Families Helping Families
OF GREATER NEW ORLEANS
Supporting All Disabilities

Louisiana
PARENT TRAINING & INFORMATION CENTER

700 HICKORY AVENUE
HARAHAN, LA 70123

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Changing Lives Every Day

Birth to 3 Years (36 Months)

WHAT IS EARLY INTERVENTION?

Early intervention is the term used to describe the services and supports that are available to babies and young children with developmental delays and disabilities and their families. It can have a significant impact on a child's ability to learn new skills and overcome challenges and can increase success in school and life.

Early intervention focuses on helping eligible babies and toddlers learn the basic and brand-new skills that typically develop during the first three years of life, such as:

- physical (reaching, rolling, crawling, and walking);
- cognitive (thinking, learning, solving problems);
- communication (talking, listening, understanding);
- social/emotional (playing, feeling secure and happy); and
- self-help (eating, dressing).

WHAT IS EARLYSTEPS?

EarlySteps, Louisiana's Early Intervention Program, provides services to families with infants and toddlers ages birth to three years (36 months) who have a developmental delay or a medical condition likely to result in a developmental delay. Children with delays in cognitive, motor, vision, hearing, communication, social-emotional or adaptive development may be eligible for services. EarlySteps services are designed to improve the family's capacity to enhance their child's development. These services are provided in the child's natural environment, such as the child's home, child care or any other community setting typical for children ages birth to 3 years (36 months).

WHEN AND HOW DO I ACCESS EARLYSTEPS?

If you, your child's doctor, or other care provider is concerned about your child's development, ask to be connected with EarlySteps, Louisiana's early intervention program, to find out if your child can get services to help. Children can be referred to EarlySteps by contacting the System Point of Entry (SPOE) in their region. Once the SPOE receives the referral, you will be contacted to begin the eligibility determination process.

If your child is under age 3, you can call the EarlySteps office in your Region of the State and say: "I have concerns about my child's development and I would like to have my child evaluated to find out if he/she is eligible for early intervention services."

WHAT DOES EARLYSTEPS OFFER?

The EarlySteps system is designed to support families regarding their child's development through:

- Assisting families in helping their child develop and learn;
- Assisting families in understanding their rights in EarlySteps;
- Assisting families in communicating their child's specific needs; and
- Determining a family's concerns, priorities, and resources regarding their child's special needs.

The following services are provided by EarlySteps:

- Support Coordination
- Speech-Language Services
- Special Instruction
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Audiology Services
- Other services based on individual need

HOW DOES MY CHILD TRANSITION OUT OF EARLYSTEPS?

When your child is between the ages of 2 years 3 months and 2 years 9 months of age, your EarlySteps Family Support Coordinator will convene an Individualized Family Support Plan (IFSP) meeting to discuss the transition process with you and other team members in order to develop a "transition plan." This meeting is called the Transition Conference. The transition plan will identify options for your child and family after your child's third birthday, including preschool, private preschool, child care, Head Start, Early Head Start, developmental disabilities services (Human Services Authority/District), local education agency special education services, or other community early childhood programs. The Transition Plan will include the steps and services your child and family will need to obtain information, review options, visit programs, and make decisions about the appropriate program for your child.

As always, Families Helping Families of GNO is here for you if you have any questions about getting EarlySteps services for your child or transitioning out of EarlySteps.

