



Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

— Making a positive difference through education and service —

M E M O R A N D U M

DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

March 31, 2009

TO: First Steps families, service coordinators, and providers

FROM: Pam Thomas, Coordinator for Early Intervention Services

RE: System Point of Entry (SPOE) announcement

As you know, the System Point of Entry (SPOE) agencies employ service coordinators who provide referral, eligibility and IFSP services for families in Missouri. These agencies are contracted with the State of Missouri. On March 25, 2009 the state's Office of Administration announced the entities awarded the new SPOE contracts, to start July 1, 2009.

For some SPOE regions, there will be a change in the agency. The following shows the agency who was awarded the contract in each region.

(*Denotes change in SPOE agency)

*Region 1 – AWS Holding

*Region 2 – AWS Holding

Region 3 – No Award, current Evergreen Beh Srvc

Region 4 – Daulton Group

*Region 5 – Daulton Group

Region 6 – Children's Therapy Center

Region 7 – Community Support Services

Region 8 – Greene County Board for the Dev Disab

Region 9 – Children's Therapy Center

* Region 10 – Education Solutions Consulting

DESE is working with both the current and new SPOE agencies to ensure a smooth transition of services. We are confident that there will be no disruption to families and children in the First Steps program and families will continue to receive timely provider and service coordination services as identified in their IFSP.

As details about the agency proposals and methods are made available to the public, they will be posted on the Office of Administration website at: <http://www.oa.mo.gov/purch> and DESE will provide updates to families, service coordinators and providers at <http://www.dese.mo.gov/divspeced/FirstSteps/index.html>

Thank you for your continued enthusiasm and support of the First Steps program.