



**KY-SPIN's LunchShop/DinnerShop Webinar
Series:
First Steps &
Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)**

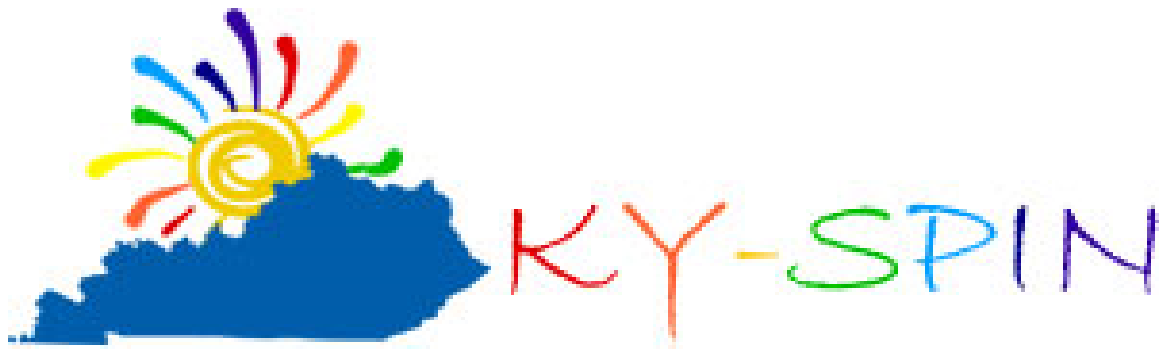
KY-SPIN

(Special Parent Involvement Network)

Parent Training & Information (PTI)

Center

Funded by the U.S. Dept. of Education under IDEA since 1988 when Kentucky first received a PTI. KY-SPIN Parent Center provides training, information and support for children and youth with all types of disabilities (birth through 26 years old), their parents, families, and professionals.



We do NOT:
Act as Attorneys

We DO:



- ♥ Empower Families to Effectively Advocate for their Children
- ♥ Provide peer support to help families access needed information and resources
- ♥ Lend a listening ear

Welcome to our speaker today!

- ▶ Angie Casey is the First Steps Program Director for New Vista.
- ▶ The mission of New Vista is to assist individuals and families in the enhancement of their emotional, mental and physical well-being by providing behavioral health, substance use and intellectual and developmental disability services. They serve those who have limited options for meeting their behavioral health needs.



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Welcome! We are glad you are here.



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First Steps and the IFSP

Bluegrass Point of Entry (POE)

Angie Casey, POE Manager



Objectives

1. Understand the referral and eligibility process of First Steps.
2. Know what services can be provided through First Steps.
3. Understand why services are provided in a child's natural environment.
4. Understand the coaching and primary service models of service delivery.
5. Understand the components of an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).

New Vista First Steps Program

Kentucky's Early Intervention Program serves children birth to age 3 with significant developmental delays or medical conditions that put them at risk for developmental delays.



The Kentucky Early Intervention System (KEIS) Standards

- Standard 1: Family-centered
- Standard 2: Individualized
- Standard 3: Evidence-based
- Standard 4: Natural environment
- Standard 5: Team-based
- Standard 6: Transition



What Happens After a Referral is Made?

- Child and family is assigned a service coordinator
- Screening and intake visit with family
- Medical, Hearing and Vision Status obtained
- Standardized Evaluation of all five areas of development with the child
- Eligibility Determination
- Family Assessment
- Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)

Role of the Service Coordinator

- Serves as the point of contact to assist families obtain the services and assistance they need to address the needs of their child as recognized on their IFSP.
- Coordinating the provision of Early Intervention Services and other services based on the IFSP.
- Facilitating timely delivery of available services.
- Continuously seeking the appropriate services necessary to benefit the development of each child being served for the duration of the child's eligibility.

Service Coordinator Activities

- Coordinating screening, evaluation and assessment.
- Conducting the family assessment to determine the family's priorities and needs.
- Facilitating all IFSP meetings.
- Assisting families in identifying available service providers.
- Coordinating and monitoring of the timely delivery of appropriate early intervention services.
- Inform families of availability of advocacy services.
- Coordinate with medical health providers.
- Facilitate the development of a transition plan to preschool or other services.

Family-Centered

- Families identify the Individualized Family Service Plan outcomes that determine early intervention services, resources and supports and actively participate during intervention visits.
- These informal outcomes are generated at the family assessment meeting with the child's service coordinator and are made into formal outcomes during the IFSP meeting.

