



*"People  
helping people  
help  
themselves"*

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor  
State of Indiana

***Indiana Family and Social Services Administration***

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E. Mitchell Roob Jr., Secretary

**TO:** FIRST STEPS STAKEHOLDERS  
**FROM:** DAWN DOWNER, PART C COORDINATOR  
ERIN VANDEN BUSCH, PROJECT DIRECTOR  
**SUBJECT:** FIRST STEPS UPDATES  
**DATE:** 3/3/2005

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Over the past month, the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), First Steps Office (FS), Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning (OMPP), and many stakeholders have worked diligently to identify necessary changes in the First Steps system. In order to assist with communication, First Steps has agreed to distribute regular updates to be posted on the First Steps web site.

Included with this document are summaries of the many efforts that are being reviewed by FSSA. Each week, we will update the summary with progress or decisions that have been made. New projects will be included within the document. In addition to this regular update, the program will develop a question and answer document that includes the questions that have been submitted to the First Steps web page and through other avenues.

While FSSA has heard from many stakeholders through e-mail, phone calls, meetings, and off-site personal visits, the Administration took an opportunity to hear from families attending the Family Lobby Day that was organized by Families for First Steps. FSSA organized a forum for parents and providers to share their concerns, suggestions, and First Steps stories. FSSA extends sincere appreciation to those parents, advocates and providers that attended the forum.

Due to the late notice of the forum and the inclement weather, FSSA is quite aware that many individuals could not attend. If you would like to submit a comment to FSSA, you may do so by e-mailing the First Steps web at [FirstStepsWeb@fssa.state.in.us](mailto:FirstStepsWeb@fssa.state.in.us) or mail to First Steps, 402 W. Washington St, W-386, Indianapolis, IN 46204. We will keep you posted as other opportunities to voice your opinion become available.

