

**Montana
Milestones/Part C
Early Intervention**

*I like the dreams of the future better than the
history of the past.*

Thomas Jefferson

A short history of IDEA Part C...



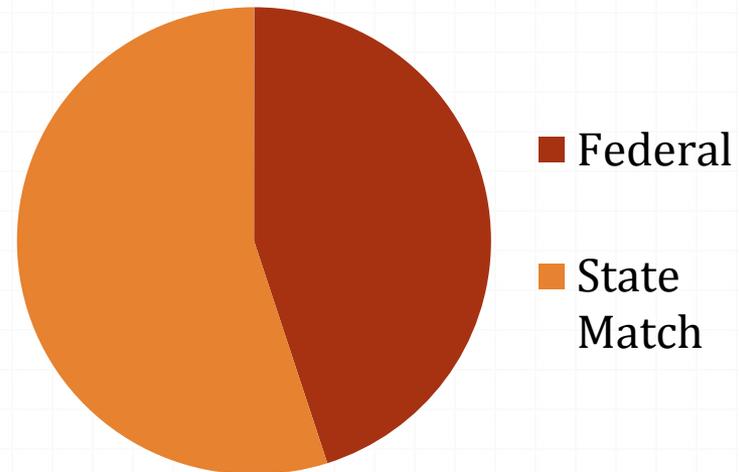
- Congress established in 1986...
- enhance the development of infants and toddlers with disabilities;
- reduce educational costs by minimizing the need for special education through early intervention;
- minimize the likelihood of institutionalization, and maximize independent living;
and,
- enhance the capacity of families to meet their child's needs.

Financial Foundation

- Montana's Federal Funding: \$2.2 million
- Montana's State Funding: \$2.8 million

- Child Count: 842 today
- Cumulative Child Count: 1248

Funding for Montana Milestones/Part C Early Intervention Programs



The progression of Early Intervention in Montana



Quality Improvements

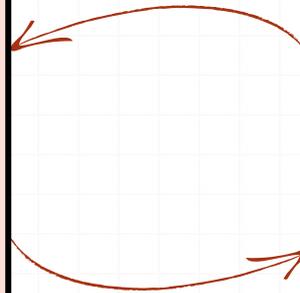
Compliance

- o Meeting the specific compliance indicators...
- o Timelines for provision of services and development of IFSP
- o Transitions
- o Child Find

Quality

Part C Review

“While the program has met its goal relating to the number of children served, it has not collected information on how well the program is doing to improve the educational and developmental outcomes of infants and toddlers served.”



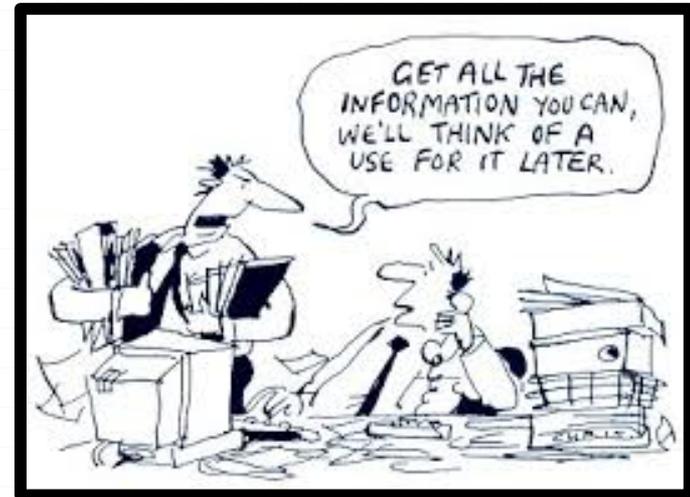
Early Childhood Outcomes

Indicator 3

- Improved positive social-emotional skills (including positive relationships);
- Improved acquisition and use of knowledge and skills;
- Improved use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.

What happened in
Montana and
around the U.S.?

Data, data,
everywhere
data.

