

SC Part C

FFY2014 State Performance Plan / Annual Performance Report

Introduction to the State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Executive Summary:

BabyNet is South Carolina's interagency, early intervention program for infants and toddlers with disabilities and developmental delays. Enabled under Part C of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, BabyNet provides early childhood special education services to the families of eligible children, designed to prepare each for school success.

The program is funded with a combination of state appropriations and federal grant funds, with current partners including SC First Steps (which serves as the state's designated "lead agency" and oversees local system point of entry offices), the SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs, the SC School for the Deaf and the Blind, the SC Department of Health and Human Services, and hundreds of contracted service providers across the state. Since the program's inception under the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control in 1991, South Carolina's BabyNet program has struggled to comply with federal guidelines around the program's operation, becoming the first state in the nation to enter into a federal compliance agreement with the United States Department of Education in 2003. Citing the program's challenged performance and inappropriate placement (BabyNet continues to be misidentified as a health program by many SC stakeholders), Governor Mark Sanford designated SC First Steps to School Readiness as the program's new lead agency in January of 2010.

At the time of its transfer, the program was insolvent (relying on one time federal funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to pay its rapidly rising service costs) and had recently been cited by the SC State Auditor as failing to maintain a system of general supervision. As a support to the new lead agency, lawmakers requested a retrospective review by the SC Legislative Audit Council, designed to identify areas for improvement within the struggling system.

Since 2010 First Steps – working in near weekly collaboration with national technical assistance resources – has made significant strides toward bringing the BabyNet system into federal compliance, implementing the LAC's recommendations to the agency, reestablishing the grant's required system of general supervision, adding efficiency and accountability measures which successfully reversed the substantial fiscal deficits inherited from DHEC in both January of 2010 and July of 2011 (when all remaining front-line BabyNet employees were transferred to First Steps), improving monitoring and supervision of service providers, creating a detailed interagency financial reporting structure, and replacing the system's outdated data system with one capable of collecting key data required by the federal government.

Despite significant progress, structural weaknesses in the state's Part C program design and insufficient resources have continued to prevent the BabyNet system from meeting federal expectations. As noted by the LAC in 2011, South Carolina is the only state in the nation in which the state appropriations do not flow exclusively through the program's lead agency, weakening its required "single line of authority" and limiting First Steps' ability to redirect cost savings to other areas of need within the program.

One longstanding compliance challenge for the state has been the federal government's requirement that all eligible children proceed from initial referral, through an eligibility evaluation of the child and family, to the development of a formal Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP, the infant-toddler equivalent of the K-12 system's Individualized Education Plan or IEP) within 45 days from initial contact. With a small frontline staff charged with processing roughly 10,000 client referrals annually, the state has been perpetually challenged in its efforts to meet this compliance deadline. With the support of the General Assembly – which appropriated \$1.1 million and 23 new FTEs to the effort during FY16 – First Steps is currently deploying new staff across the state designed to address this concern. Additionally, a diverse, interagency "BabyNet Think Tank" has been at work over recent months to analyze the system's current weaknesses and address potential solutions. The attached report lays out their findings and prioritizes the targeted, additional resources First Steps and system stakeholders believe will be necessary to ensure the BabyNet system earns a federal designation of "meets requirements" for the first time in its 25 year history. Among its key recommendations (and associated resources requested) are:

- Creation of both online and toll-free resources designed to support families and other stakeholders in providing timely and accurate BabyNet referrals.
- Creation of new "Evaluation and Assessment" teams designed to eliminate provider conflict of interest within the IFSP development process and support the lead agency in meeting new federal requirements that individuals representing at

least two professional disciplines participate in the IFSP team.

- The establishment of stand-alone (contracted) service coordination resources, allowing BabyNet intake offices to focus exclusively on their duties within the 45 day intake window.
- Expanding service provision within rural and outlying areas via mileage reimbursements for providers travelling more than 30 miles round trip.
- Conducting a comprehensive BabyNet cost study.
- Full seating of a robust and effective State Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC), as an advisory support to the lead agency.
- Identifying additional resources to address rising, interagency service costs without further limiting eligibility.
- Establishment of 7 new BabyNet system positions (FTEs) designed to support families and ensure federal compliance.

Attachments

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babynet-report-to-general-assembly-pursuant-to-proviso-1.96-december-30-2015.pdf	Kristie Musick		<input type="button" value="R"/> e m o v e

General Supervision System:

The systems that are in place to ensure that IDEA Part C requirements are met, e.g., monitoring systems, dispute resolution systems.

The South Carolina Early Intervention System under Part C of IDEA, hereafter referred to as BabyNet (BN), uses multiple sources of information in its current monitoring system for timely identification and correction of non-compliance. Sources include reports from the state's electronic educational record and data system (BRIDGES), requests for hard copies of documentation not contained in the electronic record, investigation of formal complaints, and audit results. Because BN does not have a single line of authority, each Participating State Agency (PSA) also conducts internal monitoring and provides results to the Lead Agency (LA) upon request. Annually, Family Satisfaction surveys are mailed to all families whose children have an active enrollment status, and Family Outcome surveys are mailed to all exited families each month; both of these serve as a rich source of information for targeted monitoring and are often used in determining technical assistance needs.

In the state's grant application for FFY 2014, revised policies for complaint investigation and procedural safeguards were submitted for review. Since September 2014, the BabyNet Program Managers' work group has worked closely with the state contact from Office of Special Education Programs, Division of Monitoring and State Improvement Planning to revise the policies and procedures for timely identification and correction of non-compliance. Both of these documents are on file with OSEP.

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Technical Assistance System:

The mechanisms that the State has in place to ensure the timely delivery of high quality, evidenced based technical assistance and support to early intervention service (EIS) programs.

The BN system uses a multi-tiered system of technical assistance. At the state level, listservs and webinars are used for system-wide distribution of information and resources. Four state-level staff provide regionalized technical assistance to service coordination vendors and service providers within assigned counties, and conduct quarterly face-to-face

meetings open to all local BN System Personnel. One state-level staff is assigned to Early Intervention Service Providers to assist with questions relating to contract requirements, payor of last resort requirements, and billing. The LA contracts with the state's University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) through the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, Center for Disability Resources, for the provision of technical assistance supporting development of demonstrable knowledge and skills related to IDEA statute and regulations; use of evidence-based practices in service coordination, development/review/evaluation of the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), and service delivery; and, data collection and reporting.

The BN System Point of Entry Offices (SPOE), the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (SCDDSN), and the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind (SCSDB) each have state staff assigned to the role of BabyNet Program Manager for the purpose of communication and technical assistance directly to the BN personnel of these PSAs. Personnel of the PSAs, together with the service provider network, constitute the local early intervention system, with many areas of the state meeting monthly to identify issues and technical assistance needs.

As a result of the infrastructure analysis for Phase I of Indicator 11 (State Systemic Improvement Plan/SSIP), it is anticipated there will be significant changes to the structure, methods, content, and delivery mechanisms of the state's technical assistance system.

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Professional Development System:

The mechanisms the State has in place to ensure that service providers are effectively providing services that improve results for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

The LA also contracts with the state's UCEDD for administration of the BabyNet Comprehensive System of Personnel Development. Deliverables for the CSPD include 1) credentialing to ensure all BN System Personnel meet state qualifications and standards, 2) an online training curriculum including a core required of all service coordinators and service providers, and 3) development and/or dissemination of face-to-face training opportunities.

Personnel qualifications were initially established in 2004, and include all state-established and professional association requirements for all early intervention disciplines and roles based on licensure, certification, and/or registration. Personnel standards were also developed in 2004, based on the Council for Exceptional Children, Division of Early Childhood Recommended Practices. Beginning in February, 2104, both BabyNet personnel qualifications and standards are under review by an interdisciplinary stakeholder group facilitated by staff of the UCEDD, to review current qualifications and standards following passage by the South Carolina General Assembly of teacher certification in early childhood special education in 2011, and release of revised Recommended Practices by CEC/DEC in 2014.

