Join Us!
You and your family are invited to attend:

- Spring Festival, 3/05
- Early Steps Play-Parent Group at the Millhopper Library 04/02
- Family Café at Coronado Spring Resort in Orlando 06/03-05

These opportunities have been created by Early Steps for you to meet other families and gain information to help you navigate through the system while having a good time.

Each of these events are free for the Early Steps families. If you want to learn more or if you have questions, please contact Doris Tellado calling 352-273-8562, 352-273-8555, email dtellado@peds.ufl.edu or

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INVITE YOU TO:

Spring Festival

A FUN AND INFORMATIONAL EVENT FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES, BIRTH TO 22 YEARS OLD

Saturday, March 5th 2011
10am - 2pm.
Sidney Lanier School
312 NW 16th Ave
Gainesville, FL 32601

Drawing for computer, compliments of Second Generation Dignity Project

Facebook us: Early Steps North Central/Spring Festival
Doris Tellado
Family Resource Specialist / Early Steps
352 273-8562
dtellado@peds.ufl.edu

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Vickie Griffin
Family Support Worker/CMS
352-334-1708, 1.800.523.7545 x1708
Vickie_Griffin@doh.state.fl.us
Dear Friends,

Part C of the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires public input on proposed policies and the annual renewal application for Part C funds. This includes input from families, providers, advocacy groups and other interested parties throughout Florida. The information will be available for review beginning on January 28, 2011 through March 28, 2011. The opportunity for public input is between February 21, 2011 through March 22, 2011. To view the information electronically, please go to http://www.cms-kids.com. Comments may be submitted electronically to CMS_EarlyStepsPublicComment@doh.state.fl.us.

Comments may also be delivered to the Early Steps State Office listed below:

Mailing Address: Florida Department of Health
Children’s Medical Services
Early Steps State Office
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #A06
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1707

Express Mail/Hand Delivery Address: Florida Department of Health
Children’s Medical Services
Early Steps State Office
4025 Esplanade Way, Room 235L
Tallahassee, FL 32399

The Early Steps State Office is also conducting public hearings at three sites to gather input on the proposed policies and application. The sites, dates, and locations are below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SITE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>DATE/TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ft. Lauderdale, FL</td>
<td>Children’s Diagnostic &amp; Treatment Center 1401 South Federal Highway Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316</td>
<td>Tuesday, February 22, 2011 4:00 p.m. --- 7:30 p.m. (Eastern time)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orlando, FL</td>
<td>Orlando Regional Medical Center 1414 Kuhl Avenue Orlando, FL 32803</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 23, 2011 4:00 p.m. --- 7:30 p.m. (Eastern time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tallahassee, FL</td>
<td>Children’s Home Society 1000 W. Tharpe Street Tallahassee, Florida 32303</td>
<td>Thursday, February 24, 2011 4:00 p.m. --- 7:30 p.m. (Eastern time)</td>
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Any person requiring special accommodations to participate in the hearings, such as interpretation into languages other than English or sign language interpretation must contact Dawn Lynch at (850) 245-4200 or send an e-mail request to CMS_EarlyStepsPublicComment@doh.state.fl.us no later than February 8, 2011.

Please note that the three ways to provide input is through the Early Steps website listed above, mailed to the Early Steps State Office via commercial/express delivery, or by attending a public hearing. It is important to be as clear and direct as possible and that you reference the specific policy and/or section of the application you are providing input on. All comments must be received by March 22, 2011 and will be reviewed and considered. Comments will be posted for public review without personal information at http://www.cms-kids.com.

Input from families is critical to ensure Early Steps continues to meet the needs of infants and toddlers with disabilities and developmental delays, and their families. Thank you in advance for your input!

Sincerest Regards,

Kelly Purvis, Lead State Parent Consultant
Early Steps State Office
Kelly_Purvis@doh.state.fl.us

This newsletter is sponsored by the University of Florida College of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics Early Steps and the Florida Department of Health, Children’s Medical Services.