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## State of Early Intervention: Nevada

Every year, we as a nation fail to identify more than one million young children at risk for developmental delays or disabilities—children who will enter school already far behind other kids their age. But with the right treatment and therapy before the age of five, we can change the state of early intervention for thousands of kids in Nevada.

Through *Make the First Five Count*<sup>®</sup>, Easter Seals is raising awareness and activating the American public to demand that all young children get the support they need before the age of five. Make life better for children in your community—those at risk for autism, developmental delays and other disabilities—and help us achieve \$100 million in additional federal funding for Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This is the federal program that provides critical services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and to their families.

**Funding for Part C will help kids like Savannah.**



### Savannah, age 4

#### Easter Seals Nevada

“Our daughter started receiving multiple services from Easter Seals when she was 14 months old. She had some severe delays in a lot of areas and we were not sure what to do or where to turn to for help.

From our first meetings with our coordinator and therapists, we felt at ease and knew we were in good hands. Everyone at Easter Seals we worked with helped us to find ways to work with Savannah to help her achieve the developmental goals. They were always sincerely concerned about her needs and were always willing to answer our questions while going above and beyond to make sure she was getting the care and attention that she needed. Savannah has made significant progress with her development—much more quickly than we would have ever imagined. We will forever be grateful for the Easter Seals Early Intervention program and therapists.” - Rachele (Savannah’s mom).





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## The State of Funding

Today, it's harder than ever for families to access care, because essential programs to treat young children with disabilities are chronically underfunded and in danger of being scaled back even further this year and in 2014.

Through *Make the First Five Count*, Easter Seals is calling on Congress to protect and grow funding for Part C by \$100 million, for a total of \$539 million, in the years to come.

- **Federal funding:** Currently, Nevada receives \$3.97 million from the federal government to support early intervention services under Part C. This is an increase of \$40,000 from the previous year.
- **State funding:** Nevada allocated \$22 million in funding for early intervention in 2013. This amount represents an increase of \$2.36 million between 2012 and 2013.

Investing in early diagnosis and treatment now will save in future care costs—there is no better investment than in our children.

## The Numbers in Nevada

- There are 122,929 kids in Nevada ages 0-3.
- On average, fewer than 20% of young children are properly screened to identify their special need, or approximately 24,585 Nevada children.
- In Nevada, 15,981 kids under the age of 3 are at risk of developmental delays or disabilities that will set them back when they start school, yet only 3,805 are currently receiving early intervention services through Part C of IDEA.

### Sources:

[http://www.ideadata.org/tables34th/AR\\_C-2.xls](http://www.ideadata.org/tables34th/AR_C-2.xls)

<http://mchb.hrsa.gov/nsch/07main/moreinfo/pdf/nsch07child.pdf>

[https://www.ideadata.org/arc\\_toc12.asp#partcCC](https://www.ideadata.org/arc_toc12.asp#partcCC)

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statetables/12stbyprogram.pdf>

[http://www.nectac.org/~xls/IDEA/PartC\\_2012\\_allocations.xlsx](http://www.nectac.org/~xls/IDEA/PartC_2012_allocations.xlsx)

State funding information provided by a state government official is available upon request.

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MaketheFirstFiveCount.org today!**