The mission of Little Steps is threefold and includes training, research, and service.

**TRAINING**

Little Steps recognizes the value of high-quality professionals and is dedicated to providing excellent training for both undergraduate and graduate students pursuing education in the field of behavior analysis and early intervention.

**RESEARCH**

Little Steps values continued discovery of the best methods for providing intervention and education to persons with developmental disabilities through research which will be disseminated through peer-reviewed publication and national presentations.

**SERVICE**

Little Steps aims to provide evidence-based, individualized intervention and education for children with developmental disabilities. The goal is for our students to acquire the skills necessary for inclusion in public schools, independent living, and development of meaningful social relationships.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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little steps...

Big Success
**What is ABA?**

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is the science of applying interventions based on principles of learning and motivation to promote socially significant behavior change and to demonstrate that the interventions are responsible for these behavior changes. Over the past 50 years, thousands of published studies have documented the effectiveness of ABA for increasing numerous skills and decreasing challenging behaviors.

**WHO WE ARE**

Little Steps is an ABA early intervention program serving children ages 2½ through 7 years with intellectual and developmental disabilities such as autism, Down syndrome, Fragile X, and mental retardation. The hours of operation of Little Steps are 9am-3pm, Monday through Friday.

Little Steps provides early intensive behavioral services to promote skill acquisition and decrease problem behavior. This program is part of the Edna A. Hill Child Development Center in the Department of Applied Behavioral Science at the University of Kansas.

Little Steps was founded by Claudia Dozier, Ph.D., BCBA-D, and Pam Neidert, Ph.D., BCBA-D, who are both faculty in the Applied Behavioral Science (ABS) Department at the University of Kansas. Both faculty specialize in intervention, education, and research for increasing appropriate behavior and decreasing problem behavior of children diagnosed with developmental disabilities. They currently serve as Faculty Advisors for Little Steps.

Our program is staffed by student teachers who are working toward a degree in Applied Behavioral Science. Graduate students directly supervise undergraduate student teachers working in the program.

**Why Choose an ABA Program?**

We focus on the individual child, taking into consideration their unique abilities, individual interests, and family’s priorities to develop an individualized curriculum intervention plan. We provide a low teacher-to-student ratio allowing individual instruction for each child. Research shows that those children with intellectual and developmental disabilities who receive early, individualized ABA intervention have a greater chance for future success.

**Core Values**

We believe…

Every child has the ability to learn when provided with individualized instruction and an environment tailored to their individual needs.

Early intervention is key to achieving best outcomes for children with developmental disabilities. It can have a profound effect on quality of life and level of independence.

Each child deserves an education designed to promote strengths and address weaknesses in order to help each child reach his/her full potential.

Children can learn appropriate social behaviors and effective communication to increase participation in their home, school, and community.

**Curriculum**

- Social skills
- Communication and language skills
- Independent self-care skills
- Fine and gross motor skills
- Pre-academic skills

**Behavioral Intervention**

- Various skill assessments to determine strengths and weaknesses of each child
- Functional assessments and treatments to address behavior problems
- Teaching plans individualized to meet the needs of each child
- Data driven programming reviewed and adjusted for each child as needed

**Family Support**

- Monthly parent training, workshops, and support group
- Sibling training and education program
- Community resources information
- Monthly progress reports
- Daily communication journal