



# ICC State Update

November 5, 2025

# FSSA/DDARS Updates



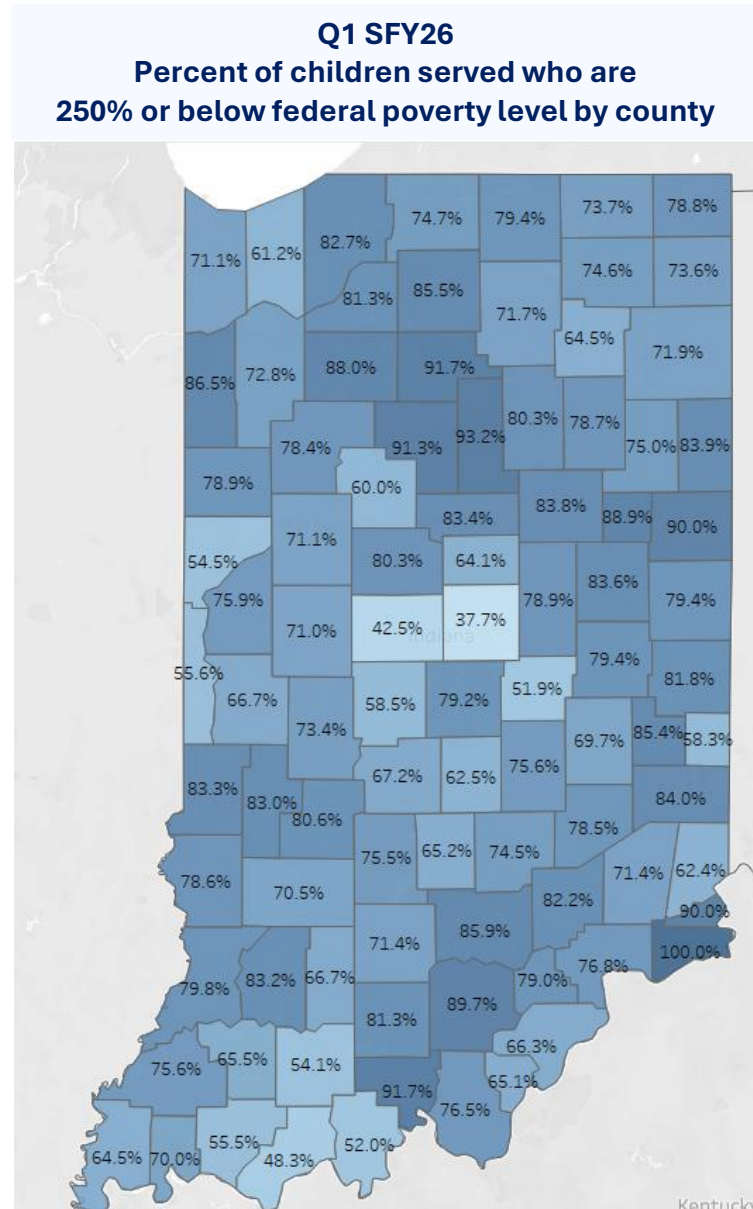
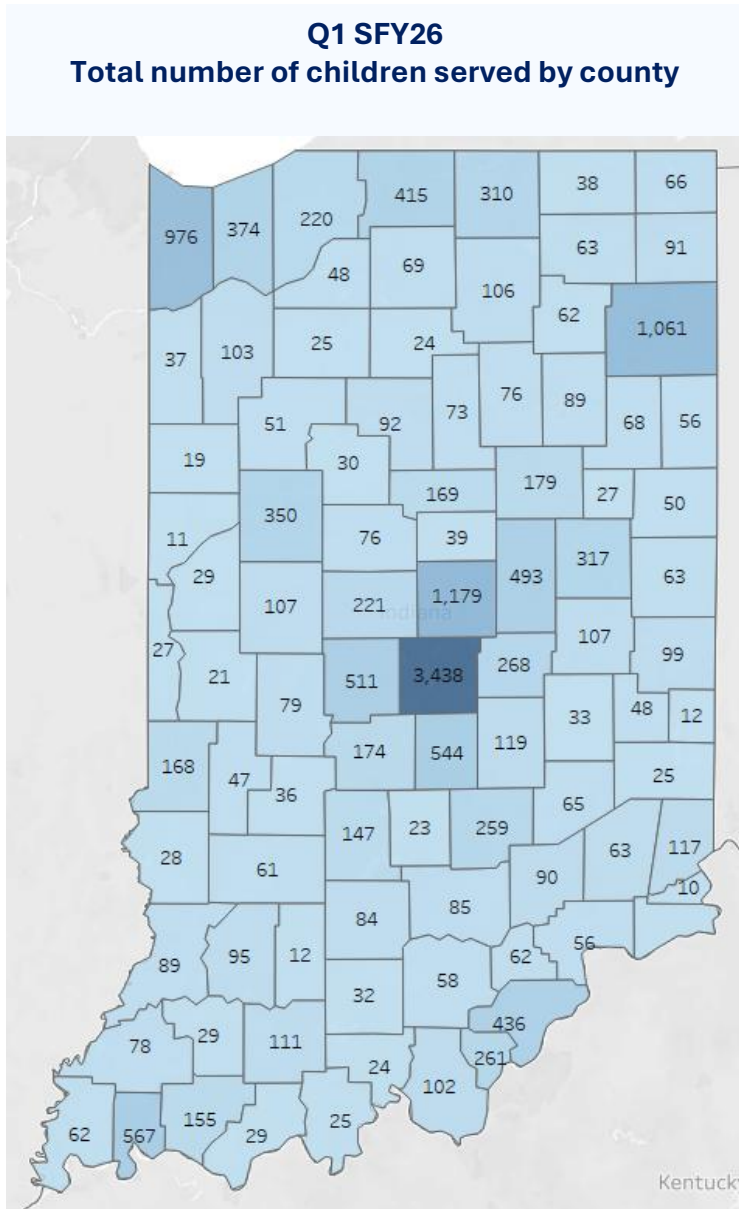
## Quarterly Financial Reviews (QFRs)

