Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers Meeting



Early Steps Program

Division of Children's Medical Services
Florida Department of Health
November 4, 2026

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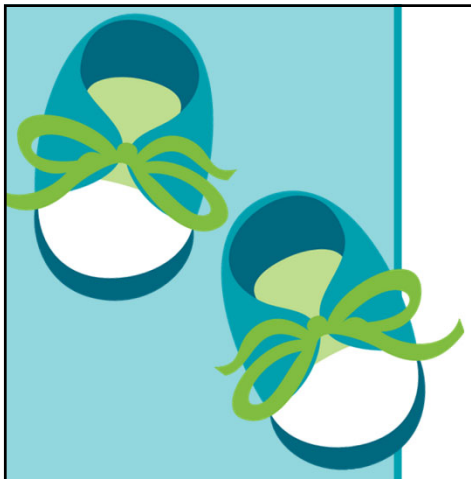

Council Roll Call

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Agenda: November 4, 2026

- Call to Order and Standing Items
- Department of Health Updates
- Step Up for Students Presentation
- Public Consulting Group Presentation
- Public Comment

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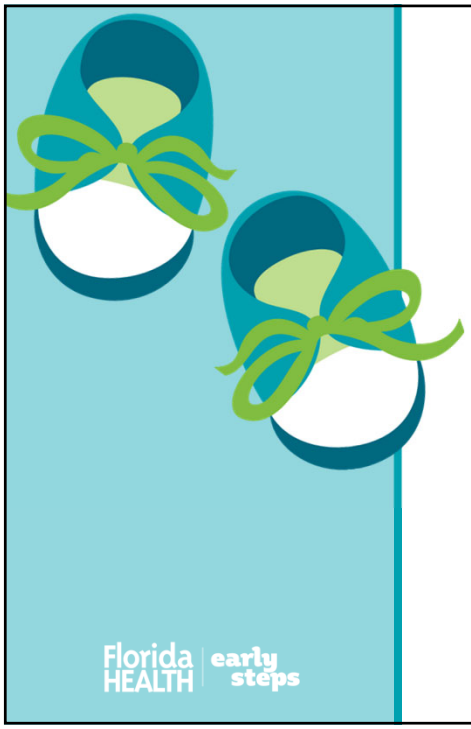
Meeting Minutes



Review and Approve Meeting Minutes

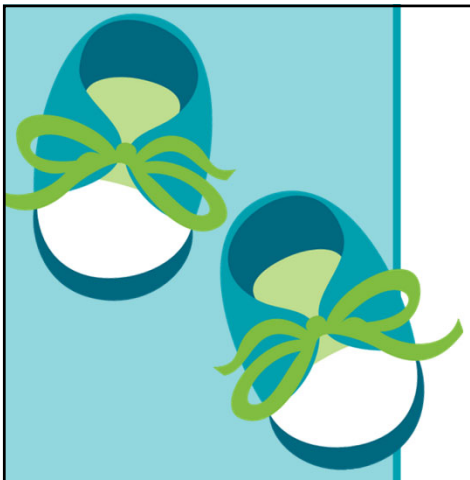
4



Department of Health Updates

Current Project Updates

- Apprenticeship Grant
- August Meeting
- Annual Report and State Plan



Step Up for Students Presentation

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Family Empowerment Scholarship for Unique Abilities





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https://www.stepupforstudents.org/scholarships/unique-abilities/

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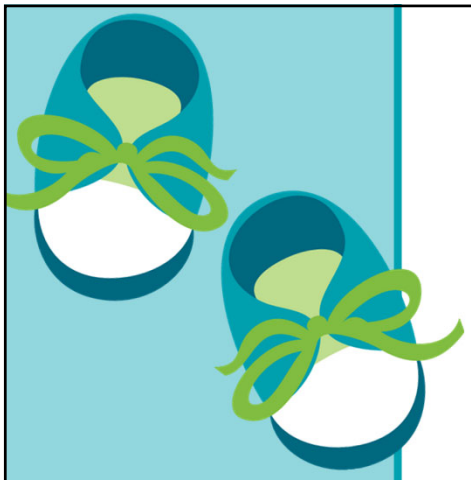

