, 2017  
9:00 am – 10:00 am**

**Early Intervention: A Community of Hope**

This keynote address will explore one family's experience with early intervention; highlighting the importance of the collaborative effort of parents and professionals. As we work together, we achieve lasting, life changing results for the children and empower families with the great hope that consistent, dedicated work as a team will produce.

Learning outcomes:

- Session will describe, compare, and analyze the impact of early intervention on individual families.
- Session will list characteristics of home visitors that families find useful (and potentially not useful).
- Session will explore the emotional factors of allowing intervention teams into a family during these first years.

**Karis Johnson, Contributor and Co-Creator of Harper Hope: A Parent's View of the Power of Early Intervention Video**

Karis Johnson lives in San Diego, California with her husband Michael and two daughters Brooke, age 6, and Harper, age 3. Professionally she is a hairstylist, and upon realizing the needs her youngest daughter Harper's care required, she has concentrated her time on discovering her role in Harper's early intervention and therapies. She was actively involved in creating the video "Harper Hope" as a means of inspiring and educating families on the importance of early intervention and hopes to continue participating in the development of ideas surrounding parent/professional relationships for the purpose of integrating early intervention into family's everyday lives.