A streamlined process is in place for new system personnel to submit one application that covers all necessary information for contracting, credentialing, the BabyNet Central Directory, and access to the electronic educational record and data system. The core of the online training curriculum includes an introduction to BabyNet, requirements for the BabyNet Service Delivery System, and practice guidelines for development, implementation, and review/evaluation of the Individualized Family Service Plan. The infrastructure analysis for Indicator 11 suggests potential additional content to the BabyNet core curriculum may include : 1) CSPD requirements (personnel qualifications, personnel standards, and use of evidence-based practices; 2) use of the electronic educational record and data system; 3) requirements for timely identification and correction of non-compliance; 4) Early Childhood Outcomes and Family Outcomes; and 5) state-specific procedures for early identification of toddlers with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Additional role-based modules are also under consideration with content specific to service coordination, service provision, and special instruction.

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Stakeholder Involvement: apply this to all Part C results indicators

The mechanism for soliciting broad stakeholder input on targets in the SPP, including revisions to targets.

The South Carolina early intervention system is in the process of receiving new appointments to the State Interagency Coordinating Council. In the meetings of February 2016, a stakeholder group including family members, ICC members, service coordinators, service providers, PSA Program Managers, the Parent Training and Information Center, Early Head Start, inclusion initiatives, and the University of South Carolina/College of Education analyzed BabyNet performance for compliance and results indicators for FFY 2008 - FFY 2014, and provided input on targets for the Annual Performance Plan for FFY 2014.

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Reporting to the Public:

How and where the State reported to the public on the FFY 2013 performance of each EIS Program or Provider located in the State on the targets in the SPP/APR as soon as practicable, but no later than 120 days following the State's submission of its FFY 2013 APR, as required by 34 CFR §300.602(b)(1)(i)(A); and a description of where, on its Web site, a complete copy of the State's SPP, including any revision if the State has revised the SPP that it submitted with its FFY 2013 APR in 2015, is available.

All publicly reported information is located on the website for the Lead Agency, South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness at <http://scfirststeps.org/> under the BabyNet tab link for State and Federal Reporting.

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Actions required in FFY 2013 response

None

OSEP Response

The State has not publicly reported on the FFY 2013 (July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014) and FFY 2012 (July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013) performance of each EIS program or provider located in the State on the targets in the State's performance plan as required by section 616(b)(2)(C)(ii)(I) of IDEA.

South Carolina's IDEA Part C grant award has been under special conditions regarding the correction of findings of noncompliance from FFY 2008 through FFY 2015. OSEP's 2015 determination letter and the State's FFY 2015 Special Conditions required the State to submit a corrective action plan (CAP) by August 3, 2015 and a report by February 1, 2016 with specified information regarding the correction of previously-identified noncompliance. In the responses for Indicators 1, 7, and 8C, OSEP responded to the State's correction data provided for those indicators. OSEP will respond separately to the State's FFY 2015 IDEA Part C special conditions.

Required Actions

The State has not publicly reported on the FFY 2013 (July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014) and FFY 2012 (July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013) performance of each EIS program or provider located in the State on the targets in the State's performance plan as required by section 616(b)(2)(C)(ii)(I) of IDEA.

FFY 2014 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

With its FFY 2015 SPP/APR, the State must provide a Web link demonstrating that the State reported to the public on the performance of each early intervention service program or provider located in the State on the targets in the SPP/APR for FFY 2013. In addition, the State must report with its FFY 2015 SPP/APR, how and where the State reported to the public on the FFY 2014 performance of each early intervention service program or provider located in the State on the targets in the SPP/APR.

Indicator 1: Timely provision of services

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Compliance indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Target			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Data		95.00%	92.00%	76.00%	74.50%	85.00%	73.00%	83.00%	87.00%	85.32%

Key:  Gray – Data Prior to Baseline  Yellow – Baseline

FFY 2014 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

FFY 2014 SPP/APR Data

Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner	Total number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
2273	3411	85.32%	100%	66.64%

Explanation of Slippage

Slippage for this indicator is attributed to the transition to the new state data system known as BRIDGES, and the enforcement process of the contractual obligations for data entry by BabyNet Service Providers (BNSP). In the previous data system, data for Indicator 1 were entered by initial and primary service coordinators; in BRIDGES, however, documentation of timely initiation of services is the responsibility of the provider named on the Individualized Family Service Plan for each planned service.

Requirements for use of the data system for BNSP began in October, 2014. In September, 2015, service provider contracts, on file with OSEP, were revised and disseminated to address the data entry requirements related to service delivery. At the time of this report, the deadline for submission of these contracts is 30mar16. The consequence of the data system transition and contract revision processes has been, in part, a failure of some providers to participate in use of BRIDGES. Services provided by these individuals are documented in the 'other services' section of the IFSP, and as such, are not directly captured by the BRIDGES system for reporting for this indicator.

Number of documented delays attributable to exceptional family circumstances (this number will be added to the Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive their early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner)

null

What is the source of the data provided for this indicator?

- State monitoring
- State database

FFY 2014 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Provide the time period in which the data were collected (e.g., September through December, fourth quarter, selection from the full reporting period).

Data were collected for the time period 01jul14 - 30jun15.

Describe how the data accurately reflect data for infants and toddlers with IFSPs for the full reporting period.

Data for FFY 2014 are indicative only of data provided through the BRIDGES system. The SLA is in the process of working with service coordinators and service providers to accurately capture service initiation data for FFY 2014 and FFY 2015, and anticipates providing more accurate data by 30jun16.

Actions required in FFY 2013 response

None

Correction of Findings of Noncompliance Identified in FFY 2013

Findings of Noncompliance Identified	Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected Within One Year	Findings of Noncompliance Subsequently Corrected	Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected
38	23	0	15

FFY 2013 Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected

Describe how the State verified that the source of noncompliance is correctly implementing the regulatory requirements

Verification of correct implementation of the regulatory requirements for this Indicator is conducted through an examination of the electronic educational record and data to determine if: a) children for whom instances of non-compliance occurred did receive the service prior to exiting the system and b) that no additional instances of non-compliance occurred for children served subsequent to issue of the finding. Since September, 2014, the BabyNet Program Managers' workgroup has worked closely with our OSEP state contact to revise the State's procedures for timely identification and correction of non-compliance, and through the work for Indicator 11, to identify the infrastructure resources necessary to consistently implement the procedures within the lead agency, participating state agencies, and contracted service providers.

Describe how the State verified that each individual case of noncompliance was corrected

Verification of correction of each individual instance of non-compliance is conducted through record review and reports from the state's early intervention data system to confirm that although the service was not initiated within 30 days of identification on an IFSP, the child did eventually receive the service.

FFY 2013 Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected

Actions taken if noncompliance not corrected

As of this report, Prong 2 data is outstanding for 15 findings for FFY 2013.

FFY 2012 Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected

Describe how the State verified that the source of noncompliance is correctly implementing the regulatory requirements

Sustained correct implementation of the regulatory requirements is accomplished through monthly review of BRIDGES data for this indicator.

Describe how the State verified that each individual case of noncompliance was corrected

Verification of correction of each individual instance of non-compliance is conducted through record review and reports

from the state's early intervention data system to confirm that although the service was not initiated within 30 days of identification on an IFSP, the child did eventually receive the service.

OSEP Response

In its FFY 2014 SPP/APR, the State cited serious concerns with the accuracy and completeness of its FFY 2014 data for this indicator. Therefore, in its pre-clarification Response to the State's FFY 2014 SPP/APR, OSEP informed the State that it could not determine whether the State's reported FFY 2014 data for this indicator are valid and reliable. OSEP indicated that the "State must clarify whether the reported FFY 2014 data are valid and reliable, and how the State reached its conclusion." The State did not provide any further information regarding its Indicator 1 data during clarification. Therefore, OSEP has concluded that the State's FFY 2014 data for this indicator are not valid and reliable.