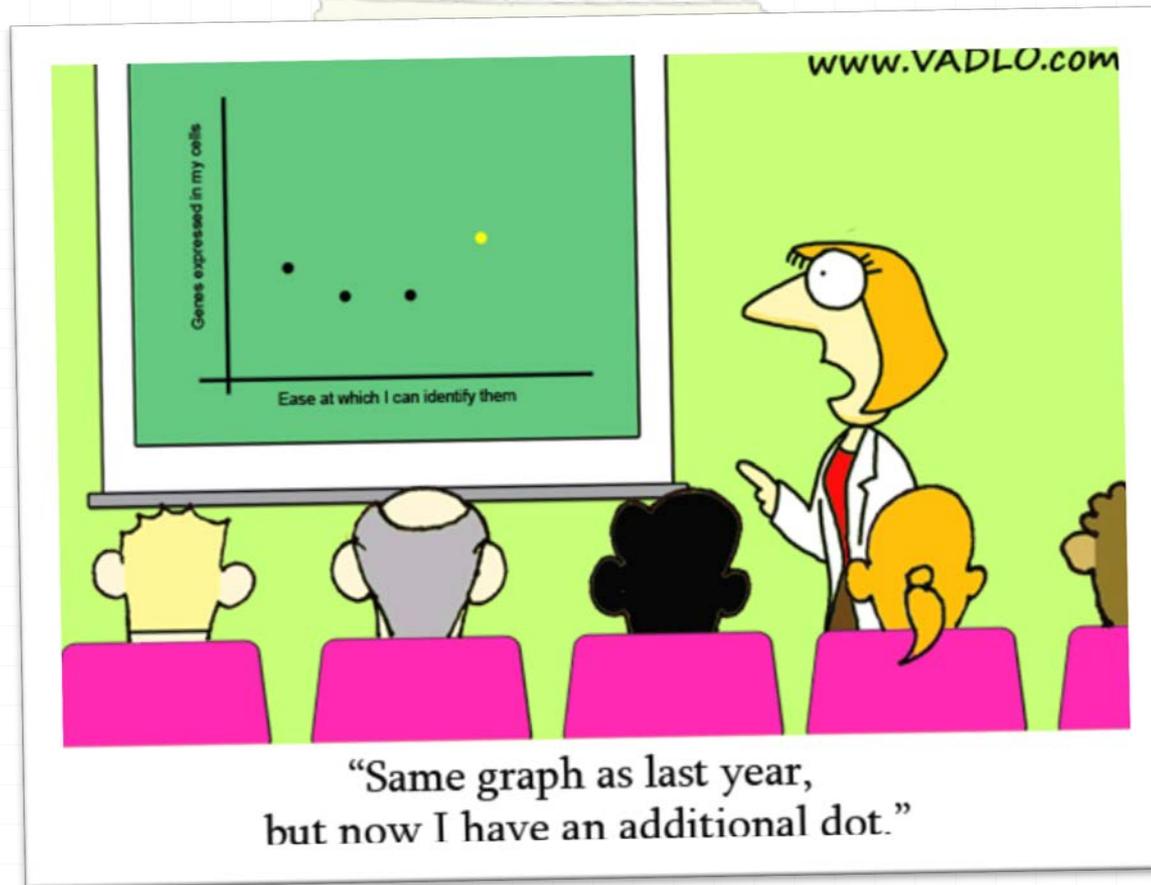


Data Quality

Using Data for
Program
Improvement

o SSIP data analysis

- o Identifying trends in the data
- o Identifying areas of low and high performance
- o Identifying meaningful differences



“With making changes, the difficult part of trying to implement a new way, idea or thought, is getting people to believe the effect of your notion, and have them believe in themselves of adapting to something new.”

— Anthony Liccione

One's destination is never a place but rather a new way of
looking at things.
Henry Miller





Improving Montana's Identified Measureable Result

The State-Wide Systemic Improvement Plan and Improving Social-Emotional Skills for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

SSIP Improvement Strategies

Professional Development	Evidence - Based Practices	Assessment Practices	Family Involvement	Monitoring and Accountability
MSU Extended University	Using a Coaching Interaction Style Social-emotional EBP	Child Outcomes Process Social-emotional assessments	Families and Data Collection and Use	Monitoring Tool

Professional Development: MSU Extended University

◦ Foundational Pillars of Early Intervention:

◦ FAMILY CENTERED PRACTICES

◦ CHILDREN'S LEARNING

◦ NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS

◦ ADULT LEARNING

◦ QUALITY TEAMING



MONTANA
STATE UNIVERSITY

◦ Basics of Early Intervention

◦ Introduction to the MEISR-COS

◦ Introduction to RBI

Evidence-Based Practices

- **Using a Coaching Interaction Style**

- **CDC – Pilot Site**



- **Social-Emotional evidence-based practices**

- **DEAP – Pilot Site**



Assessment Practices

◦ **Child Outcomes Cohort**

- Child Outcomes Process
- Decision Tree
- MEISR-COS
- Train the Trainer Model

◦ **Social Emotional Assessments**

- **DEAP** – Pilot Site
- Investigation
- Training
- Pilot
- Scale-up

Family

Family engagement is not a single event. It is a shared responsibility in which regular two-way communication insures the child is on track.

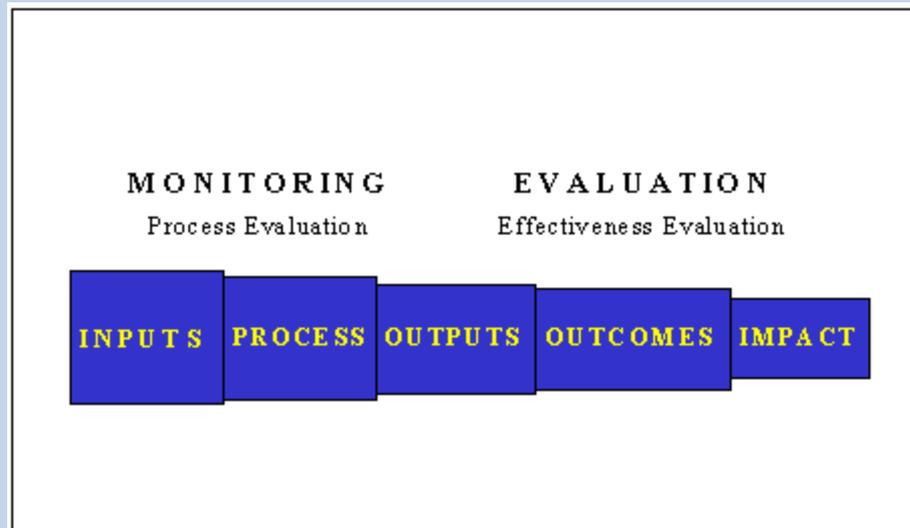
Heather Weiss, Harvard Graduate School of Education

- o Family Leaders
- o Understanding Outcomes Measurements
- o Informed about data collection and its impact on quality services and supports
- o Outreach program



Monitoring and Accountability

- Montana's Comprehensive Monitoring Tool
- Quality Improvement Specialists
- Reviewing for accountability in all areas of requirement, quality measures, and improvement strategies



Evaluating



Stakeholders

Methods and
Timelines

How to use
evaluation
results



Result: Montana's infants and toddlers enrolled in Part C will exit the program with substantially improved social-emotional development.