

A young child with light-colored hair is shown in profile, blowing bubbles. The background is a soft, greenish-yellow color with many bubbles of various sizes floating around. The child is wearing a blue top and a red and white patterned scarf.

Finding Lost EHDI Babies Utilizing Partnerships

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Texas Universal Hearing Screening

- Legislation passed in 2001
- TX Department of State Health Services (DSHS)
- Counties more than 50,000
- Results reported via:
 - (eSPtm electronic data system; OZ Systems)
 - Fax
 - (handout)

What are the statutory requirements?

- Offer hearing screen
- Parents should get results
- Physician should get results
- DSHS gets results electronically/by fax
- ECI gets referral





Detect and Connect;
One baby at a time



Early Intervention Referral

- Referral following the “failed” outpatient screening
- Sounds easy, what’s the problem?
- [Build the Plane](#)

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide features three balloons: a light green one at the top, a light blue one in the middle, and a light purple one at the bottom. Each balloon has a string and several small yellow triangular shapes radiating from it, resembling sunbeams or confetti.

Why don't we know?

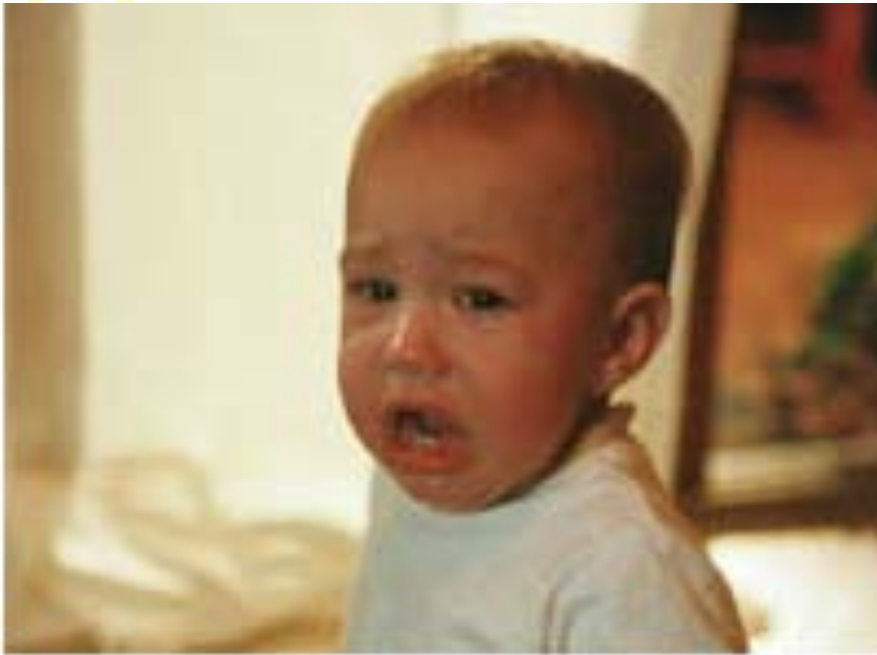
- Some not reported
- Some move soon after birth
- Some are from other states/countries, and go home
- Some families have a problem getting to follow-up services
- Some families do not follow up
- Reporting limitations (confidentiality)
- Handout



Why don't we know?

- Lack of understanding about reporting system by audiologists
- Need for better understanding about Early Intervention by audiologists
- Need for better understanding of early intervention by physicians

Lost to follow-up



The numbers are daunting in a state the size (population, demographic and geographic) of Texas



TEHDI 2007

- 384,887 births reported by facilities
- 98.5%+ were screened at birth
- 13,512 needed follow-up

