visit www.firststeps.in.gov

The First 3 years of a Child's Life

First Steps to Success









Healthy brain development during the first three years of a child's life is critical for beginning a successful journey into adulthood. The Indiana First Steps Early Intervention System helps children by providing skilled therapeutic services for infants and toddlers who are experiencing developmental delays.

Key Findings Karoly et al, 2005

"Well-designed early childhood interventions have been found to generate a return to society up to \$17.07 for each dollar spent on the program."

"Early childhood intervention programs have been shown to yield benefits in academic achievement, behavior, educational progression and attainment, delinquency and crime, and labor market success, among other domains."

28,000 27,000 2017 26,000 25,000 2016 24,000 2015

In 2017, the annual count of children referred to First Steps was

The number of children referred to the First Steps System has increased by nearly

over the past two years

33% of infants and toddlers

who received early intervention services did not later present with a disability or require special education in preschool.

First Steps Services

Speech Therapy Occupational Therapy Physical Therapy Developmental Therapy Diagnostic Medical Services Nursing Services

Nutrition Services Psychological Services Service Coordination Social Work Services Audiological Services Vision Services



66 As a mom, you don't know where to turn when your child isn't making his milestones, but First Steps is a program that saved my son's life. I don't know where he would be today if it wasn't for this program. I know he has made this amount of progress because of the early start with First Steps that helped him make new path ways in his brain. 99 - TH (parent)