

Catching Up With RDA

1

March 2012

Good grief!

What's RDA?

You're here

2

April 2014

5

I week later...

Gotcha!
Now I know!

The State ICC?

The State Advisory Panel?

The lead agency?

4

The SEA?

3

Gotta find out what my State's doing

Who do I call?

May 2014

6

And I tell everyone!

7

The rest of 2014

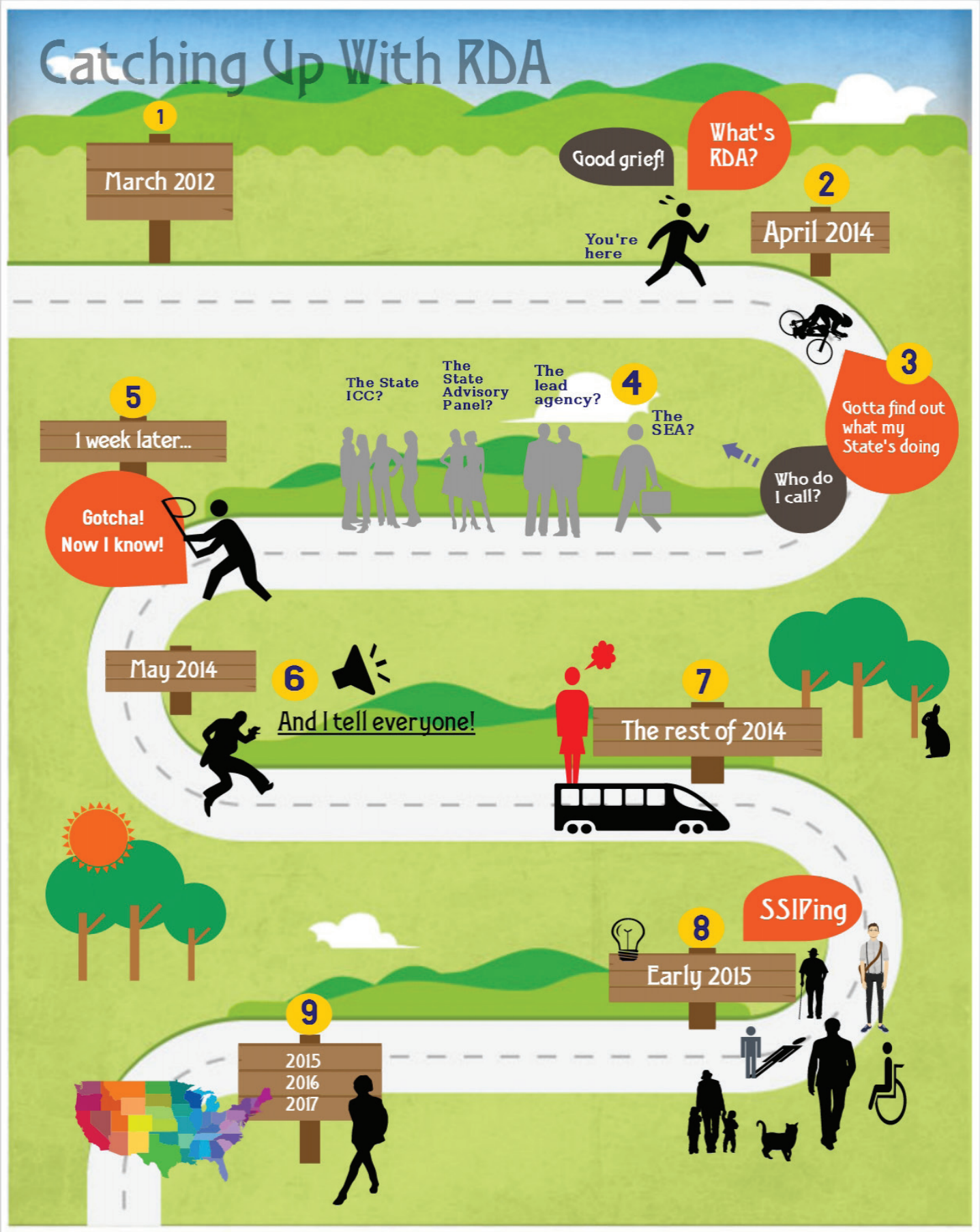
8

Early 2015

SSIPing

9

2015
2016
2017



Catching Up With RDA

A Success Story in 9 “Easy” Steps

1 **March 2012**—OSEP announces its intention to move to a results-driven system of accountability that emphasizes improved results for children with disabilities. Since then, OSEP has worked with stakeholders to define what the RDA approach will involve.

2 **April 2014**—But perhaps you haven’t heard about RDA until now. “What’s RDA?” you mutter. To find out, you read the CPIR’s *Guide to RDA for Parent Centers*. Now you know that RDA is a very important process that’s going on in your State right now. Parent Centers need to be at the table, since this RDA business is all about improving results for children with disabilities. You yell, “Good grief!” and immediately jump on your bike and get peddling in high gear.

3 “Gotta find out what my State’s up to,” you tell yourself as you huff and puff up and down hills. “Who’s in charge? Who’s analyzing the data? Who’s deciding on the State-identified measurable result for children with disabilities? And who in the world thought up a term like that?”

4 You’re a wily sort who knows your State, so you call the big wigs, offices, and people you know who might know, in their own turn, who’s the point person for RDA in your State, who’s involving stakeholders and how, and who’s writing that document with the other ridiculous name, the—SSIP? Yeah, that’s it.

Which reminds you that you’re thirsty. But there’s no time to stop, because you’re too busy talking to the State Department of Special Education, the early intervention lead agency, the State Advisory Panel, the State Interagency Coordinating Committee, your local special education director, the dogcatcher, for heaven’s sake—trying to chase down how to get involved, so the voice of Parent Centers and the families they serve WILL BE HEARD.

5 Eureka! In less than a week, you find out who’s in charge of the RDA process in your State and shriek, “Gotcha!”

6 And you tell *everyone*. You tell your RPTAC, your staff, your mom. You tell other Parent Centers in your State, you post news on your website, you get in touch with local and State disability groups. Oh boy, are you a bigmouth without an “off” button.

7 **The Rest of 2014**—People start getting on the bus. You used to have a bandwagon, but the bus holds more people, so you go with the bus. You also set up a simple way of spreading the news of upcoming stakeholder meetings and other RDA going’s-on. With email, listservs, mobile devices, websites, and good old-fashioned word of bigmouth, families get informed and get involved.

8 **Early 2015**—It’s almost time for the State to submit its first SSIP to OSEP. Everyone’s working frantically, but the plan has really shaped up in the last month. It’s a mighty document, your State’s Systemic Improvement Plan. You are particularly pleased that parents and Parent Centers have stepped forward to contribute to its design.

9 **2015, 2016, 2017**—Not done yet! Parents and Parent Centers still have a role to play in RDA, namely being involved in how the SSIP is implemented in your State, how it’s evaluated, and how—if need be—it’s revised.

Because the bottom line is improving results for our babies, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities. And that’s a result you can get behind.