



**first  
steps**

# ICC State Update

May 11, 2022

# Staffing Update

- NEW – Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives as of April 25, 2022  
Please welcome David Brandon-Friedman



# General Program Updates



## **Part C Application due May 13**

Total Budget \$10,054,869 (\$361K Increase over 2021 not including ARPA funding)

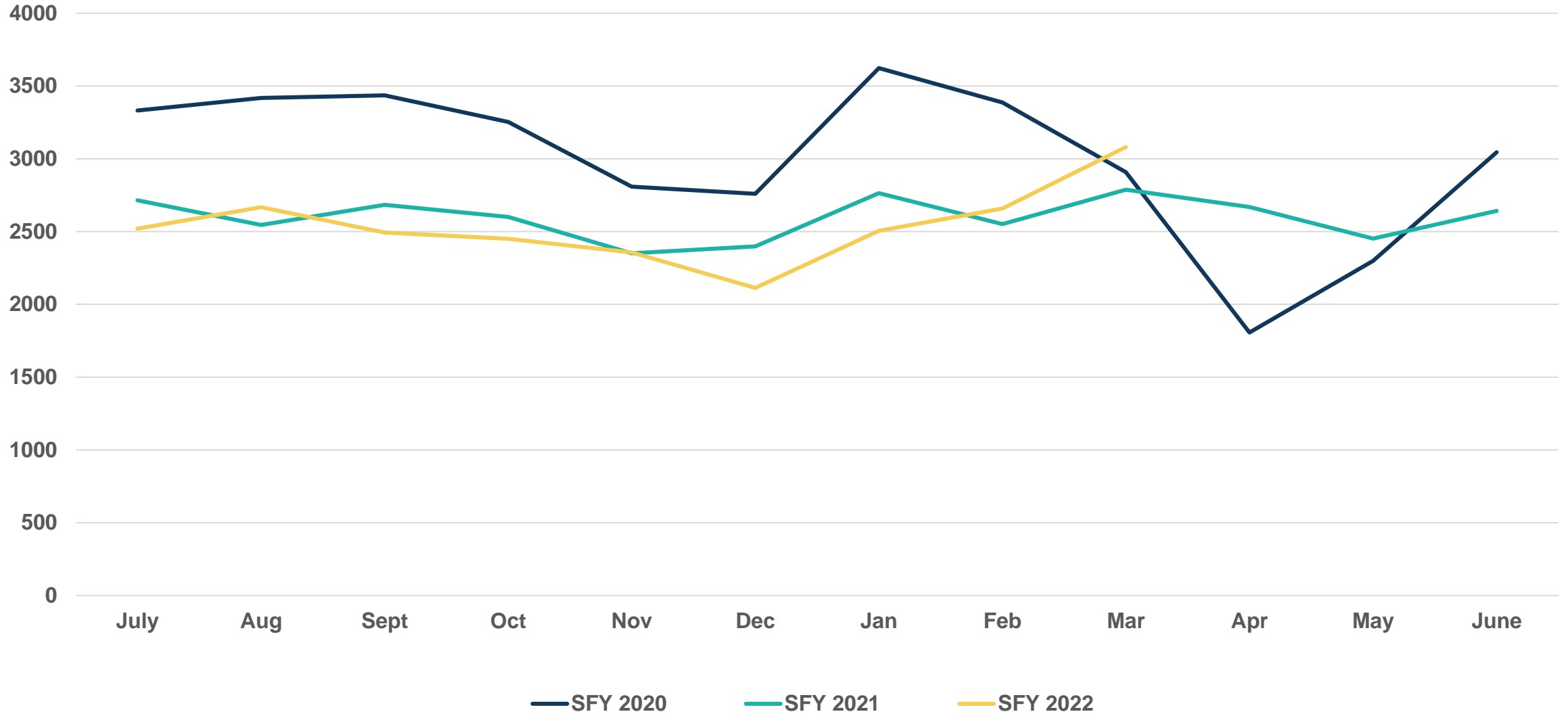


## **Receipt of additional \$515K in ARPA funding**

Will be reviewing stakeholder input collected in August of 2021 to identify where to invest these additional dollars

