

Oregon Relief Nursery

Presentation to Early Learning Council - 10/27/2016



In **1976**, child abuse and neglect was a problem in Lane County.

Children and families didn't have many services available to them until after a child had been victimized.

The primary response to abuse and neglect was removing children and placing them in foster care.

That didn't seem like an enlightened approach...

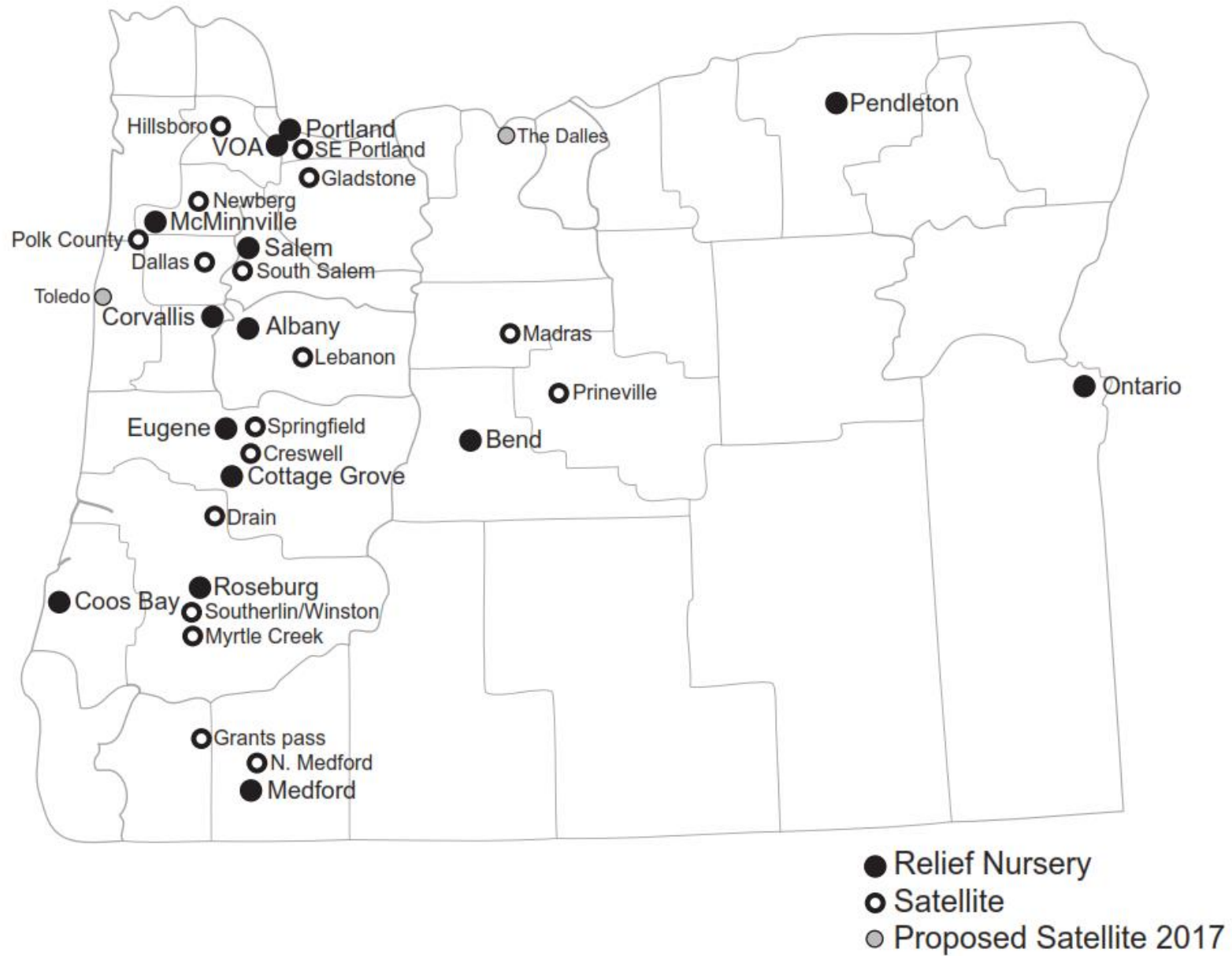
Why not offer preventive services?

A group of local community leaders took a stand.

