



First Steps Family Survey

Part C SPP/APR Indicator 4

Presentation for the SICC

November 2017



Recap – National Information

- Part C programs in other states:
 - ❑ use a variety of survey instruments for survey content
 - ❑ use a variety of methods to distribute the survey to parents (average response rate is 32.6%, range is 8% to 82%)
 - ❑ require the child to be in Part C for a minimum amount of time prior to being surveyed (e.g., six months)
 - ❑ require the child to be active in the program at the time of receipt



2017 Family Survey - Methods

- Mailed survey to 6,396 families with an active IFSP on April 1, 2017
- Included a return envelope in the mailing
- Gave an option to complete anonymously or online
- Response rate of 11.7% (69% paper and 31% online)



2017 Family Survey - Cost

- Printing
 - \$344.82 (survey copies)
 - \$216.90 (parent letter copies)
- Assembly and Postage
 - \$4,611.73
- Total: \$5,173.45
 - Average cost is 81 cents per child



2017 Family Survey - Demographics



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION – FIRST STEPS PROGRAM

FIRST STEPS FAMILY SURVEY



INSTRUCTIONS

As a parent/guardian of a child in First Steps, your feedback is needed to improve the First Steps program. This survey asks for your opinions regarding the services provided to your child and family. Please base your answers on your own personal experiences. Your responses will be confidential. If you have more than one child in the First Steps program, please complete a separate survey for each child.

Mail the completed survey in the enclosed envelope by **July 1, 2017** or mail to: Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office of Special Education, Attention: First Steps, PO Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

If you have questions about the survey, please contact First Steps at: (573) 522-8762 or email: sefirststeps@dese.mo.gov.

CHILD INFORMATION

1. How old is your child now?	Years	Months
2. At what age did your child first begin receiving First Steps services?	Years	Months
3. In which Missouri county do you live?	County	



2017 Family Survey - Content

FAMILY OUTCOMES				
	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE
4. It was easy to learn about First Steps.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. I received an explanation of the First Steps parental rights from my service coordinator.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. I know my First Steps parental rights related to my child's special needs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. At First Steps meetings, I am comfortable asking for services and supports that my child and family need.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. I feel I am an active part of the team when we meet to discuss my child.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
PROGRAM OUTCOMES				
	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE
9. My primary provider in First Steps helps me teach my child.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. My First Steps providers work with me to help my child in everyday activities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. I am able to help my child learn new skills because of First Steps services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. My First Steps providers are knowledgeable and professional.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13. First Steps helps me know how to find and use the services and programs available to my family.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14. First Steps helps me know who to contact and what to do when I have questions or concerns.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



2018 Options for Parents to Return Surveys

- Same (i.e., return responses online or paper)
- Add the Quick Response (QR) Code at no cost
- Add a Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope (SASE) at the cost of approximately 50 cents per child



2018 Options for Sample Size & Cost

Participation	Estimate	Number Children	Mailing Cost	Add SASE	Total
Same (all active on 4.1.17)	100%	6,396	\$5,173	-	\$5,173
6 months	75%	4,797	\$3,885	\$2,398	\$6,283
1 year	50%	3,198	\$2,590	\$1,599	\$4,189
1.5 – 2 years	25%	1,599	\$1,295	\$799	\$2,094



Recommendations

- What methods for returning surveys are likely to improve the response rate?
- What length of time in the program would result in a meaningful response from the parents?