



# State of South Carolina

## Office of the Governor

MARK SANFORD  
GOVERNOR

POST OFFICE BOX 12267  
COLUMBIA 29211

September 9, 2009

Ms. Rhonda Spence  
Office of Special Education Programs  
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20202-7100

Dear Ms. Spence,

I am writing to inform you of my intent to transfer the lead agency status of BabyNet, South Carolina's I.D.E.A. Part C program, from its existing agency home within the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control to South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness. It is our desire that this transfer become effective on or before January 1, 2010, although I recognize the need to approach this deadline flexibly as needs dictate. A formal transition advisory team is now being organized.

South Carolina is strongly committed to the ongoing success of its Part C programming and we are confident that the state will be well represented by these new administrators. Please contact my office at (803) 734-2100 if you have any questions about this decision. In the meantime, the First Steps' staff will be contacting you directly to offer any requisite technical assistance related to this transition.

I thank you in advance for your efforts to assist South Carolina in ensuring the smooth administrative transition of this important program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

Mark Sanford

MS/js

cc: Ms. Susan DeVenny, Director, SC First Steps to School Readiness  
Dr. Danny Varat, South Carolina BabyNet I.C.C. Chair  
Mr. C. Earl Hunter, Commissioner, SC Department of Health and Environmental Control  
Ms. Ruth Ryder, Director of Monitoring and State Improvement Planning

Ms. Rhonda Spence  
Page 2  
September 9, 2009

Mr. Larry Ringer, SC Team Leader  
The Honorable John E. Courson  
The Honorable Robert W. Hayes, Jr.  
The Honorable Michael L. Fair  
The Honorable John W. Matthews, Jr.  
The Honorable Harvey S. Peeler, Jr.  
The Honorable Rita Allison  
The Honorable James M. Neal  
The Honorable Phillip D. Owens  
The Honorable J. Roland Smith  
The Honorable William R. Whitmire