



# First S.T.E.P.

## (Screening, Training, Education Project)

*"Early intervention gives your child the chance to be the best that he can be."  
Mother of a two year old child with autism*



 FUNDED BY FIRST FIVE

### Overview of First S.T.E.P.

#### Outreach

Train medical doctors and increase awareness about autism in the larger community.

#### Screening

Provides free developmental assessments for families who are concerned about their child's development.

- For Children ages 0-5
- For residents of Santa Barbara County

#### Family Support

Provides family support and facilitated referral with the goal of ensuring that the child and family have access to the services they need.



### Vision

#### Early Identification

To facilitate earlier identification of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

#### Access

To ensure all children and families have access to resources and services.

#### Awareness

To increase awareness about Autism Spectrum Disorders and related developmental disorders.



### What we hope for in the future:

To replicate the First S.T.E.P. model in other communities.

To collaborate with pediatricians for comprehensive screenings.

To provide screening and family support services to monolingual families through the use of translators.

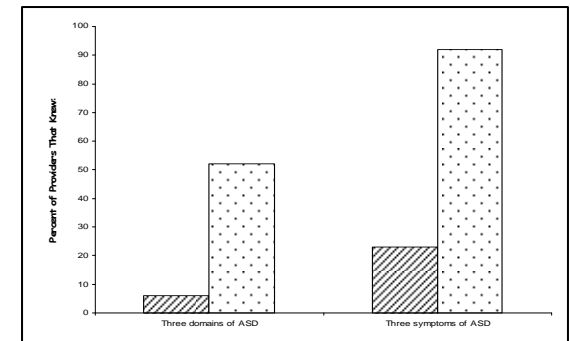
To reintroduce parent training workshops.

### Our Accomplishments

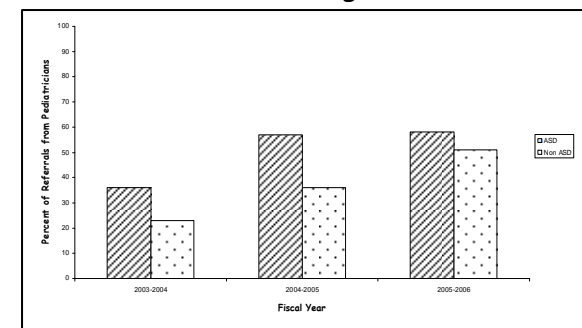
Average age of diagnosis across U.S. = 48 mo

Average age of children identified by First STEP= less than 36 mo

Youngest referral to First STEP = 9 months



### Increase in Awareness about Autism in Pediatricians Following a Presentation



### Increase in Referrals from Pediatricians