Subject: Re: Budget note

Home Visiting

The legislature increased funding for the Healthy Families Oregon (HFO) home visiting program by $9.5 million. Last biennium, there were over 1,100 families, who were screened, determined to eligible for the program, and where the parent expressed interest in participating, but were unable to because of lack of funding. This new funding will help Healthy Families Oregon serve many of these families.

The Legislature also passed a budget note instructing the Early Learning Division and Oregon Health Authority to:

• Develop a set of outcome metrics connected to evidence of impact for consideration by the Early Learning Council and the Oregon Health Policy Board that any home based service that receives state dollars must meet in order to continue to receive state funds, effective July 1, 2016;

• Develop a plan and timeline for integrating the state’s professional development system for early learning providers with the emerging professional development system for home visitors; and

• Develop a common program agnostic screening tool to identify potential parent/child risk factors and intake form for families who are eligible for home visiting services and require implementation by state funded home visiting programs by July 1, 2016;

• Report on progress to the appropriate legislative committee.

ELC Actions:

The Early Learning Council, along with Oregon Health Policy Board, will be asked to approve shared outcome metrics for home visiting programs. The work necessary to deliver on this budget note falls into the scope of work the ELC’s Best Beginnings Committee is charged with, and will be completed and presented to the Council for adoption by this committee, with strong input and engagement from the joint ELC/OHPB subcommittee.