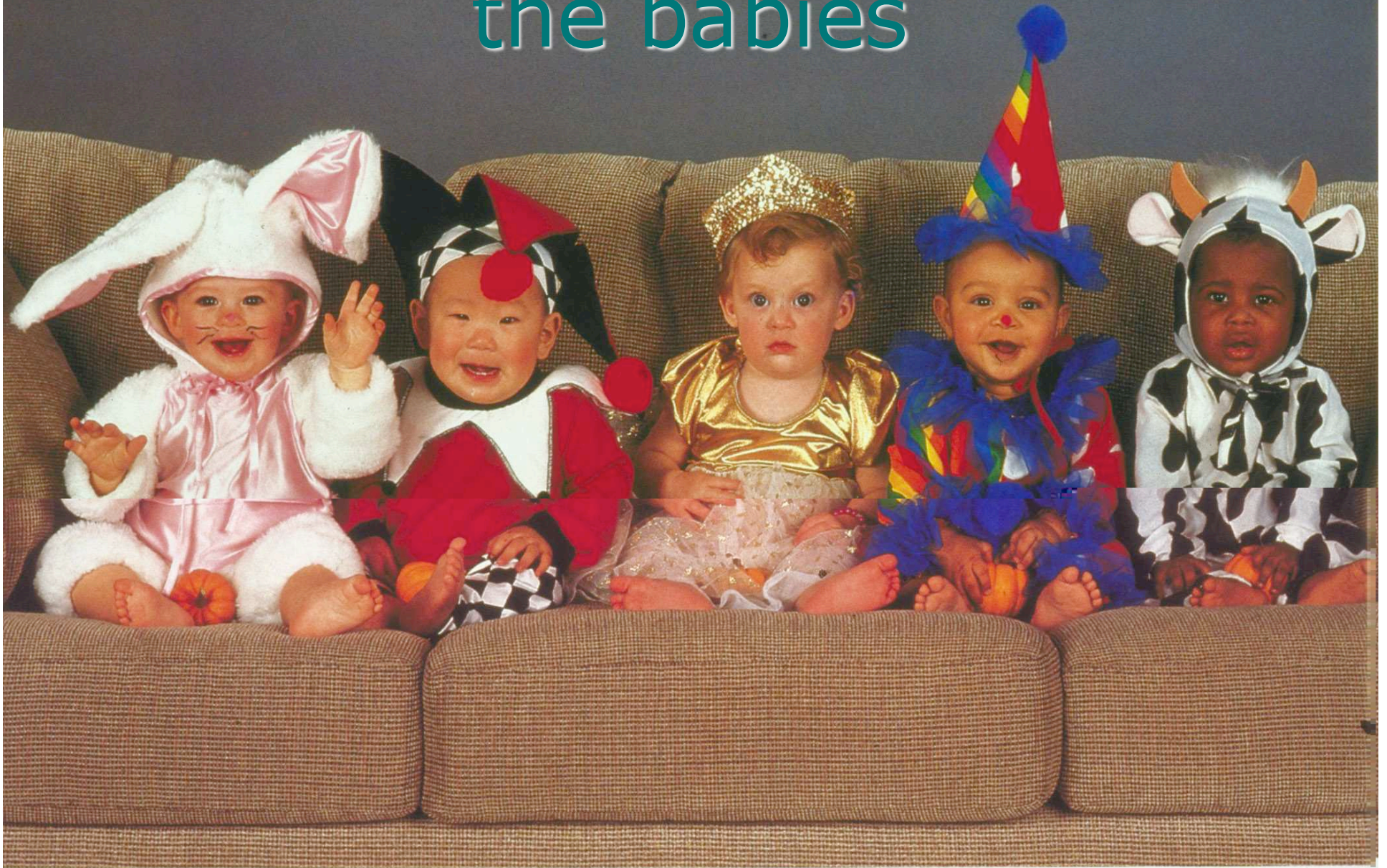


Follow-up reported

- Follow-up was reported for 6780 infants (54% of those needing screening)



We want to know about all
the babies





HRSA Grant

- Health Resources and Services Administration
 - 3 year grant

Goals for the HRSA Grant Project

- Increase positive percents at all levels of process
- Support Medical Home
- Support development of comprehensive hearing record





Three Years



Year 1:

- Access to eSPtm for rural birth facilities
- eSPtm enhancements for Regional Specialist access



What's a Regional Specialist?

- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services
 - No direct contact with families

 - Small portion of their time to:
 - View information about babies who need follow up in eSPtm
 - Remind screeners to report results
 - Remind screeners to report referrals made
 - Remind providers to enter testing results
 - Remind all in system to refer to Part C
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- 



Year 2

- Enhancements to eSPtm to add audiologists to data system
- Enhancements to eSPtm for referrals to Part C
- Training to and collaboration among all community partners
- Support to families

Training



Getting It Right from the Get-Go!



Working together to promote successful outcomes for infants and toddlers with hearing loss and their families

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- Spring, 2007
 - Two days
 - 200+ participants
 - Multidisciplinary
 - Planning
 - Presenters
 - participation
 - Multiple agencies and providers
 - (handout)



Texas Health Steps

- Medicaid EPSDT

On-line training targets:

- Physicians
 - Nurses and Physician Assistants
 - Midwives
 - Audiologists
 - Social Workers
- Approved CE credit for some providers
 - handout

Collaboration

The entire Texas system relies on collaboration to achieve positive outcomes





State Level Collaboration

- TX Deaf and Hard of Hearing Leadership Council for Birth to 3:
 - Parents
 - DSHS Newborn Hearing Screening Department
 - Part C (ECI)
 - Texas Education Agency (TEA)
 - DHHS
 - Texas Association of Infant Mental Health
 - University of Texas (Callier Center for Communication Disorders)
 - Texas School for the Deaf
 - Leadership from local providers across the state
 - Audiologist
 - Otolaryngologist
 - Neonatologist
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Local Collaboration

- Local groups with similar composition supported and encouraged by State Agencies
- Service Delivery requires close cooperation and collaboration



Service Delivery

- MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) between:
 - 58 local Part C programs
 - Service Coordination
 - IFSP
 - Developmental Services, Speech, OT, PT etc.
- Local Education Agencies (School districts and RDSPDs)
 - Parent Advisors
 - Teachers of the Deaf
 - AI services (from Part C array of services)



Support to Families

- Texas Parent to Parent
 - Primary mechanism
 - Parent support trainings
 - Developed a Parent resource manual
 - Participation on Leadership Council





Year 3

- Current activities
- Increased Physician Involvement and Look-up in eSPtm System (500 MDs)
- Development of training CDs for Early Intervention Providers