As explained in OSEP's June 30, 2015 determination letter and the Special Conditions on South Carolina's IDEA Part C FFY 2015 grant award, the State was required to submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) by August 3, 2015 and a report by February 1, 2016 setting forth the status of correction of the remaining findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2012, the number of findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2013, and the status of correction of the FFY 2013 findings. As acknowledged in OSEP's August 27, 2015 response to the State's August 5, 2015 CAP, the State reported that the remaining FFY 2012 findings have been verified as corrected or the child has left the jurisdiction of the State's early intervention system. In its FFY 2014 APR, the State reported that 23 of 38 FFY 2013 findings of noncompliance for Indicator 1 have been corrected. The State must demonstrate, in the FFY 2015 APR, that the remaining FFY 2013 findings of noncompliance were corrected. OSEP will respond separately to the State's FFY 2015 special conditions.

Because the State reported less than 100% compliance for FFY 2014, the State must report on the status of correction of noncompliance identified in FFY 2014 for this indicator. In addition, the State must demonstrate, in the FFY 2015 SPP/APR, that the remaining 15 findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2013 were corrected. When reporting on the correction of noncompliance, the State must report, in the FFY 2015 SPP/APR, that it has verified that each EIS program or provider with findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2014 and each EIS program or provider with remaining noncompliance identified in FFY 2013: (1) is correctly implementing the specific regulatory requirements (i.e., achieved 100% compliance) based on a review of updated data such as data subsequently collected through on-site monitoring or a State data system; and (2) has corrected each individual case of noncompliance, unless the child is no longer within the jurisdiction of the EIS program or provider, consistent with OSEP Memo 09-02. In the FFY 2015 SPP/APR, the State must describe the specific actions that were taken to verify the correction.

If the State did not identify any findings of noncompliance in FFY 2014, although its FFY 2014 data reflect less than 100% compliance, provide an explanation of why the State did not identify any findings of noncompliance in FFY 2014.

Required Actions

The State did not provide valid and reliable data for FFY 2014. The State must provide valid and reliable data for FFY 2015 in the FFY 2015 SPP/APR.

Indicator 2: Services in Natural Environments

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Target ≥			96.00%	96.00%	96.00%	96.00%	96.00%	96.00%	99.00%	99.00%
Data		86.00%	86.00%	82.00%	84.00%	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%	99.40%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2014 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target ≥	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%

Key:

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input

The South Carolina early intervention system is in the process of receiving new appointments to the State Interagency Coordinating Council. In the meetings of February 2016, a stakeholder group including family members, ICC members, service coordinators, service providers, PSA Program Managers, the state's Parent Training and Information Center, Early Head Start, the statewide inclusion initiatives, and the University of South Carolina/College of Education analyzed BabyNet performance for compliance and results indicators for FFY 2008 - FFY 2014.

For Indicator 2, the state has demonstrated consistent performance of at least 95% since FFY 2009. Stakeholder input recommended maintaining the targets for the FFY 2013 - FFY 2018 State Performance Plan at 99%.

Prepopulated Data

Source	Date	Description	Data	Overwrite Data
SY 2014-15 Child Count/Educational Environment Data Groups	7/2/2015	Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings	3,571	
SY 2014-15 Child Count/Educational Environment Data Groups	7/2/2015	Total number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs	3,655	

FFY 2014 SPP/APR Data

Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings	Total number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data

FFY 2014 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings	Total number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
3,571	3,655	99.40%	99.00%	97.70%

Explanation of Slippage

In FFY March, 2014, BabyNet began use of a new electronic educational record and data system known as BRIDGES. Initial use of the data system (March 2014 - September 2014) was for initial and primary service coordinators; by September 2014, all BabyNet System Personnel including BabyNet Service Providers were to use the data system to document delivery of IFSP services. This requirement was enforced through revision of provider contracts stipulating use of BRIDGES, and multiple stakeholder input sessions to identify and resolve any barriers to providers' use of the data system. As was noted for Indicator 1 for FFY 2014, there remain a number of providers who are not yet using BRIDGES. It is believed that slippage in the state performance for Indicator 2 is attributable to data not entered that would otherwise document the primary setting of service provision.

Actions required in FFY 2013 response

None

OSEP Response

In its FFY 2014 SPP/APR, the State cited serious concerns with the accuracy and completeness of its FFY 2014 data for this indicator. Therefore, in its pre-clarification Response to the State's FFY 2014 SPP/APR, OSEP informed the State that it could not determine whether the State's reported FFY 2014 data for this indicator are valid and reliable. OSEP indicated that the "State must clarify whether the reported FFY 2014 data are valid and reliable, and how the State reached its conclusion." The State did not provide any further information regarding its Indicator 2 data during clarification. Therefore, OSEP has concluded that the State's FFY 2014 data for this indicator are not valid and reliable.

Required Actions

The State did not provide valid and reliable data for FFY 2014. The State must provide valid and reliable data for FFY 2015 in the FFY 2015 SPP/APR.

Indicator 3: Early Childhood Outcomes

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who demonstrate improved:

- A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships);
- B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/ communication); and
- C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

Does your State's Part C eligibility criteria include infants and toddlers who are at risk of having substantial developmental delays (or "at-risk infants and toddlers") under IDEA section 632(5)(B)(i)? No

Historical Data

	Baseline Year	FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
A1	2008	Target ≥						80.00%	80.00%	85.00%		80.00%
		Data					80.00%	80.00%	85.00%	81.00%	82.00%	79.56%
A2	2013	Target ≥						67.00%	65.00%	66.00%		59.00%
		Data					67.00%	65.00%	66.00%	63.00%	59.00%	59.25%
B1	2008	Target ≥						82.00%	81.00%	85.00%		82.00%
		Data					82.00%	81.00%	85.00%	82.00%	82.00%	80.53%
B2	2013	Target ≥						64.00%	63.00%	63.00%		54.00%
		Data					64.00%	63.00%	63.00%	60.00%	56.00%	54.54%
C1	2008	Target ≥						82.00%	81.00%	86.00%		82.00%
		Data					82.00%	81.00%	86.00%	82.00%	82.00%	82.01%
C2	2013	Target ≥						69.00%	66.00%	66.00%		57.00%
		Data					69.00%	66.00%	66.00%	65.00%	59.00%	57.71%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2014 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target A1 ≥	80.00%	80.00%	80.00%	80.00%	85.00%
Target A2 ≥	59.00%	59.00%	59.00%	59.00%	64.00%
Target B1 ≥	82.00%	82.00%	82.00%	82.00%	85.00%
Target B2 ≥	54.00%	54.00%	54.00%	54.00%	59.00%
Target C1 ≥	82.00%	82.00%	82.00%	82.00%	86.00%
Target C2 ≥	57.00%	57.00%	57.00%	57.00%	62.00%

Key:

Explanation of Changes

Target for Indicator 3a, Summary Statement 2, was omitted from the targets for FFY 2018.

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input

The South Carolina early intervention system is in the process of receiving new appointments to the State Interagency

Coordinating Council. In meetings of February 2106, a stakeholder group including family members, ICC members, service coordinators, service providers, PSA Program Managers, the Parent Training and Information Center, Early Head Start, inclusion initiatives, and the University of South Carolina/College of Education analyzed BabyNet performance for compliance and results indicators for FFY 2008 - FFY 2014, and provided input on targets for the revised State Performance Plan.

Input on targets for Indicator 3 also included technical assistance from the IDEA Data Center and the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center. South Carolina has set targets for Summary Statement 1 based on FFY 2008 baseline data and subsequent performance trends in FFY 2009-2013. For Summary Statement 2 however, FFY 2013 data has been used as the new baseline for SPP target as this data is more representative of the population currently served by BabyNet, and reflective of data trends for the reporting periods of FFY 2011-2013.