- 2026 Schedule: Jan 30, Apr 28, Aug 5, Oct 27
- Join in person – Indiana Government Center Auditorium
- Join virtually via the FSSA YouTube Channel  
<https://www.youtube.com/@FSSAIndianavideos/streams>



# Division of Disability and Rehabilitation Services merges with the Division of Aging and becomes DDARS





**Indiana's First Steps System** is a family-centered, locally based, coordinated system that provides early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities or who are developmentally vulnerable. First Steps brings together professionals from education, health and social services agencies to provide skilled therapeutic interventions that promote age-appropriate development of infants and toddlers experiencing developmental delays.



# First Steps Early Intervention Program Fiscal Year Q1 SFY2026



## First Steps Statewide Service Delivery System

9 central office staff

100 Independent Providers

9 System Points of Entry

- 250 Service Coordinators

- Nutrition, social work, psychology, audiology, ophthalmology, interpreter services

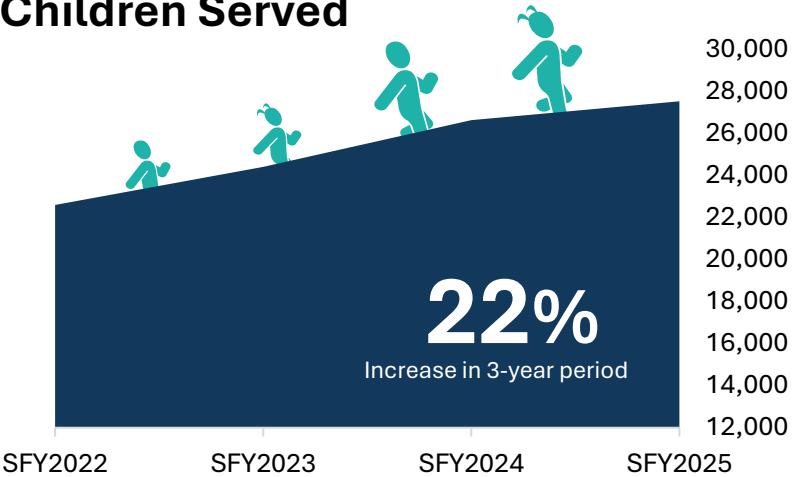
43 Provider Agencies

- ~1800 providers

Over 31,000 Referrals Annually



## Increase in Number of Children Served



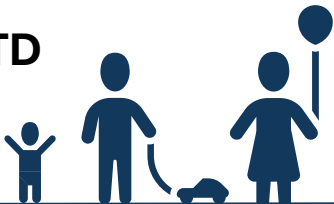
Number of Children Referred YTD

8,300



Number of Children Served YTD

17,023

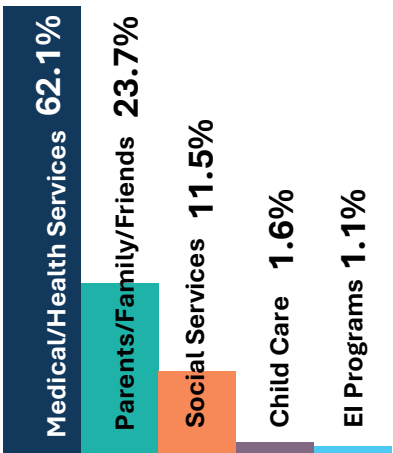


Number of Family Visits YTD

193,026

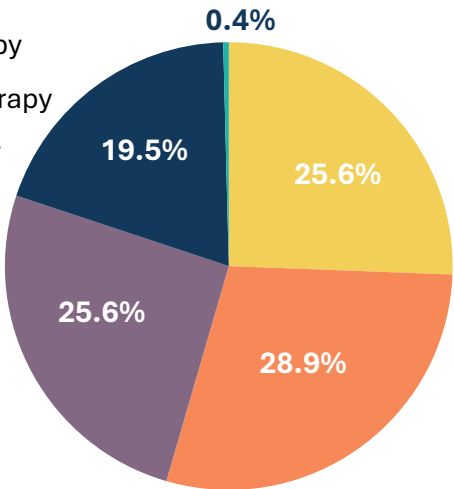


## Referral Sources



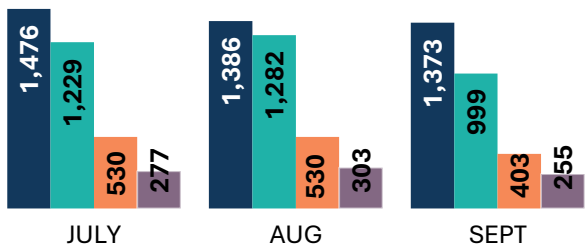
## Services Delivered

- Developmental Therapy
- Speech Language Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Other Services



## Exit Data

- Number of children exiting without an IFSP
- Number of children exiting with an IFSP
- Number of children transitioning to school
- Number of children exiting with outcomes met





# EI Hub



## Upcoming November 2025 Release

- Focus on speed
- Module Updates
  - Case Management
    - Ease of accurate data entry: Addresses and FCP
    - Data validations: FCP and Reopening reasons
    - Overall bug clean up
  - Service Logging
    - Exported documents will be locked preventing changes outside of service logging

## IFSP Tab Revisions

- Revising the tab and its functionality in phases
- Configuration changes added to the November 2025 release for ease of roll out
- All future IFSP Services will be created inside the IFSP tab



# Program Updates



- Federal Government Shutdown – No current effect on First Steps services
- Federal Monitoring Findings Letter – Received and BCDS Response provided to OSEP 10/24/2025
- Request For Proposals (RFP) in the next several months
  - Caregiver Coaching – Award coming soon!
  - Professional Development System – Responses due 11/21
- FFY25 State Monitoring – Underway

# Federal Monitoring Findings

- Report Posted – scan QR to read
- 11 Findings issued
  - 5 monitoring and improvement, 6 dispute resolution
- Updated policies and procedures due no later than 10/26/25 and implementation no later than 7/28/26
  - Ensure all procedures are comprehensive, clear, and reflect practice