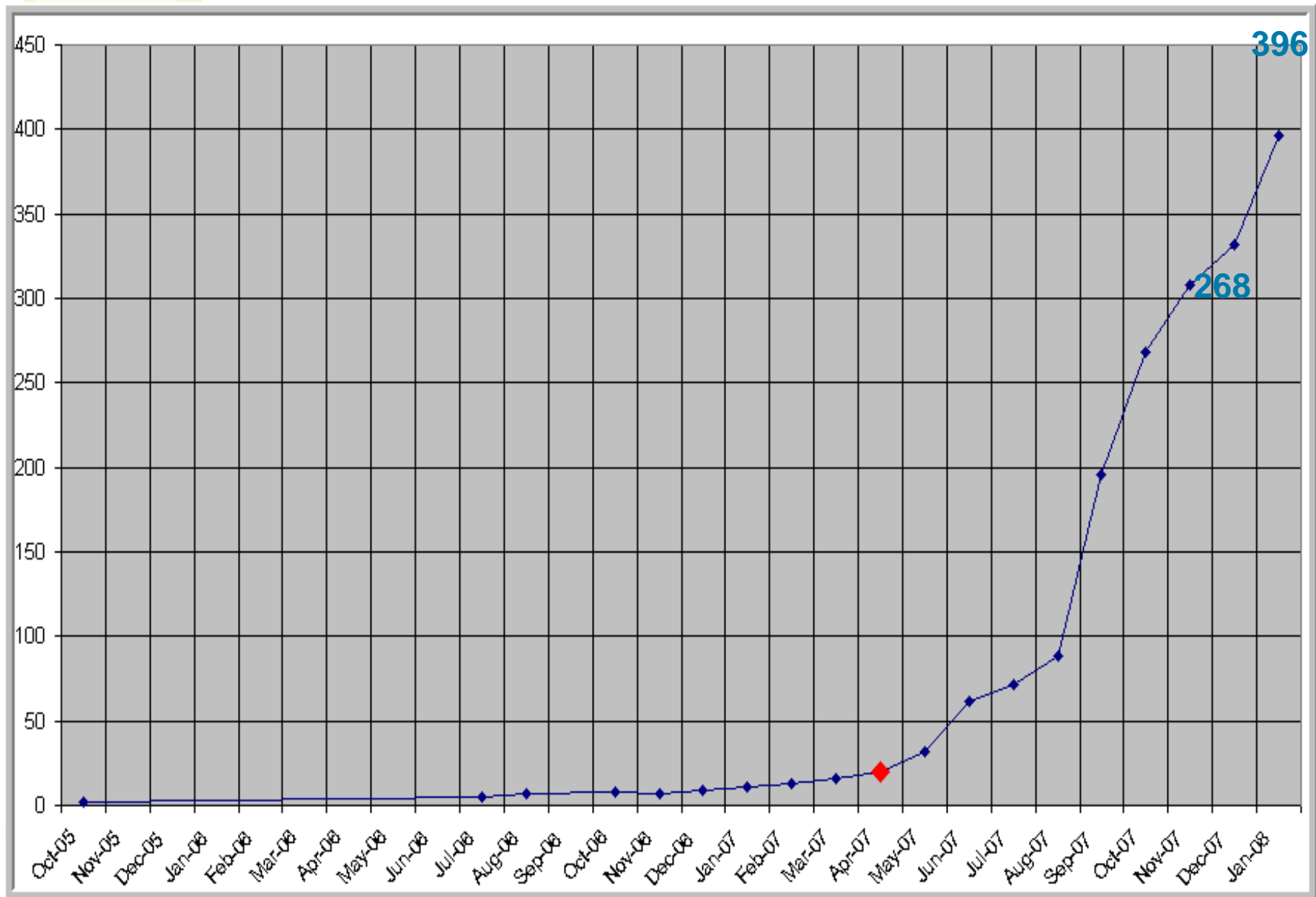


Data related activities

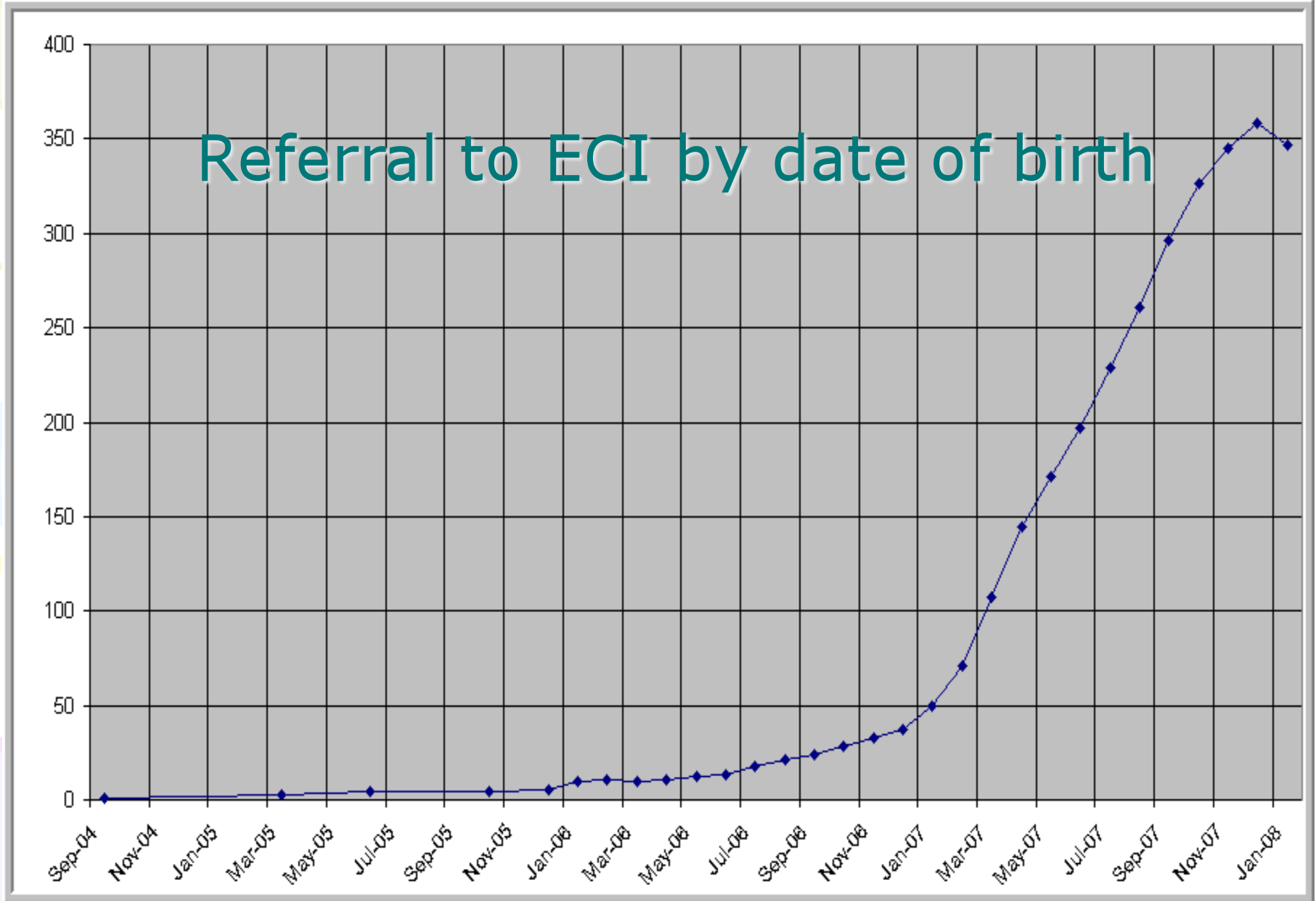
- Completed access for ECI to eSPtm
 - Outreach to audiologists
 - Training to ECI and audiologists
 - Fine tuning of system to ensure timely and accurate referrals
 - Access to eSPtm for outpatient providers and audiologists
 - Training on the system
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Designation of a Referral to Part C via TEHDI eSP™

