2400: FAMILY SURVEY

The IDEA requires Part C lead agencies to report on family outcomes resulting from the family's participation in early intervention. Specifically, states must report the extent to which families report that early intervention helped them:

- Know their rights;
- Effectively communicate their child's needs; and
- Help their children develop and learn

To address this federal reporting requirement, SoonerStart implements an annual process for families to submit a family survey. The results of the survey are reported in Oklahoma's Annual Performance Report (APR) submitted to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). Results of the survey are also useful to local SoonerStart sites to help improve the quality of services in each area. Families should be informed that:

- Their input is important.
- This is an opportunity for families to help make SoonerStart services better for young children and their families in the future.
- Participation in this survey is voluntary.
- Responses are confidential and only traced using demographics for federal reporting purposes.
- Responses do not affect their services.
- If they do not feel a question is applicable, they may skip it
- There are no right or wrong answers, only valuable views from their experiences.

SoonerStart families are asked to complete the family survey at the Initial IFSP meeting and at each subsequent Annual IFSP meeting. The completion of the family survey should also be requested when the child exits the program. The Resource Coordinator provides the family with the **Oklahoma Parent Center Family Survey Brochure (Appendix AA)** which outlines the instructions for completing the survey at the annual IFSP meeting. Families can choose to complete the survey one of four ways:

- Request a printed copy of the survey from a SoonerStart staff person
- Take the survey online at <u>www.OklahomaParentsCenter.org</u>
- Request that the survey be mailed to them by calling 877-553-4332 (toll-free)
- Answer the survey over the telephone by calling 877-553-4332

SoonerStart staff should notify families that their responses on the Family Survey help guide SoonerStart's efforts to improve services and outcomes for children and their families.