

Early Learning Council Best Beginnings Committee: March Report

Committee Charge: Advise the Early Learning Council on the issues, challenges, successes and priorities related to serving at risk families who are pregnant and/or have children age of 3 years old or under. Areas of responsibility include, but not limited to:

- Increasing access to home-based services
- Identifying state level policy changes that support family well-being and stability
- Increasing focus on critical aspects of development and attachment for children aged 0-3 and their families
- Finalizing and implementing a statewide screening tool and assessment protocol for family risk factors
- Developing best practice referral pathway for 0-3 services statewide

Committee Membership: Chair Martha Brooks, James Barta, Jessica Britt, Mercedes Castle, Christy Cox, Donalda Dodson, Beth Green, Marguerite Kenagy, Theresa Martinez, Salam Noor, Janet Dougherty-Smith

Report: The Best Beginnings Committee held its third meeting on March 10th.

Key Issues Discussed & Uncovered:

The meeting covered the following:

- Presentation on the State Evaluation Findings for Healthy Families Oregon Program.
- Update on the Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting program, including the shift from competitive to formula funding and the recent grant application submission.
- Presentation on the Safe Sleep program, with discussion on how to disseminate this information to early childhood providers.
- Presentation and discussion on the budget note workgroup recommendations.

Upcoming Key Decisions:

Home Visiting Budget Note recommendations – April 2016

Staffed by:

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