FFY 2014 SPP/APR Data

Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed	1792.00
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Outcome A: Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships)

	Number of Children	Percentage of Children
a. Infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning	84.00	4.69%
b. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers	214.00	11.94%
c. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it	536.00	29.91%
d. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers	646.00	36.05%
e. Infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers	312.00	17.41%

	Numerator	Denominator	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
A1. Of those children who entered or exited the program below age expectations in Outcome A, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program $(c+d)/(a+b+c+d)$.	1182.00	1480.00	79.56%	80.00%	79.86%
A2. The percent of infants and toddlers who were functioning within age expectations in Outcome A by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program $(d+e)/(a+b+c+d+e)$.	958.00	1792.00	59.25%	59.00%	53.46%

Explanation of A2 Slippage

The above information indicates that for 3A, Summary Statement 1, the BabyNet Early Intervention System has positively children by substantially increasing their rate of growth by the time they exited the program. The percentage reveals an increase over FY 2013, and is at target.

The percentage for Outcome 3A, Summary Statement 2, reveals a decrease in the percentage of children who exited functioning within age expectations. In the second quarter of FFY 2011, the state restricted eligibility criteria; the vast majority of children exiting in FFY 2014 consist of children who entered under the revised criteria and therefore had more complex developmental delays. The slippage is not unanticipated, but will continue to be monitored should any trends emerge.

There continues to be a need to address data quality issues to ensure that all children who meet the criteria at exit are included in the child outcomes sample (an ongoing effort with data reconciliation), and training, monitoring, and technical assistance to ensure the child outcomes process is fully understood and implemented correctly for rating decisions by IFSP Teams.

Outcome B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/ communication)

	Number of Children	Percentage of Children
a. Infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning	81.00	4.52%
b. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers	206.00	11.50%
c. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it	610.00	34.04%
d. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers	689.00	38.45%
e. Infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers	206.00	11.50%

	Numerator	Denominator	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
B1. Of those children who entered or exited the program below age expectations in Outcome B, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program (c+d)/(a+b+c+d).	1299.00	1586.00	80.53%	82.00%	81.90%
B2. The percent of infants and toddlers who were functioning within age expectations in Outcome B by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program (d+e)/(a+b+c+d+e).	895.00	1792.00	54.54%	54.00%	49.94%

Explanation of B2 Slippage

The above information indicates that for 3B, Summary Statement 1, the BabyNet Early Intervention System has positively children by substantially increasing their rate of growth by the time they exited the program. The percentage reveals a slight decrease over FY 2013, but is substantially at target.

The percentage for Outcome 3B, Summary Statement 2, reveals a decrease in the percentage of children who exited functioning within age expectations. In the second quarter of FFY 2011, the state restricted eligibility criteria; the vast majority of children exiting in FFY 2014 consist of children who entered under the revised criteria and therefore had more complex developmental delays. The slippage is not unanticipated, but will continue to be monitored should any trends emerge.

There continues to be a need to address data quality issues to ensure that all children who meet the criteria at exit are included in the child outcomes sample (an ongoing effort with data reconciliation), and training, monitoring, and technical assistance to ensure the child outcomes process is fully understood and implemented correctly for rating decisions by IFSP Teams.

Outcome C: Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs

	Number of Children	Percentage of Children
a. Infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning	90.00	5.02%
b. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers	192.00	10.71%
c. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it	549.00	30.64%
d. Infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers	727.00	40.57%
e. Infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers	234.00	13.06%

	Numerator	Denominator	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
C1. Of those children who entered or exited the program below age expectations in Outcome C, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program (c+d)/(a+b+c+d).	1276.00	1558.00	82.01%	82.00%	81.90%

	Numerator	Denominator	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
C2. The percent of infants and toddlers who were functioning within age expectations in Outcome C by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program (d+e)/(a+b+c+d+e).	961.00	1792.00	57.71%	57.00%	53.63%

Explanation of C2 Slippage

The above information indicates that for 3C, Summary Statement 1, the BabyNet Early Intervention System has positively children by substantially increasing their rate of growth by the time they exited the program. The percentage reveals a slight decrease over FY 2013, but is substantially at target.

The percentage for Outcome 3C, Summary Statement 2, reveals a decrease in the percentage of children who exited functioning within age expectations. In the second quarter of FFY 2011, the state restricted eligibility criteria; the vast majority of children exiting in FFY 2014 consist of children who entered under the revised criteria and therefore had more complex developmental delays. The slippage is not unanticipated, but will continue to be monitored should any trends emerge.

There continues to be a need to address data quality issues to ensure that all children who meet the criteria at exit are included in the child outcomes sample (an ongoing effort with data reconciliation), and training, monitoring, and technical assistance to ensure the child outcomes process is fully understood and implemented correctly for rating decisions by IFSP Teams.

Was sampling used? No

Did you use the Early Childhood Outcomes Center (ECO) Child Outcomes Summary Form (COSF)? Yes

Actions required in FFY 2013 response

None

OSEP Response

Required Actions

Indicator 4: Family Involvement

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Results indicator: Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family:

- A. Know their rights;
- B. Effectively communicate their children's needs; and
- C. Help their children develop and learn.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

Historical Data

	Baseline Year	FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
A	2012	Target ≥					87.00%	91.00%	76.00%	79.00%	82.00%	86.00%
		Data			76.00%	69.00%	73.00%	76.00%	79.00%	81.00%	86.00%	91.67%
B	2012	Target ≥					82.00%	86.00%	71.00%	77.00%	80.00%	86.00%
		Data			69.00%	64.00%	67.00%	71.00%	77.00%	81.00%	86.00%	90.91%
C	2012	Target ≥					95.00%	95.00%	86.00%	89.00%	92.00%	86.00%
		Data			85.00%	82.00%	84.00%	86.00%	89.00%	82.00%	86.00%	92.36%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2014 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target A ≥	86.00%	86.00%	86.00%	86.00%	90.00%
Target B ≥	86.00%	86.00%	86.00%	86.00%	90.00%
Target C ≥	86.00%	86.00%	86.00%	86.00%	90.00%

Key:

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input

The South Carolina early intervention system is in the process of receiving new appointments to the State Interagency Coordinating Council. In the meetings of February 2016, a stakeholder group including family members, ICC members, service coordinators, service providers, PSA Program Managers, the Parent Training and Information Center, Early Head Start, inclusion initiatives, and the University of South Carolina/College of Education analyzed BabyNet performance for compliance and results indicators for FFY 2008 - FFY 2014, and provided input on targets for the revised State Performance Plan.

Targets were set using FFY 2012 data as baseline based on the following factors:

1. FFY 2013 data are thought to be artificially inflated due to the abbreviated reporting period of July 1, 2013 -February 28, 2014 as BabyNet transitioned to a new data system; and
2. FFY 2012 data are more valid and reliable following results-driven accountability system improvement activities for Indicator 4 initiated in 2012, following the OSEP Continuous Improvement Visit in October-November 2011.

FFY 2014 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Number of respondent families participating in Part C	0.00
A1. Number of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family know their rights	189.00
A2. Number of responses to the question of whether early intervention services have helped the family know their rights	220.00
B1. Number of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family effectively communicate their children's needs	180.00
B2. Number of responses to the question of whether early intervention services have helped the family effectively communicate their children's needs	220.00
C1. Number of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family help their children develop and learn	193.00
C2. Number of responses to the question of whether early intervention services have helped the family help their children develop and learn	220.00

	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
A. Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family know their rights	91.67%	86.00%	85.91%
B. Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family effectively communicate their children's needs	90.91%	86.00%	81.82%
C. Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family help their children develop and learn	92.36%	86.00%	87.73%

Explanation of A Slippage

During FFY 2014, state staff previously focused on ensuring service coordinator follow-up with families were required to support training and technical assistance related to the data system transition. It is believed that this resulted in fewer family responses to the Family Outcomes Survey.

