



MAKE THE
**FIRST FIVE
COUNT**[®]

State of Early Intervention: New Hampshire

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 New Hampshire.

Through *Make the First Five Count*[®], 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 Carter.



Carter, age 6

Easter Seals New Hampshire, Maine & Rhode Island

Born with a condition called Tetra-amelia, Carter is missing bones throughout his body which resulted in anomalies on all four limbs. His occupational therapist began home visits when Carter was just three months old and was able to help him and his family, both physically and emotionally, after the amputation of Carter's left lower leg and foot at six months old—a procedure necessary to increase his mobility.

Because of the early intervention services Carter received, from just after birth through age three, he now has an equal chance to learn, grow and achieve his dreams just like his peers. Today, Carter is a thriving six-year-old boy. He is strong, happy and fearless. Carter stays very busy—playing at the playground and keeping up with his big brother, and working hard to maximize his prosthetic legs.





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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, New Hampshire receives \$2.17 million from the federal government to support early intervention services under Part C. This is an increase of \$20,000 from the previous year.
- **State funding:** New Hampshire allocates nearly \$5.4 million in funding for early intervention. This amount increased by almost \$170,000 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 New Hampshire

- There are 43,201 kids in New Hampshire ages 0-3 years.
- On average, fewer than 20% of young children are properly screened to identify their special need, or approximately 8,640 New Hampshire children.
- In New Hampshire, 5,616 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 3,579 are currently receiving early intervention services through Part C of IDEA.

Sources:

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

http://www.nectac.org/~xls/IDEA/PartC_2012_allocations.xlsx
State funding information provided by a state government official is available upon request.

To learn more, log onto
MaketheFirstFiveCount.org today!