# First Steps Referrals By Fiscal Year

July 1 – June 30



# Service Delivery Data

## **In-person vs Virtual\***

- 89% delivered in-person
- 7% delivered virtually
- 4% unknown

## **Most utilized Virtual services\***

- 90% of Social Work services
- 37% of Nutrition services
- 29% of Psychology services
- Roughly 8% of all DT, OT, PT, ST services

\*Does not include evaluation services

# Workforce Data

March 2021 –  
March 2022

- **288 New Provider Enrollments**
    - 45 Developmental Therapists
    - 57 Occupational Therapists
    - 19 Physical Therapists
    - 40 Service Coordinators
    - 58 Speech Therapists
  - **114 Provider Disenrollments**
    - 20 Developmental Therapists
    - 19 Occupational Therapists
    - 24 Service Coordinators
    - 25 Speech Therapists
  - **Net Gain of 174 Providers**
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# Insurance Billing



- All claims being submitted to private and public insurance if insurance information is in EIHub
- Anthem claims submission was delayed for the past year due to Anthem redesigning their claim system to accept First Steps claims according to HEA 1176
  - All Anthem Claims (both ERISA and Non-ERISA) are being submitted
  - Timely filing waiver from Anthem and Medicaid
- Over 90% of all Claims submitted are clean with no errors
- Receiving large number of requests for more information from carriers
- Building relationships with various carriers
  - Anthem, United Health Care, Cigna, Parkview, Aetna, TriCare, Siho

# American Rescue Plan Funds

## Comprehensive System of Personnel Development

- FGRBI-Funding to support providers and agencies in completing coaching modules and peer learning collaboratives (PLC)
- Integration of LifeCourse framework and principles into Service Coordination

## Recruitment/Retention Grants

- Recruit and retain high quality workforce
- Retroactively address COVID 19 related expenses and challenges recruiting and retaining First Steps personnel
- Grant released April 22, 2022 and applications are due by May 20, 2022



# New Opportunities

First Steps asked to support and partner with IU School of Medicine's Department of Pediatrics - Developmental Medicine on their application to the Health Resources and Services Administration

- Infant Toddler Court Program
  - National Zero to Three Model
  - Other Partners Include:
    - Department of Child Services
    - Child Advocates, Inc.
    - Prevent Child Abuse Indiana
    - Centerstone
    - Johnson County CASA
    - CHOICES
    - Transform Consulting



# New Opportunities Cont.

Christina Cochairing Indiana Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative's (IPQIC) Infant Wellbeing Taskforce with Dr. Julie Keck

- Identified Focus:
  - Developmental Screening and Follow-up
  - Breastfeeding
  - Immunizations
  - Family Supports
- 2 Service Coordinators/LPCC Coordinators Participating



# New Opportunities Cont.



First Steps participation in National Race/Equity Fact Sheet on Part C/619

- ECTA/DEC Collaboration

First Steps asked to participate in a panel discussion at the upcoming OSEP Leadership Conference

- Child find efforts to reach underserved communities
- Use of ARP funding to launch and build sustainability of FGRBI
- Use of ARP funding to support recruitment and retention efforts

Division for Early Childhood Conference in September

- Session on: Building Collaborative Partnerships in Early Childhood Education
  - Highlighting the development of Indiana's Higher Education Community of Practice around the alignment of early intervention and early childhood special education undergraduate coursework statewide to ensure Part C/619 competencies are acquired in preservice learning



# INDIANA'S EARLY INTERVENTION CONFERENCE



**Hosted VIRTUALLY June 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Highlights include...** Keynote speakers: Dr. Iheoma Iruka, Rachel Giannini, Skye Berger

- ❖ A preconference session that features LifeCourse, Reflective Supervision Consultation and the Stewards of Children training.
- ❖ A balanced offering of break-out sessions for service coordinators, providers and families

**Conference website is: [www.earlyintervention.in.edu](http://www.earlyintervention.in.edu)**



**Division of Disability and  
Rehabilitative Services**



# Thank you!



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