Explanation of B Slippage

During FFY 2014, state staff previously focused on ensuring service coordinator follow-up with families were required to support training and technical assistance related to the data system transition. It is believed that this resulted in fewer family responses to the Family Outcomes Survey.

Describe how the State has ensured that any response data are valid and reliable, including how the data represent the demographics of the State.

Family contact information for mailings was extracted from the BRIDGES data system. Children who had been in the system for less than six months prior to transitioning/exiting due to factors such as relocation, voluntary exits, or who are deceased were excluded from the data collection process. The impact portion of the National Center for Special Education Accountability and Monitoring (NCSEAM) Family Survey was distributed to families within 30 days of a child's exit from the SC Part C system in an effort to improve consistency of contact/address information. Data are reported using Rasch Analysis.

Was sampling used? No

Was a collection tool used? Yes

Is it a new or revised collection tool? No

- Yes, the data accurately represent the demographics of the State
- No, the data does not accurately represent the demographics of the State

Actions required in FFY 2013 response

None

OSEP Response

In its description of its FFY 2014 data, the State did not address whether the response group was representative of the population.

Required Actions

In the FFY 2015 SPP/APR, the State must report whether its FFY 2015 response data represent the demographics of the State, and, if not, the actions the State is taking to address this issue.

Indicator 5: Child Find (Birth to One)

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs compared to national data.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Target ≥			0.90%	1.00%	1.04%	1.03%	1.03%	1.03%	1.06%	0.84%
Data		0.92%	0.82%	0.97%	0.97%	0.80%	0.57%	0.43%	0.81%	0.79%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2014 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target ≥	0.89%	0.94%	0.99%	1.04%	1.11%

Key:

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input

The South Carolina early intervention system is in the process of receiving new appointments to the State Interagency Coordinating Council. In the meetings of February 2016, a stakeholder group including family members, ICC members, service coordinators, service providers, PSA Program Managers, the Parent Training and Information Center, Early Head Start, inclusion initiatives, and the University of South Carolina/College of Education reviewed the requirements for Indicator 11, analyzed BabyNet performance for compliance and results indicators for FFY 2008 - FFY 2014, and provided input on targets for the revised State Performance Plan.

Targets for this indicator are based on stakeholder recommendations to, by 2018, incrementally match the state's current performance to the national average in 2013.

Prepopulated Data

Source	Date	Description	Data	Overwrite Data
SY 2014-15 Child Count/Educational Environment Data Groups	7/2/2015	Number of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs	378	null
U.S. Census Annual State Resident Population Estimates April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2013	4/3/2014	Population of infants and toddlers birth to 1	57,439	null

FFY 2014 SPP/APR Data

Number of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs	Population of infants and toddlers birth to 1	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
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FFY 2014 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Number of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs	Population of infants and toddlers birth to 1	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
378	57,439	0.79%	0.89%	0.66%

Explanation of Slippage

Public awareness and targeted child find efforts were limited in FFY 2014 as state personnel were redirected for training and technical assistance required for implementation of the new state data system. In a series of BabyNet restructuring stakeholder input meetings in the fall of 2015, it was learned that a number of issues exist with outreach to primary referral sources, and with staffing shortages in the BabyNet System Point of Entry (SPOE) offices. In FFY 2015, the South Carolina General Assembly provided funding to increase the number of SPOE Initial Service Coordinators and the number of SPOE supervisors, and with hiring and training of these new staff underway at the time of this report. The state budget request for FFY 2016 includes funding for establishment of a central referral line to support primary referral sources. Additionally, in January 2016 BabyNet executed a Memorandum of Agreement with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control to share data from the South Carolina Birth Defects Registry. It is anticipated this will facilitate more timely identification and referral of infants identified with established risk conditions to the BabyNet system.

Actions required in FFY 2013 response

None

OSEP Response

The State revised its targets for FFYs 2014 throughout 2018 for this indicator, and OSEP accepts those targets.

Required Actions

Indicator 6: Child Find (Birth to Three)

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Results indicator: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs compared to national data.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Target ≥			2.00%	2.00%	2.66%	2.67%	2.82%	2.79%	2.77%	2.24%
Data		2.07%	1.98%	2.21%	2.38%	2.44%	2.57%	2.46%	2.17%	2.13%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2014 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target ≥	2.13%	2.13%	2.15%	2.15%	2.18%

Key:

Explanation of Changes

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input

The South Carolina early intervention system is in the process of receiving new appointments to the State Interagency Coordinating Council. In meetings of February 2016, a stakeholder group including family members, ICC members, service coordinators, service providers, PSA Program Managers, the Parent Training and Information Center, Early Head Start, inclusion initiatives, and the University of South Carolina/College of Education reviewed the requirements for Indicator 11, analyzed BabyNet performance for compliance and results indicators for FFY 2008 - FFY 2014, and provided input on targets for the revised State Performance Plan.

Targets for this indicator are based on stakeholder recommendations to, by 2018, incrementally match the state's current performance to the national average in 2013.

Prepopulated Data

Source	Date	Description	Data	Overwrite Data
SY 2014-15 Child Count/Educational Environment Data Groups	7/2/2015	Number of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs	3,655	
U.S. Census Annual State Resident Population Estimates April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2014	7/2/2015	Population of infants and toddlers birth to 3	172,514	

FFY 2014 SPP/APR Data

FFY 2014 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Number of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs	Population of infants and toddlers birth to 3	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
3,655	172,514	2.13%	2.13%	2.12%

Actions required in FFY 2013 response

None

OSEP Response

The State revised its targets for FFYs 2014 through 2018 for this indicator, and OSEP accepts those targets.

Required Actions

Indicator 7: 45-day timeline

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Compliance indicator: Percent of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an initial evaluation and initial assessment and an initial IFSP meeting were conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Target			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Data		97.90%	82.00%	95.28%	95.00%	93.00%	13.00%	22.00%	88.00%	81.85%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline

FFY 2014 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

FFY 2014 SPP/APR Data

Number of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an initial evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting was conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline	Number of eligible infants and toddlers evaluated and assessed for whom an initial IFSP meeting was required to be conducted	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
1,911	2,933	81.85%	100%	65.16%

Number of documented delays attributable to exceptional family circumstances (this number will be added to the Number of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an initial evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting was conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline)	null
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Explanation of Slippage

Slippage for this indicator is attributed to the ongoing difficulties the State has experienced in meeting the related requirements for the 45-day timeline, specifically the requirements for the multidisciplinary evaluation, a routines-based family assessment, and assessment of the child prior to development of the initial Individualized Family Service Plan. Current reports available through the data system are limited to checks for missing data. It is anticipated that implementation of quality review practices will better assist service coordinators in meeting the related requirements. Additionally, the revised policies and procedures submitted to OSEP with the FFY 2016 grant application require that all initial Individualized Family Service Plans be developed by initial service coordinators with the System Point of Entry Offices, directly under the supervision of the State Lead Agency.

What is the source of the data provided for this indicator?

- State monitoring
- State database

Provide the time period in which the data were collected (e.g., September through December, fourth quarter, selection from the full reporting period).

Data collected during July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 time frame.

Describe how the data accurately reflect data for infants and toddlers with IFSPs for the full reporting period.

Throughout the reporting period, data validation activities include checks for missing data. Data quality issues to be addressed with ongoing training and technical assistance.