Each blue dot is a cumulative number from the previous 12 months



Referral to ECI by date of birth









Outreach to physicians





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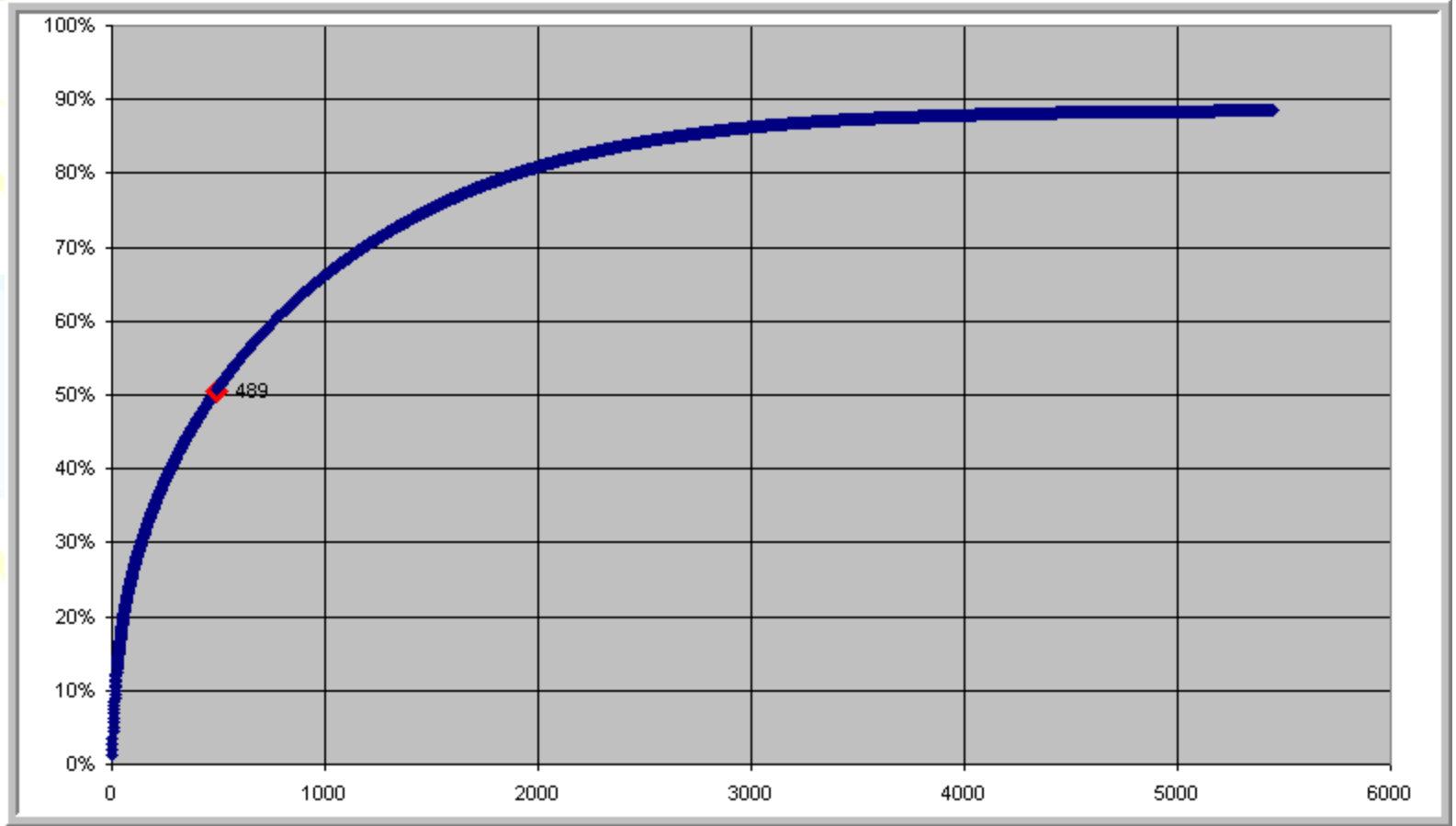
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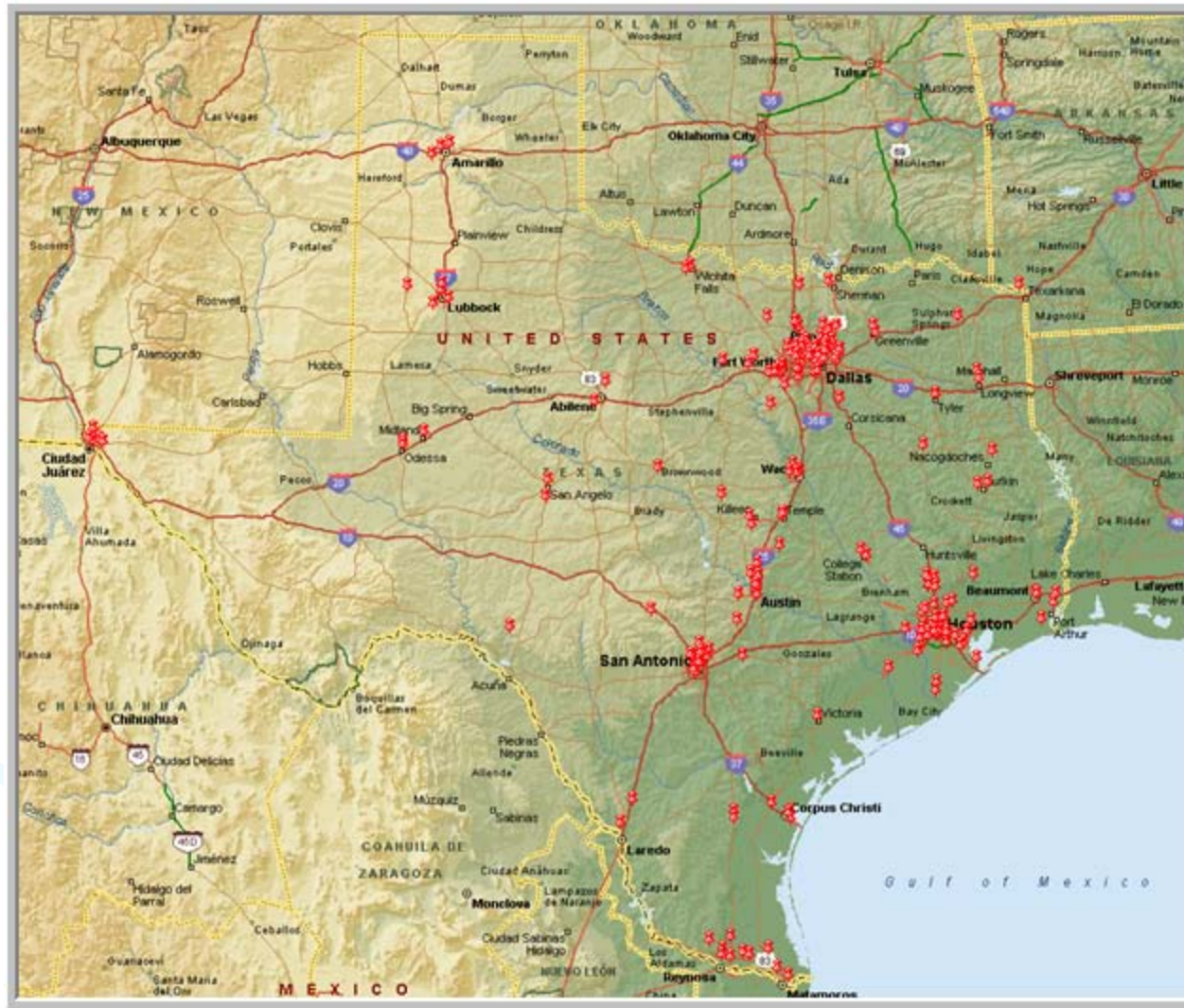
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Number of primary care physicians





Outreach to Physicians

- The THSteps training website
- Attendance/exhibits at conferences
- State Leadership Committee
- ECI Child Find Coordinators:
 - Visits to offices
 - Other public awareness activities
- Materials



Continued work with TX P2P

- Assisted with implementation of Hands and Voices in Texas
 - MOU
- Links to parent organizations on state agency websites
- Continued parent support trainings (Tx P2P)
- Identified need for materials to pre-natal parents
 - Collaboration with DSHS to develop



TX P2P

- Translation of Parent Resource Manual into Spanish
- Survey of parents to identify improvements needed in resource manual
- Train medical residents: Adding component on impact of hearing loss



Development and/or dissemination of materials:

- 1-3-6 (DSHS) to physicians (handout)
- Postcards for screeners (handout)
- Posters x2 (in development) for physician office
- Dissemination of Texas Connect U of TX Callier Center (handout)



Contacts and further information

- Christine.watkins@dars.state.tx.us
- <http://www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis/index.shtml> Part C in TX
- <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/audio/newbornhear.shtml> newborn hearing screening in TX
- <http://txp2p.org/> TX Parent to Parent