

Early Identification and Referral

Identifying and referring children with possible developmental delays can help assure school readiness.

Program Description

First Steps' Early Identification and Referral (EI&R) programs serve families with young children with suspected delays in development and coordinates public awareness for BabyNet services, acting as a local portal to connect families to community-based services they may need or desire to ensure the school readiness of their children

EI&R services include:

1. **Screenings** (developmental, vision, hearing) for children ages birth to 5 years with suspected delays in development
2. **Referrals**, based up the screening results, to appropriate community resources. This could include the local BabyNet System Point of Entry Office, the local school district, and/or support services such as speech therapy, physical therapy, and programs in libraries and other community resources.
3. **Parent information** including strategies to monitor growth and development.

Our EI&R program:

- ✓ Provides early detection of developmental delays and health issues
- ✓ Promotes services and activities that promote child development
- ✓ Increases children's school readiness and school success



Jasper County First Steps serves families in greatest need. Among our EI&R families:

- 96% ... live in poverty
- 33% ... didn't graduate high school
- 25% ... were teen parents

EI&R by the Numbers 2017-18

Children Served	26
Children Referred to BabyNet, Local School, or Other Services	2

This year, our Early Identification and Referral program:

- ✓ Screened 26 number of children using Ages and Stages Questionnaire
- ✓ Referred 2 number of families to community resources after screening indicated need

Thank you to our EI&R partners!

Jasper Co School District	DSS - Jasper
BabyNet	DHEC - Jasper
PASOs	BDSN - Jasper

Evidence of Effectiveness:

Early Identification and Referral meets the First Steps legislation's definition of an *evidence-based* program.

