Early Learning Council **Best Beginnings Committee**

 ***Serving as Healthy Families Oregon Advisory Committee***

 **Conference Call Meeting:**

**November 12, 2015 10:30am – 11:00am**

 **1-877-810-9415 Participant Code: 917314**

Roll call was taken.  Those on the phone were:
Committee members – Christy Cox, Donalda Dodson, Beth Green, Marguerite Kenagy, Theresa Martinez, Janet Dougherty-Smith, and Martha Brooks making a quorum.  Those not on the meeting were James Barta, Jessica Britt, and Salam Noor.

Additional people on the call were Susan w/COSA, Rebecca Stricker-Malheur PH, Peggy Nygwn, Katie Winters, Erin Deahn and Linda Jones.

An explanation of the request for approval to proceed with the MIECHV Research Project for Oregon was provided by Beth, Peggy and Katie.  The research project’s focus is to help understand the retention and participation of families/moms in home visiting programs such as Healthy Families Oregon (HFO).

The project will only target MIECHV funded programs- HFO, Nurse Family Partnership and Early Head Start; there are 13 HFO programs that receive MIECHV funding. The sample will be small approx. 30 families; 10 from each program.

Questions were asked by Martha, Donalda and Christy.

1.  Is there a question relating to pay scale for HV/FSW?  No. Other questions ask job satisfaction, but not pay level. Retention of moms in the program is the focus of the survey; this is not about home visitors.

2. Are you including non-English speaking parents? Yes – Spanish speaking moms have been included.

3. Will paying have an impact on the outcome of the research/polling and who participates?  Hope it encourages participation and the parent will be included and asked questions no matter their continued participation in the program.  If they quit, they will still receive compensation.  However, this is not a random study.  Home Visitors were asked to offer the survey to all new moms on their caseload to participate; it will be self-selecting and voluntary.

4. Is this being combined with other states or is it Oregon only?  Participants will be Oregon only families and not combined with anyone else.

5.  Will this dovetail in to previous research projects?  No.  Those projects are closed, but they did inform the questions for this survey and research project.

A short discussion was held about the PEW research on retention and participation based on how families feel about the term "home visitor."  While this is important, the project will not be able to address this issue as the families will have agreed to at least start in HFO.  We may hear from families about how home visiting is explained to them – we would like to learn about what their expectation is when a home visitor comes to see them. It is important to figure out who participates and why and more importantly why retention drops off.  This is a way to make our program stronger.

Here is the link for the PEW report.  “Family Support and Coaching Programs – Crafting the message for diverse stakeholders”

<http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/issue-briefs/2015/10/family-support-and-coaching-programs?hd&utm_campaign=2015-11-11%20HVN&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Eloqua>

A motion was then made by Donalda Dodson and seconded by Christy Cox to proceed with the MIECHV Research Project.  All participants on the phone eligible to vote (7 people) voted yes.  Motion carried.  The project is approved and can proceed.

Meeting closed and adjourned: 10:53am.

Respectfully submitted:
Martha Brooks and Linda Jones