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Public Consulting Group Presentation

Advancing Quality and Accountability in Florida's Early Steps Program -

Recommendations to Strengthen General Supervision, QAAM Activities, and OSEP Determinations

Presentation to the Florida Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers (FICCIT)

November 4, 2026

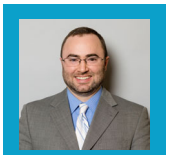
PUBLIC CONSULTING GROUP

Solutions that Matter

Agenda

- Introductions
- Project Overview
- Recommendations
- Questions
- Wrap Up

PCG Project Team



Joe Carbeau
Engagement Manager



Jill Rigsby
Project Manager



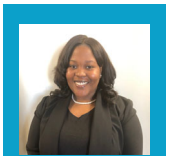
Amanda Dunlap
Deputy Project Manager



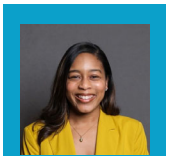
Karen Hallenbeck
Evaluation Advisor



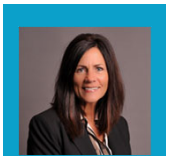
Zane Wyrick
Subject Matter Expert



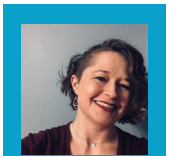
La Toria Lane
Lead Analyst



Shelbi Neely
Lead Analyst

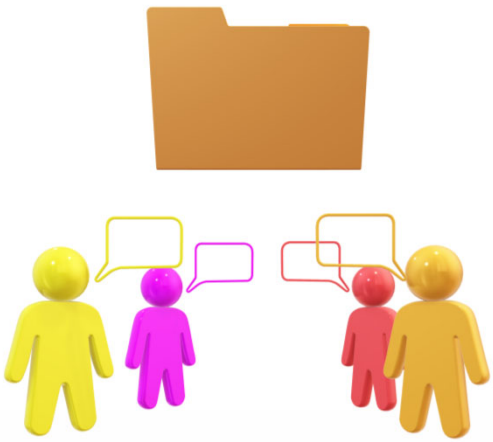


Pam Burke
Subject Matter Expert



Kim Magoon
Evaluation Advisor

Project Overview



- Evaluated Florida Early Steps Program's Quality Assurance, Accountability, and Monitoring (QAAM) general supervision system
- Document and data review + interviews with Local Early Steps (LES) programs, Early Steps State Office (ESSO) staff, and peer states
- 16 recommendations categorized into 4 categories

Recommendation Categories

- Policies and Contracts
- Organizational Structure
- Processes and Tools
- Internal and External Communications

Recommendations 1 – 5

1. Streamline General Supervision and Integrated Monitoring Procedures
2. Align subcontractor monitoring
3. Revise policies related to financial consequences
4. Revise policies related to two-tiered correction of noncompliance
5. Include a three-year cyclical monitoring process for LES programs

Policies and Contracts

Recommendations 6 – 7

6. Eliminate programmatic review and have the QAAM Unit pilot the child record review tool
7. Update QAAM and Contract Units division of labor

Organizational Structure

Recommendations 8 – 10

8. Develop child record review tool that assesses compliance with IDEA Part C and state requirements
9. Develop interview tools for case reviews, including families, support partners, and IFSP team members
10. Update family outcomes survey tool, adjust statewide target

Processes and Tools

Recommendations 11 – 16

11. Revise LES program determination process
12. Revise the scoring rubric for calculating LES program determinations
13. Develop a communication strategy and supporting materials
14. Calculate APR performance for Indicators 5 and 6
15. Calculate APR performance for Indicators 3 and 4 using the DaSy *Meaningful Difference Calculator*
16. Further analyze LES program performance on APR indicators

Internal and External Communications

Questions



If you have additional questions or feedback, please contact us.

