

Dear Parents,

Hello! I am writing this letter as a former parent in the First Steps program. Your family is about to transition into a new phase in your child's education. I am sure you are just now feeling comfortable with your child's therapist, doctors, insurance, etc. It can be very confusing and frustrating to have to work with a new program, but I am here to assure you the next step can be just as wonderful as the First Steps Team. The First Steps "team" of providers can be very helpful in learning how to deal with all the changes going on in your lives, especially now that your child is turning 3 years old. Look how much your child has grown and will continue to do as you embark on her/his next phase of learning.

The team's goal is to help make the transition process for you and your child into a new program as smooth as possible. They know that any change is difficult, especially for children. Make sure you stay updated and informed on all the options for your child, ask questions, visit different programs, and talk to other parents about their experiences. Change isn't so scary if you know what to expect.

No matter what the next phase of your child's life brings, whether he/she goes on to a community preschool, special preschool, or graduates from First Steps, the transition is very important. You can help your child by being an informed parent. If you have questions, your service coordinator is the best place to start.

Good luck on your "journey" through the transition process. It will be a positive experience for you and your child if everyone knows what to expect.

Sincerely,

Jayne Buchanan, Former First Steps Parent
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