



# ICC Meeting

August 20, 2025

# Head Start Celebrates 60 Years



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY](#)

# IDEA Celebrates 50 Years





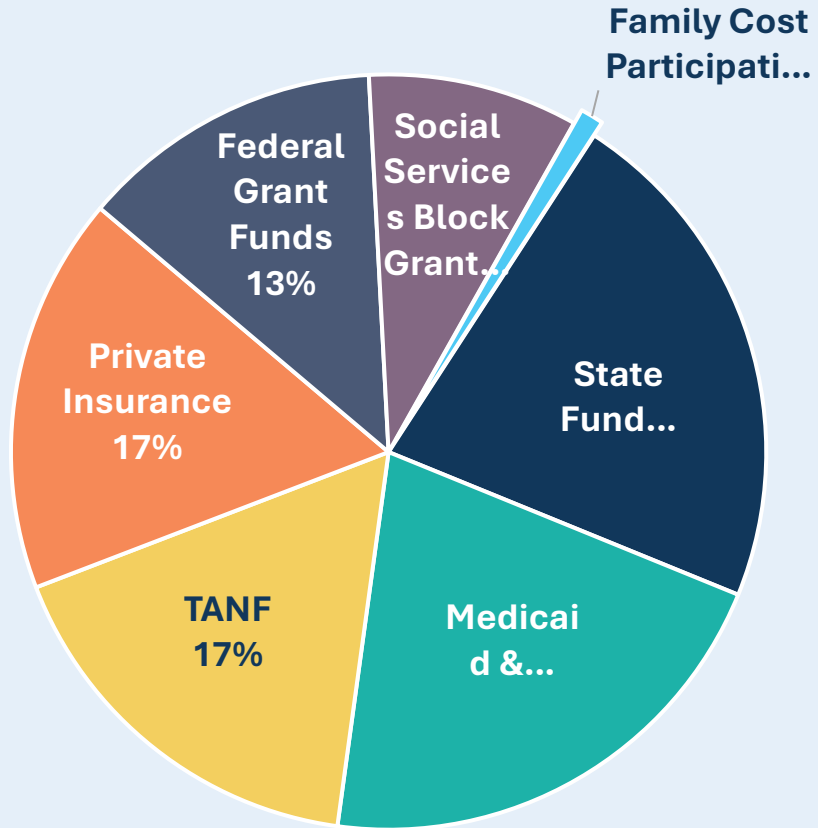


# First Steps Services Delivered



Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) Service Type  *Does not include evaluations for program eligibility	Number of Children Receiving Service Type SFY 2025 YTD  Total Number of Children = 27,507	Percent of Children Receiving Service Type SFY 2025 YTD
Speech Therapy	12,763	46.4%
Developmental Therapy	11,387	41.4%
Occupational Therapy	11,695	42.5%
Physical Therapy	8,417	30.6%
Nutrition	316	1.1%
Social Work	22	0.1%
Psychological Services	28	0.1%

## First Steps Service Funding by Source - SFY 2024



## Private Insurance Recoupment



# First Steps Program Metrics



	SFY25 YTD
New Referrals	34,416
Initial Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs)	15,820
Number of Children Receiving IFSP Services	27,507
Number of Children who Exited the Program	29,265
Number of Children who Transitioned to Public School Special Education	6,301
Number of Children who Exited with Outcomes Met Before Age 3	3,220

# EI Hub

- July 2025 Release
  - Speed degradation
  - Module Updates
    - Case Management
      - Ease of accurate data entry
      - Data validations
      - Bug clean up
    - Service Logging
      - Data population to Progress Note
- IFSP
  - Working group established and meeting weekly
  - Outlining components and functionality
    - First meeting with PCG scheduled for next week
  - Prioritization of panel redesign and implementation





# Program Updates



- Federal Determination – Needs Assistance
- Grant Award – \$11,244,927 (increase of \$335,196)
- Federal Monitoring Findings Letter – Received
- Request For Proposals (RFP) in the next several months
  - Caregiver Coaching – Proposals due 9/9/25
  - Professional Development System – Release coming in September
- FFY24 State Monitoring – all findings are now closed!

# Federal Monitoring



# Federal Monitoring Findings

- Report Posted – scan QR to read
- 11 Findings issued
  - 5 monitoring and improvement, 6 dispute resolution
- Updated policies and procedures due no later than 10/26/25 and implementation no later than 7/28/26
  - Ensure all procedures are comprehensive, clear, and reflect practice
- Expansion of what the State is monitoring, including the monitoring of agencies and independent providers
- Must issue annual determinations of local programs
- Must update procedural safeguards and dispute resolution procedures



# Proposed Agency Monitoring Activities



- SPP/APR Indicator 1: Timely Start of Services
  - All services initiated within 30 days of IFSP start date or 30 days of parent signature for services added outside of an initial/annual IFSP development meeting
- SPP/APR Indicator 2: Natural Environment
  - Majority of services delivered occurred in home or community
- SPP/APR Indicator 3: Child Outcomes
  - 100% completion of Exit Skills Summary for all children receiving services for 6 months or longer
- Compliance with Agency Agreements
  - Expectation is full compliance with Section G (2) terms and conditions: enrolled personnel requirements
- State Focused Monitoring as applicable – related to quality

# Proposed Independent Provider Monitoring Activities



- SPP/APR Indicator 1: Timely Start of Services
  - All services initiated within 30 days of IFSP start date or 30 days of parent signature for services added outside of an initial/annual IFSP development meeting
- Delivery of services in accordance with the IFSP
- State focused monitoring as applicable – related to quality



# Staffing Update

- Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives
  - Robyn Morton
- Policy and Family Engagement Manager
  - Jamie Le Sesne Spears
- Program Services Manager
  - Rachel Turner
- Vendor Relations Manager
  - Katie Moore – Leaving for new opportunity
  - Position Posted – Scan QR code for posting



# Opportunities for ICC to advise and Assist



# Cross Agency Partnerships



## Training and information sharing:

- Working with Technical Assistance (TA) vendor to learn of areas entities have reached out for support and information
- Department of Child Services (DCS) – referrals made to program without concerns (i.e. per policy)
- Office of Early Childhood (OECOSL) – information for childcare providers on how to collaborate with First Steps
- Department of Education (IDOE) – supporting families who are homeless
- Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA) & Department of Health (IDOH) – supporting mothers with substance use disorder and expanding the use of social work supports in early intervention

# Thank you!



**Christina Commons**

**First Steps Director**

Bureau of Child Development Services

Indiana Family and  
Social Services Administration

Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services

317-234-1142

[Christina.Commons@fssa.in.gov](mailto:Christina.Commons@fssa.in.gov)

@FirstStepsIndiana