Individualized

- Early intervention services are individualized to meet the identified needs of the child and family.
- Eligible children will receive an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) within 45 days of referral.



Team Based

- First Steps provides a statewide, team-based early intervention program for families of eligible infants and toddlers.
- Who makes up the IFSP team?
 - Parent/Guardian
 - Service Coordinator
 - Potential early intervention providers
 - Evaluators
 - Anyone the parent/guardian invites to the meeting

Parent Rights

- IFSP within 45 days of referral.
- Be invited to and participate in all IFSP meetings.
- Appropriate early intervention services for the child and family as described in the IFSP.
- Confidentiality of personally identifiable information.
- Refusal of a service without it affecting another service.
- Receive written notice (5) calendar days before a change is proposed (or refused) in the identification, evaluation, or in the provision of services to the child and family.
- The family can file a complaint if feel rights have been violated.

Components of an IFSP

- Present Levels of Development
 - Summary of evaluation and assessment data in all five areas of development.
 - Motor
 - Communication
 - Adaptive
 - Social Emotional
 - Cognitive
- Health, Hearing and Vision Status
- Summary of Family Resources, Priorities and Concerns related to enhancing the development of the child.
 - Family Assessment conducted by completing the Routines Based Interview (RBI).

Components of an IFSP

- Outcomes, Strategy and Activities Page
 - Priorities are developed by the family during the family assessment.
 - These become formalized outcomes at the IFSP meeting.
 - At least one (1) transition outcome.
- Outcomes Include:
 - One (1) behavior
 - One (1) criterion
 - At least one (1) routine



Components of an IFSP

- Services
 - Table indicating what services are authorized for the planned period as well as the frequency, intensity and location of services.
 - Services are limited to 36 hours per planned period (six months).
- IFSP Meeting Note
 - Summary of what was discussed and agreed upon at the IFSP meeting.
- IFSP Signature Page
 - Parent or guardian provides consents for services.
 - Team members sign their attendance at the meeting.

Early Intervention Services

Consultation/Coaching with a Variety of Professionals:

- Speech Therapists
- Physical Therapists
- Occupational Therapist
- Teacher of the Visually Impaired
- Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Developmental Interventionist

Early Intervention Services

- Evidence-Based
 - Early intervention services are evidence-based to enhance the family and child's learning and development in relation to the Individualized Family Service Plan outcomes.
- Primary Service Provider Model
 - One provider addresses the family's main priorities and concerns while other providers may act as consultants.

Natural Environment

- All families receive early intervention services in places where families and children participate in daily life.
- Part C of IDEA requires *"to the maximum extent appropriate to the needs of the child, early intervention services must be provided in natural environments, including the home and community settings in which children without disabilities participate."* (34 CFR §303.12(b))
- Allows for children and families to practice skills embedded in their daily routines, multiple times a day using what they have available.

Coaching Model of Service Delivery



<https://youtu.be/OpxGC6G0HMY>

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When can Services Begin?

- Because a written notice is a parent right and is required to notify families of any changes proposed or refused, services cannot begin until at least five (5) calendar days after the IFSP where the service was added.
- Services should begin no later than thirty (30) days of the date of the IFSP where the service was added.

IFSP Review Meetings

- IFSP's are written for one (1) year and reviewed every six months.
- Parent's can request a team meeting at any time.
- Eligibility is redetermined annually.
 - Primary Provider completes a five (5) area assessment.
 - Updated health, vision, and hearing status are obtained.

Transition

- Children and families have a smooth, seamless transition into, within and out of early intervention.
- A transition plan is developed with a naturally occurring IFSP no more than 9 months and no less than 90 days before the child's 3rd birthday.
- With parent permission a representative from the Local Education Agency (LEA) is invited to discuss public preschool eligibility requirements, and programs available.
- This is an informational meeting only, the parents do not have to make decisions that day related to transition.



What if my Child does not Qualify for First Steps?

- Passed Screening
 - Parent/guardian has the right to request an evaluation even if screening is passed.
 - Coordinator will provide family with home strategies to implement until the child can be screened again.
- Evaluation Does Not Show Significant Delays
 - If the child is under twelve (12) months when evaluated, they can be re-evaluated after three (3) months if there are still concerns with development.
 - If the child is over twelve (12) months at the time of evaluation, they cannot be re-evaluated for six (6) months.
- Access to Other Community Resources for Services

Questions?

Bluegrass First Steps Point of Entry (POE)

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Questions??



Questions are the path to learning



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the webinar.

Thank you!