

# Missouri First Steps Timeline of Events 2002 - 2012

**2002** – System Points of Entry (SPOEs) initiate intake services in April in the Phase I areas of St. Louis and Northwest Missouri. Department of Mental Health (DMH) and independent contractors provide ongoing Service Coordination to First Steps families in the Phase I areas. DMH continues doing intake and service coordination for the rest of the state. The Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS - known as Department of Health [DOH], prior to August 28, 2001) continues to provide ongoing service coordination as well. Five module trainings available statewide with the addition of *Module 5: Service Coordination*. Central Finance Office (CFO) and provider enrollment become operational through state contractor, Covansys. **2825 children enrolled.**

**2003** – State awards Phase 2 SPOE contracts for 21 additional regions in order to complete the implementation of SPOEs statewide. DHSS discontinues First Steps service coordination. **2942 children enrolled.**



**2004** - Phase 1 SPOEs rebid to consolidate the SPOE areas. New contracts begin in July, with responsibility for oversight of local First Steps program. SPOEs begin providing ongoing service coordination with DMH as a partner (60% of children receive ongoing service coordination from the SPOE and 40% from DMH; DMH no longer doing intake). Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral Network (MOCCRRN) receives contract to employ four Regional Consultants for system training and technical assistance. Parent surveys begin. The state contractor for the CFO, Covansys, begins work on a web-based system (WebSPOE) to include electronic claims, remittance, and provider account management. The National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC) assisted DESE with the development of a First Steps Improvement Plan for quality, family-centered services. **3423 children enrolled.**

**2005** – Legislature enacts Senate Bill 500 requiring private insurance companies and families to participate toward the costs of the First Steps program. Quality Indicators Rating Scale begins with trainings in June, July and August for Service Coordinators and providers. WebSPOE is operational statewide on August 26. Training for Modules 1-3 goes online in July; training for Module 5 goes online in November. The First Steps Improvement Plan presented at SICC meeting. **3445 children enrolled.**



**2006** – Reduced 24 SPOE regions to 10 regions through a re-bid and contract award process. Phase 1 SPOEs continue under their 2004 contracts. Seven new Phase 2 SPOEs receive contracts for services to begin February 1. With the implementation of the new Phase 2 SPOE contracts, independent service coordination ends. In February, *Module 4: Transition C-B*, goes online at the Moodle site. Information about service delivery models, including primary coach model, presented at SICC meeting. DESE creates a First Steps Coordinator position, with Joyce Jackman filling the position. **3188 children enrolled.**

**2007** – DESE contracts with the consulting firm *Phillips and Associates* to determine target child count percentage for MO according to current eligibility criteria. On July 1, the four contracted Regional Consultant positions at MOCCRRN become five First Steps Area Director positions as DESE employees. All five module trainings available online for free at E-learning. Dr. Robin McWilliam of Vanderbilt University presents three workshops on early intervention teams (EIT), a primary service provider model, and the Routines Based Interview (RBI™). Approximately 900 providers attend workshops. A few pilot teams begin to form. NECTAC assisted DESE in the facilitation of a stakeholder meeting on service delivery models. **3216 children enrolled.**

## Missouri First Steps Timeline, continued . . .

**2008** – Dr. McWilliam returns in March for a follow-up workshop with pilot teams and other interested providers. Approximately 18 teams pilot the transdisciplinary team model. First Steps Area Directors receive training in RBI™ at Vanderbilt University. *Provider Connections* and *Parent Connections* newsletters begin. The *Developmental Assessment of Young Children (DAYC)* is introduced as a statewide tool to assist in determining eligibility. New transition DVD and guide is available to families. After September 30, the SPOE contractors provide service coordination for all First Steps families. Pam Thomas becomes the First Steps Coordinator following the retirement of Joyce Jackman. **3450 children enrolled.**



**2009** – All 10 SPOE contracts are re-bid, services begin July 1. With all SPOEs under the same contract period, identifying SPOE regions as Phase 1 or Phase 2 ends. An updated First Steps Practice Manual was provided to SPOE Directors at contractor training in June. Under the new contract, each SPOE develops an implementation plan for the Early Intervention Team approach to be fully implemented statewide in 2011. The Early Intervention Team model and the use of RBI™ were presented at SICC meeting. **3784 children enrolled.**

**2010** – All 10 SPOE regions successfully complete a plan to implement Early Intervention Teams in each region. SPOEs begin to assign children to provider teams in July 2010 with the goal of 25 percent of all new children to be assigned next year. Area Directors begin training provider teams on various topics, including the RBI.™ **4200 children enrolled.**

**2011** – Computer Sciences Corporation was awarded the contract for the CFO to continue providing provider enrollment, payments and fund recovery services. Enhancements to the web-based system were made in February. A new Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) format was introduced that incorporated teaming aspects such as primary provider and daily routines. All 10 SPOE regions attained the required 25 percent of new children assigned to an Early Intervention Team. **4539 children enrolled.**

**2012** – Part C federal regulations published September 28, 2011 (effective October 28, 2011) with numerous changes for a system of payments policy, transition C to B requirements, child/family assessments and parental consent. Continued updates to the web-based system were made to incorporate the federal regulations. Revisions to the online training modules were released in January 2012. All 10 SPOE regions attained the required 50 percent of new children assigned to Early Intervention Teams. **5024 children enrolled.**

