Early On® Michigan Foundation
www.EarlyOnFoundation.org

What is *Early On®* Michigan?
Early On Michigan provides services to families of infants and toddlers, birth to age three, who are eligible because they have a delay in development or a medical condition that is likely to result in a delay.

Why do families need *Early On* Michigan?
New parents who find themselves caring for children with special needs, from minor delays to significant disabilities, often need services for their children (such as speech therapy or physical therapy) and support (such as strategies for feeding and bathing) in order to help their children develop to their fullest potential. Children and their families need support so that they can grow, develop, and be as ready as possible for success with friends, in school, and in life.

Eligible population: Infants and toddlers, birth to age three, with a 20% or greater delay in development or an established condition.

Number of children served: 18,467 children annually[1] or 2.78 percent of the population[2]

Estimated number eligible: 7.8 percent of the population[3]

Funding: Approximately $11.8 million in federal funding or $639 per child. Local and intermediate school districts are left to make up the difference, utilizing state special education dollars and local millage dollars in a manner that is inconsistent across the state.

Current funding is not adequate to meet current needs. *Early On*® Michigan needs additional funding in order to adequately serve the families of children already identified as eligible and to serve all children who should be identified as eligible.

[1]Michigan Student Data System (June 2014)."Period" count – number served annually; http://EarlyOnData.com.

[2]Michigan Department of Education *Early On* Public Reports 2012-13, Indicator 6; http://mischooldata.org.

[3]Goldhammer and Mackey-Andrews (2006), *Population Variables Selected By Early On® That May Influence The Number Of Children Served In The Michigan Early Childhood System: Estimated Prevalence Report*.