Actions required in FFY 2013 response

None

Correction of Findings of Noncompliance Identified in FFY 2013

Findings of Noncompliance Identified	Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected Within One Year	Findings of Noncompliance Subsequently Corrected	Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected
40	22	9	9

FFY 2013 Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected

Describe how the State verified that the source of noncompliance is correctly implementing the regulatory requirements

The State is revising the data submitted in the FFY 2012 APR when it was reported that 44 findings were issued, and 41 were corrected. The previous data system required each instance of non-compliance to be reviewed prior to determining if a finding was indicated, and if so, to which agency or provider the finding was to be issued. In the FFY 2012 APR, the State reported the number of findings identified prior to completion of this review process. Of the potential 44 findings, the LA issued a total of 34 findings for Indicator 7 for FFY 2012. Of these, Prong 1 and Prong 2 were verified as corrected for 8 findings within one year. At the time of this report, Prong 1 has been subsequently verified for the 26 remaining findings, Prong 2 subsequently verified for 19 of the remaining findings.

Verification of correct implementation of the regulatory requirements for this Indicator is conducted through an examination of the electronic educational record and data to determine if: a) children for whom instances of non-compliance occurred did receive an Initial IFSP prior to exiting the system and b) that no additional instances of non-compliance occurred for children referred and found eligible for Part C services subsequent to issue of the finding. Since September, 2014, the BabyNet Program Managers' workgroup has worked closely with our OSEP state contact to revise the State's procedures for timely identification and correction of non-compliance, and through the work for Indicator 11, to identify the infrastructure resources necessary to consistently implement the procedures within the lead agency, participating state agencies, and contracted service providers.

Describe how the State verified that each individual case of noncompliance was corrected

Verification of correction of each individual instance of non-compliance is conducted through record review and reports from the state's early intervention data system to confirm that although the Initial IFSP was not developed within 45 days of referral to BabyNet, the family and child did eventually an Initial IFSP.

FFY 2013 Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected

Actions taken if noncompliance not corrected

As of this report, the State has amended its report of the status of correction of non-compliance as follows as noted above. However, the ongoing structural issues as described in the report to the South Carolina General Assembly attached to

this APR continue to yeild systemic failure in the ability to sustain correction for verification of Prong 2. With the 18 positions for the BabyNet System Point of Entry Offices funded by the state legislature in FFY 2015 and revisions to the polices and procedures for the state's Part C system, it is anticipated that state will be able to reverse this pattern.

FFY 2012 Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected

Describe how the State verified that the source of noncompliance is correctly implementing the regulatory requirements

Verification of correction of each individual instance of non-compliance is conducted through record review and reports from the state's early intervention data system to confirm that although the IFSP was not completed witin 45-days of referral, a plan was ultimately developed for each eligible child. The data system and child records are reviewed for children served subsequent to the instance of non-compliance to ensure correction of non-compliance is maintained.

Describe how the State verified that each individual case of noncompliance was corrected

Verification of correction of each individual instance of non-compliance is conducted through record review and reports from the state's early intervention data system to confirm that although the IFSP was not completed witin 45-days of referral, a plan was ultimately developed for each eligible child. The data system and child records are reviewed for children served subsequent to the instance of non-compliance to ensure correction of non-compliance is maintained.

OSEP Response

As explained in OSEP's June 30, 2015 determination letter and the Special Conditions on South Carolina's IDEA Part C FFY 2015 grant award, the State was required to submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) by August 3, 2015 and a report by February 1, 2016 setting forth the status of correction of the remaining findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2012, the number of findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2013, and the status of correction of the FFY 2013 findings. As acknowledged in OSEP's August 27, 2015 response to the State's August 5, 2015 CAP, the State reported that the remaining FFY 2012 findings have been verified as corrected or the child has left the jurisdiction of the State's early intervention system. In its FFY 2014 APR, the State reported that 31 of its 40 FFY 2013 findings of noncompliance for Indicator 7 have been corrected. The State must demonstrate, in the FFY 2015 APR, that the remaining FFY 2013 findings of noncompliance were corrected. OSEP will respond separately to the State's FFY 2015 special conditions.

Because the State reported less than 100% compliance for FFY 2014, the State must report on the status of correction of noncompliance identified in FFY 2014 for this indicator. In addition, the State must demonstrate, in its FFY 2015 SPP/APR, that the remaining 9 findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2013 were corrected. When reporting on the correction of noncompliance, the State must report, in the FFY 2015 SPP/APR, that it has verified that each EIS program or provider with noncompliance identified in FFY 2014 and each EIS program or provider with remaining noncompliance identified in FFY 2013for this indicator: (1) is correctly implementing the specific regulatory requirements (i.e., achieved 100% compliance) based on a review of updated data such as data subsequently collected through on-site monitoring or a State data system; and (2) has corrected each individual case of noncompliance, unless the child is no longer within the jurisdiction of the EIS program or provider, consistent with OSEP Memo 09-02.

In the FFY 2015 SPP/APR, the State must describe the specific actions that were taken to verify the correction.

If the State did not identify any findings of noncompliance in FFY 2014, although its FFY 2014 data reflect less than 100% compliance, provide an explanation of why the State did not identify any findings of noncompliance in FFY 2014.

Required Actions

Indicator 8A: Early Childhood Transition

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the SEA and the LEA where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Target			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Data			88.00%	100%	100%	100%	60.00%	60.00%	72.00%	70.94%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline

FFY 2014 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

FFY 2014 SPP/APR Data

Data include only those toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday.

Yes

No

Number of children exiting Part C who have an IFSP with transition steps and services	Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
2,323	2,323	70.94%	100%	100%

Number of documented delays attributable to exceptional family circumstances (this number will be added to the Number of children exiting Part C who have an IFSP with transition steps and services)	null
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What is the source of the data provided for this indicator?

State monitoring



Provide the time period in which the data were collected (e.g., September through December, fourth quarter, selection from the full reporting period).

Data represent the period of 01jul14 - 30jun15.

Describe how the data accurately reflect data for infants and toddlers with IFSPs for the full reporting period.

The BRIDGES electronic educational record and data system requires transition planning for the initial Individualized Family Service Plan, and each subsequent six-month review and annual evaluation of the IFSP for each child determined eligible for Part C services.

Actions required in FFY 2013 response

None

Correction of Findings of Noncompliance Identified in FFY 2013

Findings of Noncompliance Identified	Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected Within One Year	Findings of Noncompliance Subsequently Corrected	Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected
null	null	null	0

OSEP Response

As explained in OSEP's June 30, 2015 determination letter, the State was required to submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) by August 3, 2015 describing how the State is improving its data collection for Indicator 8A for timely transition plans, and then report FFY 2014 data that reflects compliance in its FFY 2014 APR. As acknowledged in OSEP's August 27, 2015 response to the State's August 5, 2015 CAP, the State provided a description of how it began using its data system to improve the collection of data for Indicator 8A as of March 2014.

Required Actions

Indicator 8B: Early Childhood Transition

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the SEA and the LEA where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Target			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Data		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline

FFY 2014 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

FFY 2014 SPP/APR Data

Data include notification to both the SEA and LEA

Yes

No

Please explain

Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C where notification to the SEA and LEA occurred at least 90 days prior to their third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services	Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
2,323	2,323	100%	100%	100%

Number of parents who opted out (this number will be subtracted from the number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B when calculating the FFY 2014 Data)	0
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Describe the method used to collect these data

Using data from the BRIDGES data system, the Part C Data Manager on a monthly basis sends data reports to the SEA and each of the state's 80 LEAs as follows: a) "24 Month Report" from BRIDGES of children who turned 24 months (2 years) of age in the previous month and for whom an initial IFSP was developed; b) "Over 24 Report" from BRIDGES of children who were 24 months (2 years) of age during the previous month and for whom an initial IFSP was developed; c) "30 Month Report" from BRIDGES of children who turned 30 months (2.5 years) of age or and for whom an initial IFSP was developed at age 30 months (2.5 years) during the previous month; d) "Over 33 Month Report" from BRIDGES of children with an initial IFSP developed between age 33 months (2 years 9months) and 34.5 months (2 year, 10.5 months); and e) "Over 34.5 Month Report" from BRIDGES of children referred to BabyNet over 34.5 months of age in the assigned geographic area.

