

Increasing Social-Emotional Outcomes for Florida's Early Steps Infants/Toddlers

Institutions of Higher Education Supporting
the Three Model Demonstration Sites to Implement
the Demonstration Site Implementation Plan
(November 1, 2016 – October 31, 2019)

Proposed Scope of Work and Budget Justification

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Proposed Scope of Work

The Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies at the University of Florida and the Communication and Early Childhood Research and Practice Center at Florida State University propose to collaborate with the three Early Steps model demonstration sites (i.e., Northcentral FL Early Steps, Northeastern Early Steps and North Dade Early Steps) as they implement their *Demonstration Site Implementation Plan*. This demonstration site plan was developed as part of the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP). In collaboration with the model demonstration sites and the Early Steps State Office, the work proposed by the Anita Zucker Center and the Communication and Early Childhood Research and Practice Center will help support the achievement of the following objectives and activities described in Appendix C of the SSIP:

Objective 1:

Develop policies and procedures that will improve the capacity of the Early Steps Program to identify and support social-emotional development for infants and toddlers.

Activities Under Objective 1:

- Establish a professional development system that includes the use of mentors and coaches

Objective 2:

Establish a professional development system to support evidence-based practices related to social/emotional development.

Activities Under Objective 2:

- Identify core competencies for all Early Intervention providers and staff
- Develop tools to assess staff competency levels
- Provide assessment feedback to demonstration areas and coaches
- Develop training plans
- Develop a process to determine coaching needs
- Identify additional training and resource needs

Objective 3:

Align State and local initiatives improving practices of the Early Intervention workforce to support social/emotional development of children served.

Activities Under Objective 3:

- Identify specific tools and resources to support social/emotional development
- Determine how subject matter experts support the coaching model and demonstration sites

Objective 6:

Support selected demonstration sites in developing and implementing a coaching structure to sustain the Local Early Steps (LES) efforts.

Activities Under Objective 6:

- Convene a workgroup (Early Intervention Coach Workgroup) to identify and develop the role, core competencies, and functions of coaches in demonstration sites
- Establish core competencies and functions of coaching positions