



STATE OF INDIANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
State House, Second Floor
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor

May 24, 2005

Joseph A. Zogby, M.S.W.
Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Parklawn Building, Room 18A-39
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Dear Mr. Zogby:

I enthusiastically support the Indiana State Department of Health's application for an Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems implementation grant that will help further our efforts to ensure the healthy development and school readiness of Indiana's children. The health and well-being of young children and their families is a top priority for the State of Indiana.

The Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems implementation grant will give Indiana the opportunity to move forward with the mission, vision, and values that have been determined during the planning phase of this project. Input from the Core Partners steering committee as well as the five subcommittees was brought for public comment throughout Indiana. The cooperation of the participants helped determine the implementation plan for an improved coordinated and comprehensive system of services.

During the past several years, Indiana has made progress in our early development and school readiness programs. My goal is a healthy childhood and a top quality education for every Hoosier student. I believe that this goal can only be realized with a coordinated, efficient and effective system of services and supports for young children and their families. With the acceptance of this application, we will be able to move forward and address the issues surrounding Access to Health Insurance and Medical Homes, Mental and Social-Emotional Development, Early Care and Education, Parenting Education, and Family Support.

I believe that this grant will enable Indiana to work to provide every child with the solid foundation they need for success in school and in life. My staff and I look forward to working with the Maternal and Children's Special Health Care Services at the Indiana State Department of Health to implement the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Plan.

Sincerely,

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.