



## Family Support Services



### **“Educating Families and Children with Developmental, Behavioral and/or Learning Concerns and Connecting them to Existing Resources in the Community”**

As many as 10% of children may demonstrate some form of developmental delay or concern and there is substantial evidence that early intervention and other supports can significantly reduce or reverse long-term delays for many children\*. However, the pathway for families from the first point of concern until they reach available services and supports can be difficult and uncertain. Many families may not reach needed support, guidance, or early intervention services at all or do so late within the critical time period where early intervention can make the most difference.

The Family Support Services program is intended to assist parents of children 0 – 5 years of age with developmental, behavioral and/or learning delays or concerns in accessing early intervention and support services. This program will focus on children with mild to moderate developmental concerns (i.e. speech, gross motor skills, and fine motor skills).

Available services, accessible through First 5 Neighborhoods for Learning include:

- Providing individual consultation and education for families with children 0-5 years of age who have concerns regarding their child’s development, language and/or behavior and need support
- Connecting families with concerns about their child’s development to community services and support
- Assisting parents who need support in the process of transitioning out of the Early Start, Tri-Counties Regional Center program
- Assisting parents in navigating the system of early intervention services for their child
- Assisting parents that need additional support in advocating for their child

To find a First 5 Neighborhood for Learning site in your neighborhood, go to <http://www.first5ventura.org>

For more information, please contact a Family Support Specialist at 805.654.7601 or 654.7632.

\*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, [www.cdc.gov/ncbddd](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd)