



# First Steps Family Survey

Spring 2017



## First Steps Annual Survey for Families

First Steps is a family-focused early intervention program designed to improve both a child's development and the family's ability to help their child learn and grow. The goal of First Steps is to make sure the whole family receives the necessary supports, services, and resources needed to raise a healthy, happy and successful child.

Each spring, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) seeks feedback from parents about the First Steps program by conducting a family survey. The purpose of the survey is to collect valuable information from families about their experiences with First Steps.

In the Spring of 2016, 6,119 surveys were mailed to First Steps families and 905 were returned; a response rate of 15%. Responses highlighted many successes of the First Steps program, including the following:

### In 2016, What Percentage of Families Agreed or Strongly Agreed?

First Steps Survey Question	Result
I received an explanation of the First Steps Parental Rights from my service coordinator:	99.11%
I know my First Steps Parental Rights related to my child's special needs:	98.67%
At First Steps meetings, I am comfortable asking for services and supports that my child and family need:	99.1%
I feel I am an active part of the team when we meet to discuss my child:	98.67%
My primary First Steps provider helps me teach my child:	98.67%
My First Steps providers work with me to help my child in everyday activities:	97.89%
My First Steps providers are knowledgeable and professional:	97.45%

Survey results provide a helpful tool for evaluating the quality and effectiveness of First Steps services in supporting child and family outcomes. In sharing their perspectives, families help to improve First Steps programming and services.

### Coming Soon: 2017 Family Survey

Next month you will receive the 2017 First Steps Family Survey in the mail. The First Steps Program wants the survey results to represent all families in First Steps, so it is very important that you complete and return the survey by July 1, 2017. Your responses will be anonymous and no one will be able to link answers to you, unless you provide your name and contact information.