Each report includes directory information (child's name, date of birth, address, and telephone number) for children in the assigned geographic area for the LEA. If no children in a school district qualify for notification, a "Zero Report" is made which notifies the SCDE and LEA that there are no children to report in the specific month range.

Do you have a written opt-out policy? No

Is the policy on file with the Department? No

What is the source of the data provided for this indicator?

- State monitoring
- State database

Describe the method used to select EIS programs for monitoring.

Reports are sent by state office electronically by the 15th of each month to the SEA and LEAs. Each LEA's special education coordinator or designee receives report.

Provide the time period in which the data were collected (e.g., September through December, fourth quarter, selection from the full reporting period).

Data reported include the time period 01jul14 - 30jun15.

Describe how the data accurately reflect data for infants and toddlers with IFSPs for the full reporting period.

Data validation checks occur on a monthly basis to ensure the data system reports accurately capture all children with IFSPs in the correct age range by LEA.

Actions required in FFY 2013 response

None

Correction of Findings of Noncompliance Identified in FFY 2013

Findings of Noncompliance Identified	Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected Within One Year	Findings of Noncompliance Subsequently Corrected	Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected
null	null	null	0

OSEP Response

Required Actions

Indicator 8C: Early Childhood Transition

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

Compliance indicator: The percentage of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C with timely transition planning for whom the Lead Agency has:

- A. Developed an IFSP with transition steps and services at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday;
- B. Notified (consistent with any opt-out policy adopted by the State) the SEA and the LEA where the toddler resides at least 90 days prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services; and
- C. Conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Target			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Data		93.00%	68.00%	64.89%	83.00%	84.00%	87.00%	75.00%	91.00%	88.06%

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline

FFY 2014 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

FFY 2014 SPP/APR Data

Explanation of Alternate Data

Data reflect only those toddlers for whom the Lead Agency has conducted the transition conference held with the approval of the family at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties, not more than nine months, prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B preschool services

- Yes
- No

Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C where the transition conference occurred at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties at least nine months prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B	Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
1,558	2,306	88.06%	100%	84.72%

FFY 2014 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Number of toddlers for whom the parent did not provide approval for the transition conference (this number will be subtracted from the number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B when calculating the FFY 2014 Data)	264
Number of documented delays attributable to exceptional family circumstances (this number will be added to the Number of toddlers with disabilities exiting Part C where the transition conference occurred at least 90 days, and at the discretion of all parties at least nine months prior to the toddler's third birthday for toddlers potentially eligible for Part B)	172

Explanation of Slippage

Slippage for this indicator is attributed to the ongoing difficulties the State has experienced in meeting the timelines for transition conference. In January 2016, the State launched a series of data quality webinars, in which exit reasons were defined and requirements for data entry were reviewed. Since submission of this data, the State has also submitted revised policies and procedures related to transition requirements and practices, and clarified the requirements for children referred to the State's early intervention system between 33 and 34.5 months of age. Additionally, BabyNet State Offices is working very closely with the State Department of Education and the State Head Start Office of Collaboration and Head Start Association to clarify the roles and responsibilities of each agency to better insure more timely transition conferences.

What is the source of the data provided for this indicator?

- State monitoring
- State database

Provide the time period in which the data were collected (e.g., September through December, fourth quarter, selection from the full reporting period).

Data was collected during the July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 timeframe.

Describe how the data accurately reflect data for infants and toddlers with IFSPs for the full reporting period.

Extensive data analysis and follow-up with initial and primary service coordinators was conducted to ensure all data were captured and accurate.

Actions required in FFY 2013 response

None

Correction of Findings of Noncompliance Identified in FFY 2013

Findings of Noncompliance Identified	Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected Within One Year	Findings of Noncompliance Subsequently Corrected	Findings Not Yet Verified as Corrected
37	25	12	0

FFY 2013 Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected

Describe how the State verified that the source of noncompliance is correctly implementing the regulatory requirements

The LA issued a total of 37 findings for Indicator 8c. Verification of correct implementation of the regulatory requirements for this Indicator is conducted through an examination of documentation from the child's record, the electronic educational record and IFSP, and data reports to determine if non-compliance occurred for children served subsequent to issue of the finding.

Verification of correction of each individual instance of non-compliance is conducted through record review and reports from the state's early intervention data system to confirm that although the transition conference was not held on or before age 33 months, a transition conference was eventually held.

FFY 2014 Part C State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR)

Of the 37 findings issued for FFY 2013, both prongs of verification of correction have been met for 100% of the 37 findings.

Describe how the State verified that each individual case of noncompliance was corrected

Verification of correction of each individual instance of non-compliance is conducted through record review and reports from the state's early intervention data system to confirm that although the transition conference did not occur prior to age 33 months, a conference was eventually held.

FFY 2012 Findings of Noncompliance Verified as Corrected

Describe how the State verified that the source of noncompliance is correctly implementing the regulatory requirements

Verification of correct implementation of the regulatory requirements for this Indicator is conducted through an examination of documentation from the child's record, the electronic educational record and IFSP, and data reports to determine if non-compliance occurred for children served subsequent to issue of the finding.

Describe how the State verified that each individual case of noncompliance was corrected

Verification of correction of each individual instance of non-compliance is conducted through record review and reports from the state's early intervention data system to confirm that although the transition conference was not held on or before age 33 months, a transition conference was eventually held.

OSEP Response

As explained in OSEP's June 30, 2015 determination letter and the Special Conditions on South Carolina's IDEA Part C FFY 2015 grant award, the State was required to submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) by August 3, 2015 and a report by February 1, 2016 setting forth the status of correction of the remaining findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2012, the number of findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2013, and the status of correction of the FFY 2013 findings. As acknowledged in OSEP's August 27, 2015 response to the State's August 5, 2015 CAP, the State reported that the remaining FFY 2012 findings have been verified as corrected or the child has left the jurisdiction of the State's early intervention system. In its FFY 2014 APR, the State reported that all of its FFY 2013 findings of noncompliance for Indicator 8C have been corrected. OSEP will respond separately to the State's FFY 2015 special conditions.

Because the State reported less than 100% compliance for FFY 2014, the State must report on the status of correction of noncompliance identified in FFY 2014 for this indicator. When reporting on the correction of noncompliance, the State must report, in the FFY 2015 SPP/APR, that it has verified that each EIS program or provider with noncompliance identified in FFY 2014 for this indicator: (1) is correctly implementing the specific regulatory requirements (i.e., achieved 100% compliance) based on a review of updated data such as data subsequently collected through on-site monitoring or a State data system; and (2) has corrected each individual case of noncompliance, unless the child is no longer within the jurisdiction of the EIS program or provider, consistent with OSEP Memo 09-02.

In the FFY 2015 SPP/APR, the State must describe the specific actions that were taken to verify the correction.

If the State did not identify any findings of noncompliance in FFY 2014, although its FFY 2014 data reflect less than 100% compliance, provide an explanation of why the State did not identify any findings of noncompliance in FFY 2014.

Required Actions

Indicator 9: Resolution Sessions

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

Results indicator: Percent of hearing requests that went to resolution sessions that were resolved through resolution session settlement agreements (applicable if Part B due process procedures are adopted).

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

Historical Data

Baseline Data:

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Target ≥										
Data										

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2014 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target ≥					

Key:

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input

Prepopulated Data

Source	Date	Description	Data	Overwrite Data
SY 2014-15 EMAPS IDEA Part C Dispute Resolution Survey; Section C: Due Process Complaints	11/5/2015	3.1(a) Number resolution sessions resolved through settlement agreements	null	null
SY 2014-15 EMAPS IDEA Part C Dispute Resolution Survey; Section C: Due Process Complaints	11/5/2015	3.1 Number of resolution sessions	null	null

FFY 2014 SPP/APR Data

3.1(a) Number resolution sessions resolved through settlement agreements	3.1 Number of resolution sessions	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
null	null			

Actions required in FFY 2013 response

None

OSEP Response

This indicator is not applicable for the State.