Jill Rigsby, Project Manager
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Amanda Dunlap, Deputy Project Manager
ADunlap@pcgus.com

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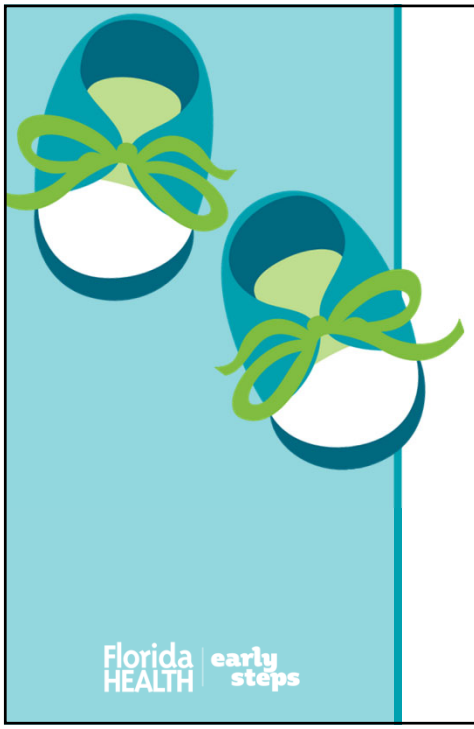
Solutions that Matter



Public Comment

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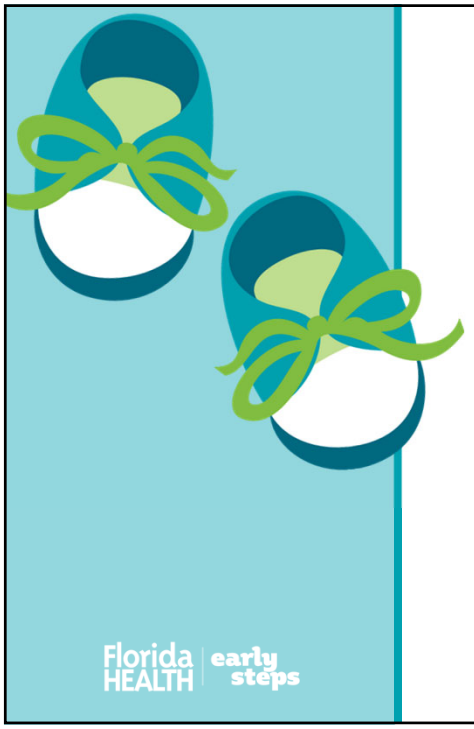

Closing Announcements

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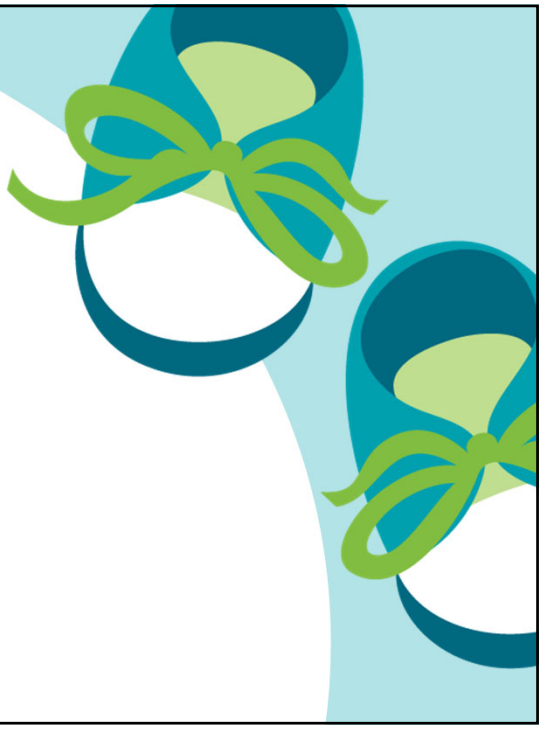
Adjourn



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