Outcome:
At least 58% of children exiting First Steps will substantially increase their rate of growth in Knowledge and Skills
At least 55% of children exiting First Steps will substantially increase their rate of growth in Appropriate Behavior

So that:
Children will have the foundation to be successful in a variety of settings; home, school and community.

Strategy update from last quarter:

The Cluster has been realigned with 3 new counties, Fulton, Kosciusko and Marshall. With this new addition we were informed that the Service Coordinators completed the exit summary for all children, they did not ask the providers to complete. Several of the records we were closing for April through May for the three new counties did not have exit scores to record on the Monkey Survey. The list was sent to IIDC and advice was sought. There was nothing we could do but close the record with the closure code and no data to enter for Child Outcomes.

The state did create one standard required form for all providers to use when they are discharging a child or the child is turning three and sent it out to all agencies with instructions. The Unified Training System did Web based training on how to score the Summary. During the past quarter we have sent reminders to two agencies requesting they remind their providers to utilize the state required form as some are still submitting an outdated format. By having a uniform scoring tool used by the providers consistently the data we are comparing from the enrollment until the discharge of children in First Steps to measure progress of the child may look very different then the data we are using currently to report.

Explanation of Data:
Quarterly Data: July 2013 through March 2014 shows a significant slippage almost 10% from our December 2013 report of a significant increase of over 11% in the Knowledge and Skills. Could the 10% swings in this child outcome be due to the types of diagnosis of children exiting, or are they due to the provider teams working with the children exiting, or due to the shortage of providers in the areas where the children reside who are exiting certain quarters. There may be many variables impacting this data. The last three quarters have demonstrated a 10-11.5% swing in either direction for Knowledge and Skills.

The July 2013 through May 2014 showed a 5.3% improvement going from 45.8% to 51.1% for Knowledge and Skills which includes the new counties data.

Strategies (Who is responsible/timeline/evaluation):
If we hypothesis is that it is natural at times for the data to have natural dips and swings due to the diagnosed needs of the children we were serving who exited then we should be able to compare data with the % of children transitioning into the Part B program the same time to validate the hypothesis.

The SPOE and Data Committee will compare the state profile quarterly reports by Clusters to determine if the % of children exiting Part C entering into Part B correlates with the downward trends of substantial increase in Knowledge and Skills and Appropriate Behaviors.

Though our hypothesis is related to data we do want to be proactive in assuring that all new providers and existing providers are using the Exit
The July 2013 through March 2014 shows a slippage of 15.1% from 63% to 47.9% in **Appropriate Behavior**. This is a rather drastic slippage from past quarters for our Cluster.

The July 2013- May 2014 data shows an improvement of 11.5 % going from 47.9% to 59.4% which includes the new counties for **Appropriate Behavior**.

In November 2014 the LPCC will send a reminder to all Agencies to share with their providers the WEB site for scoring the Exit Summary so providers have an increased awareness of the scoring tool and how it relates to the Child Outcomes.

At the November Assessment Team meeting the SPOE will review the responsibilities of the team in searching out more information from provider or the family if they have questions or concerns with what is being reported.

List barriers to accomplishing strategies and how to address them:

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Though we can ask agencies to share the information it is the providers who must take the initiative in assuring they understand the scoring as well as the importance of the data we collect to be as accurate as possible.
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Resources needed:

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X State Clarification  X IIDC ☐ Training  X Mentoring  ☐ Other: ______________________________
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**Explain:**

We would like to see how other clusters are achieving this outcome.

It was confusing to receive the state letter on 0/24/14 stating we had not met the target for SS1 in two areas and to receive data from IIDC on 9/27/2014 which indicated we had meet the target in all but one SS1.

It was also unclear if the Outcome data from July 2013- March 2014 included the three new counties aligned with B.

**Stakeholder Collaboration:**

Data Committee met on 9/92014
Transition committee met on 9/18
9/29/2014 Email was sent to state consultant for advise on data timeframe for this indicator.