- Expansion of what the State is monitoring, including the monitoring of agencies and independent providers
- Must issue annual determinations of local programs
- Must update procedural safeguards and dispute resolution procedures





# DMS Monitoring Report Response



- Sent on time: October 24, 2025
- General Supervision revisions to correct findings
  - Quality Review manual
  - Dispute Resolution manual
  - Procedural Safeguards
  - Provider monitoring to start in November
  - Program determination letters sent
- IFSP forms and other state documentation revised for consistency with federal law
- Dispute resolution options
  - Mediators and Hearing Officers available via Office of Administrative Law Proceedings

# Agency Monitoring



- SPP/APR Indicator 1: Timely Start of Services
  - All services initiated within 30 days of IFSP start date or 30 days of parent signature for services added outside of an initial/annual IFSP development meeting
- SPP/APR Indicator 2: Natural Environment
  - Majority of services delivered occurred in home or community
- SPP/APR Indicator 3: Child Outcomes
  - 100% completion and SPOE received Exit Skills Summary for all children receiving services for 6 months or longer
- State Indicators
  - 100% of progress reports are completed and sent to SPOE/SC timely and follow requirements in Child Progress Reports Memo
  - 100% compliance with Section G (2) terms and conditions: enrolled personnel requirements
  - Documented agency referral processes for IFSP services

# Training Update



## **National Webinar Series** ~ Rooted in Relationships

- October 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Supporting Families After a New Diagnosis - Dr. Heather Risser
- February 4<sup>th</sup> ~ Supporting Families of Children with Autism – Dr. Rick Solomon

## **2025 Topical Trainings** ~ Mastering Difficult Conversations: Building Bridges for Effective Practice – Dr. Renae Azziz

- Hosted 3 in-person presentations in New Albany, Indianapolis, and Crown Point

## **On-boarding Trainings** ~ New training modules posted on the LMS will be required as of early 2026. Policy and messaging to come!

## **PEM 2.0 Rollout** ~ New and improved credentialing process

- Currently being tested



## Save the Date!



The Indiana Early Intervention Conference will be held June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> at the Monroe Convention Center in Bloomington, Indiana

Visit the [conference website](#) or scan the QR code for more information on becoming a presenter, exhibitor, sponsor or to register.

Registration will open early 2026!

# Staffing Update



- Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives
  - Robyn Morton  
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- Policy and Family Engagement Manager
  - Jamie Le Sesne Spears  
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- Program Services Manager
  - Rachel Turner  
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- Vendor Relations Manager
  - Regina Snyder  
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# Thank you!



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**First Steps Director**

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