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Important Numbers

REGION	PARISHES SERVED	EARLY STEPS SPOE	FHF CENTER	HUMAN SERVICES AUTHORITY/DISTRICT
1	Orleans, St. Bernard, Plaquemines	Easter Seals of LA 504-595-3408 or 877-595-3408	Families Helping Families NOLA 504-943-0343 or 877-243-7352 info@fhfsela.org http://www.fhfsela.org	Metropolitan Human Services District 504 568-3130 https://www.mhsdla.org/
2	East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, West Feliciana, Pointe Coupee, Iberville, Ascension	Southeast Louisiana Area Health Education Center 225-925-2426 or 866-925-2426	Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge 225-216-7474 or 866-216-7474 info@fhfgbr.org | www.fhfgbr.org	Capital Area Human Services District 225-925-1910 or 866-628-2133 http://www.cahsd.org/
3	Assumption, St. John, St. Charles, St. James, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Mary	Southeast Louisiana Area Health Education Center 985-447-6550 or 866-891-9044	Bayou Land Families Helping Families 985-447-4461 or 800-331-5570 bayoulandfhf@gmail.com www.blfhf.org	South Central Human Services Authority 985-876-8805 or 800-861-0241 http://www.sclhsa.org/
4	Lafayette, Iberia, St. Martin, Vermillion, St. Landry, Evangeline, Acadia	First Steps Referral and Consulting, LLC 337-359-8748 or 866-494-8900	Families Helping Families of Acadiana 337-984-3458 or 855-984-3458 info@fhfacadiana.org www.fhfacadiana.org	Acadiana Area Human Services District 337-262-5610 or 800-648-1484 https://aahsd.org/
5	Beauregard, Jefferson Davis, Allen, Cameron, Calcasieu	First Steps Referral and Consulting, LLC 337-359-8748 or 866-494-8900	Families Helping Families of Southwest Louisiana 337-436-2570 or 800-894-6558 info@fhfswla.org www.fhfswla.org	Imperial Calcasieu Human Services Authority 337-475-3100 or 800-631-8810 https://imcalhsa.org/

The Louisiana Parent Training and Information Center (LaPTIC) is a project of Families Helping Families of Greater New Orleans and is funded by a grant from the United States Department of Education.

REGION	PARISHES SERVED	EARLY STEPS SPOE	FHF CENTER	HUMAN SERVICES AUTHORITY/DISTRICT
6	Vernon, Rapides, Winn, Grant, LaSalle, Catahoula, Concordia, Avoyelles	Families Helping Families at the Crossroads of Louisiana 318-704-1038 or 866-676-1695	Families Helping Families at the Crossroads of Louisiana 318-641-7373 or 800-259-7200 fhfxroads@aol.com www.fhfxroads.org	Central Louisiana Human Services District 318-487-5191 or 800-640-7494 https://clhsd.org/
7	Caddo, Bossier, Webster, Claiborne, Bienville, Natchitoches, Sabine, DeSoto, Red River	Families Helping Families at the Crossroads of Louisiana 318-226-8038 or 866-676-1695	Families Helping Families Region 7 318-226-4541 or 877-226-4541 info@fhfregion7.com www.fhfregion7.com	Northwest Louisiana Human Services District 318-741-7455 or 800-862-1409 https://nlhsd.org/
8	Ouachita, Union, Jackson, Lincoln, Caldwell, Morehouse, West Carroll, East Carroll, Richland, Franklin, Tensas, Madison	Easter Seals of Louisiana 318-322-4788 or 877-322-4788	Families Helping Families of Northeast Louisiana 318-361-0487 or 888-300-1320 info@fhfnela.org www.fhfnela.org	Northeast Delta Human Services Authority 318-362-3396 or 800-637-3113 https://nedeltahsa.org/
9	St.Tammany, Livingston, St. Helena, Tangipahoa, Washington	Southeast Louisiana Area Health Education Center 985-429-1252 or 866-640-0238	Northshore Families Helping Families 985-875-0511 or 800-383-8700 info@fhfnorthshore.org www.fhfnorthshore.org	Florida Parishes Human Services Authority 985-543-4730 or 800-866-0806 http://www.fphsa.org/
10	Jefferson	Southeast Louisiana Area Health Education Center 504-496-0165 or 866-296-0718	Families Helping Families of Greater New Orleans, The Louisiana Parent Training and Information Center 504-888-9111 or 800-766-7736 info@fhfofgno.org www.fhfofgno.org	Jefferson Parish Human Services Authority 504-838-5424 http://www.jphsa.org

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