

## Steven



Gina Dattilo  
Inclusion Specialist

United 4 Children was contacted by a child care center in reference to a 2 year old child that is not able to use his words. The teachers say although Steven makes noises, he points but doesn't speak. Steven has been in childcare since birth. His teacher has been using sign language with songs and actions and has seen the child use them with his parents at home. The family said Steven does talk some times, but he doesn't talk much at home either. The teacher, director, family and I met to talk about a plan for Steven. I found a resource that would give Steven more specialized, one-on-one attention. They decided to get him evaluated by Missouri First Steps. First Steps is Missouri's Early Intervention system that provides services to families with children, birth to three years of age, with disabilities or developmental delays. The program is designed to meet the needs of families related to enhancing their child's development, learning, and participation in family and community life. Steven's teacher and I will continue to look for ways to support his communication in the classroom and opportunities for Steven to interact with other children. I look forward to updating you on Steven's progress in the coming months.

What can you do to help children like Steven? If you or someone you know needs extra resources for a child with special needs, [click here](#).

If you would like to choose United 4 Children as your resource to help children like Steven, we would love to partner with you. Our services are free, deeply discounted or subsidized for our clients, while it costs us an average of \$150 a year for each child that we impact. [Please donate today](#).

Thank you!