Required Actions

Indicator 10: Mediation

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

Results indicator: Percent of mediations held that resulted in mediation agreements.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

Historical Data

Baseline Data: 2005

FFY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Target ≥									100%	
Data										

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline Blue – Data Update

FFY 2014 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target ≥					

Key:

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input

Prepopulated Data

Source	Date	Description	Data	Overwrite Data
SY 2014-15 EMAPS IDEA Part C Dispute Resolution Survey; Section B: Mediation Requests	11/5/2015	2.1.a.i Mediations agreements related to due process complaints	n	null
SY 2014-15 EMAPS IDEA Part C Dispute Resolution Survey; Section B: Mediation Requests	11/5/2015	2.1.b.i Mediations agreements not related to due process complaints	n	null
SY 2014-15 EMAPS IDEA Part C Dispute Resolution Survey; Section B: Mediation Requests	11/5/2015	2.1 Mediations held	n	null

FFY 2014 SPP/APR Data

2.1.a.i Mediations agreements related to due process complaints	2.1.b.i Mediations agreements not related to due process complaints	2.1 Mediations held	FFY 2013 Data*	FFY 2014 Target*	FFY 2014 Data
0	0	0			

Actions required in FFY 2013 response

None

OSEP Response

The State reported fewer than ten mediations held in FFY 2014. The State is not required to provide targets until any fiscal year in which ten or more mediations were held.

Required Actions

Indicator 11: State Systemic Improvement Plan

Monitoring Priority: General Supervision

Results indicator: The State's SPP/APR includes a State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) that meets the requirements set forth for this indicator.

Reported Data

Baseline Data:

FFY	2013	2014
Target		
Data		

Key: Gray – Data Prior to Baseline Yellow – Baseline
 Blue – Data Update

FFY 2015 - FFY 2018 Targets

FFY	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target				

Key:

Description of Measure

Targets: Description of Stakeholder Input

Overview

Data Analysis

A description of how the State identified and analyzed key data, including data from SPP/APR indicators, 618 data collections, and other available data as applicable, to: (1) select the State-identified Measurable Result(s) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families, and (2) identify root causes contributing to low performance. The description must include information about how the data were disaggregated by multiple variables (e.g., EIS program and/or EIS provider, geographic region, race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, etc.) As part of its data analysis, the State should also consider compliance data and whether those data present potential barriers to improvement. In addition, if the State identifies any concerns about the quality of the data, the description must include how the State will address these concerns. Finally, if additional data are needed, the description should include the methods and timelines to collect and analyze the additional data.

Analysis of State Infrastructure to Support Improvement and Build Capacity

A description of how the State analyzed the capacity of its current infrastructure to support improvement and build capacity in EIS programs and/or EIS providers to implement, scale up, and sustain the use of evidence-based practices to improve results for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. State systems that make up its infrastructure include, at a minimum: governance, fiscal, quality standards, professional development, data, technical assistance, and accountability/monitoring. The description must include current strengths of the systems, the extent the systems are coordinated, and areas for improvement of functioning within and across the systems. The State must also identify current State-level improvement plans and other early learning initiatives, such as Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge and the Home Visiting program and describe the extent that these new initiatives are aligned, and how they are, or could be, integrated with, the SSIP. Finally, the State should identify representatives (e.g., offices, agencies, positions, individuals, and other stakeholders) that were involved in developing Phase I of the SSIP and that will be involved in developing and implementing Phase II of the SSIP.

State-identified Measurable Result(s) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and Their Families

A statement of the result(s) the State intends to achieve through the implementation of the SSIP. The State-identified Measurable Result(s) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families must be aligned to an SPP/APR indicator or a component of an SPP/APR indicator. The State-identified Measurable Result(s) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families must be clearly based on the Data and State Infrastructure Analyses and must be a child- or family-level outcome in contrast to a process outcome. The State may select a single result (e.g., increase the rate of growth in infants and toddlers demonstrating positive social-emotional skills) or a cluster of related results (e.g., increase the percentage reported under child outcome B under Indicator 3 of the SPP/APR (knowledge and skills) and increase the percentage trend reported for families under Indicator 4 (helping their child develop and learn)).

Statement

Description

Selection of Coherent Improvement Strategies

An explanation of how the improvement strategies were selected, and why they are sound, logical and aligned, and will lead to a measurable improvement in the State-identified Measurable Result(s) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families. The improvement strategies should include the strategies, identified through the Data and State Infrastructure Analyses, that are needed to improve the State infrastructure and to support EIS program and/or EIS provider implementation of evidence-based practices to improve the State-identified result(s) for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The State must describe how implementation of the improvement strategies will address identified root causes for low performance and ultimately build EIS program and/or EIS provider capacity to achieve the State-identified Measurable Result(s) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families.

Theory of Action

A graphic illustration that shows the rationale of how implementing the coherent set of improvement strategies selected will increase the State's capacity to lead meaningful change in EIS programs and/or EIS providers, and achieve improvement in the State-identified Measurable Result(s) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and their Families.

Submitted Theory of Action: No Theory of Action Submitted

 Provide a description of the provided graphic illustration (optional)

Infrastructure Development

- (a) Specify improvements that will be made to the State infrastructure to better support EIS programs and providers to implement and scale up EBPs to improve results for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.
- (b) Identify the steps the State will take to further align and leverage current improvement plans and other early learning initiatives and programs in the State, including Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge, Home Visiting Program, Early Head Start and others which impact infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.
- (c) Identify who will be in charge of implementing the changes to infrastructure, resources needed, expected outcomes, and timelines for completing improvement efforts.
- (d) Specify how the State will involve multiple offices within the State Lead Agency, as well as other State agencies and stakeholders in the improvement of its infrastructure.

Support for EIS programs and providers Implementation of Evidence-Based Practices

- (a) Specify how the State will support EIS providers in implementing the evidence-based practices that will result in changes in Lead Agency, EIS program, and EIS provider practices to achieve the SIMR(s) for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.
- (b) Identify steps and specific activities needed to implement the coherent improvement strategies, including communication strategies and stakeholder involvement; how identified barriers will be addressed; who will be in charge of implementing; how the activities will be implemented with fidelity; the resources that will be used to implement them; and timelines for completion.
- (c) Specify how the State will involve multiple offices within the Lead Agency (and other State agencies such as the SEA) to support EIS providers in scaling up and sustaining the implementation of the evidence-based practices once they have been implemented with fidelity.

Evaluation

- (a) Specify how the evaluation is aligned to the theory of action and other components of the SSIP and the extent to which it includes short-term and long-term objectives to measure implementation of the SSIP and its impact on achieving measurable improvement in SIMR(s) for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.
- (b) Specify how the evaluation includes stakeholders and how information from the evaluation will be disseminated to stakeholders.
- (c) Specify the methods that the State will use to collect and analyze data to evaluate implementation and outcomes of the SSIP and the progress toward achieving intended improvements in the SIMR(s).
- (d) Specify how the State will use the evaluation data to examine the effectiveness of the implementation; assess the State's progress toward achieving intended improvements; and to make modifications to the SSIP as necessary.

Technical Assistance and Support

Describe the support the State needs to develop and implement an effective SSIP. Areas to consider include: Infrastructure development; Support for EIS programs and providers implementation of EBP; Evaluation; and Stakeholder involvement in Phase II.

OSEP Response

Required Actions

Certify and Submit your SPP/APR

I certify that I am the Director of the State's Lead Agency under Part C of the IDEA, or his or her designee, and that the State's submission of its IDEA Part C State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report is accurate.

Selected: Designated by the Lead Agency Director to certify

Name and title of the individual certifying the accuracy of the State's submission of its IDEA Part C State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report.

Name: Kristie K. Musick

Title: Part C Coordinator

Email: KMusick@scfirststeps.org

Phone: 803-734-8068