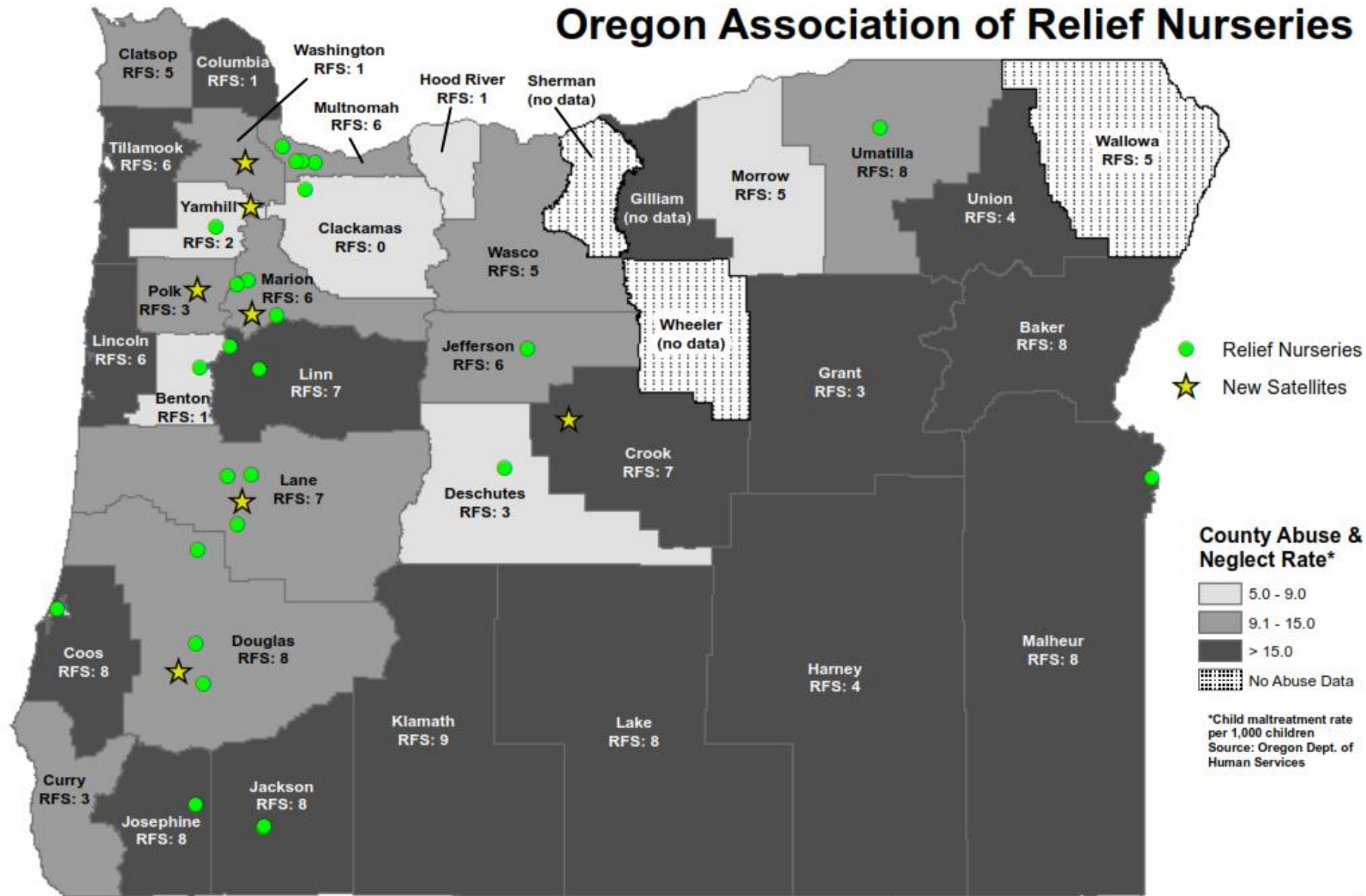
“We can make things better... for families with young children”

- ▶ The Relief Nursery began in 1976 in Eugene with the women of the Junior League in partnership with local churches.
- ▶ The group founded an independent nonprofit, began fund raising to support services and hired Jean Phelps in 1984 who led relief nurseries for 22 yrs.
- ▶ Relief Nursery, Inc. earned attention and support at national and state levels.
- ▶ Volunteers of America in Portland and Family Relief Nursery in Cottage Grove were the first replications of the Relief Nursery model in early 1990's.
- ▶ In 1999, Senate Bill 555 passes which established state funding and included a requirement for 25% cash match.
- ▶ State funding initially through the Commission on Children and Families and now through the Early Learning Division, has been critical to building the current network of 14 Relief Nurseries with 30 centers in 17 counties.

Oregon Relief Nurseries in 2017



Oregon Association of Relief Nurseries



In an alarming 2014 report, "Strengthening Oregon Families: Advancing Knowledge to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect," the Children's Trust Fund for Oregon examined the degree of county-level total Risk Factor Scores ("RFS" value in the map) by county. There is a strong correlation between the RFS and rate of Child Maltreatment (Abuse & Neglect) at the county level in Oregon. Relief Nurseries serve the highest-risk children in our communities, ages 0-4, whose families average 18 or more risk factors. The babies and toddlers in this age group account for over 50% of founded cases of abuse and neglect in Oregon.

Risk Factor Domains Used in Present Study:	
1. Poverty (0-17 years)	6. Less Than High School Education
2. Unemployment	7. Low Birth Weight (LBW)
3. Food Stamp Usage	8. Domestic Violence (DV) Calls
4. Births to Teen Mothers	9. Drug Related Arrests
5. Single Status	10. Violent Crime

Who We Serve...

- ▶ Children 0-5 and their parents or care givers who have multiple risk factors linked to child abuse and neglect.
- ▶ We serve more than 3,000 children per year and their families
- ▶ Families have an average of 16 “risk factors” based on 47 item list
 - ▶ 80% under/unemployed
 - ▶ 53% mental health problems
 - ▶ 50% intimate partner violence
 - ▶ 47% raised by alcohol or drug effect person
 - ▶ 46% unstable food supply for family
 - ▶ 44% adult victim of child abuse/neglect
 - ▶ 42% history of homelessness
 - ▶ 38% less than high school education
 - ▶ 36% incarceration or criminal justice supervision
 - ▶ 31% adults have history of an open case with child welfare
 - ▶ 25% adult victim of child sexual abuse or incest

Table 2
Primary Caregiver Demographics (n=2,026)

	Number	Percent
Race/Ethnicity		
African American	58	2.9
American Indian/Alaska Native	61	3.0
Asian	13	0.6
Caucasian	1,211	59.8
Hispanic/Latino	481	23.7
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	6	0.3
Other ¹	26	1.3
Missing	170	8.4
Gender		
Female	1,811	89.4
Male	125	6.2
Missing	90	4.4
Age in Years²		
	Years	
Mean	28.1	
Median	27.1	
Minimum	0.0	
Maximum	70.2	
Standard Deviation	8.3	

¹ Due to differences in reporting across nurseries, "Other" includes ethnicities that were specifically marked as "Other" as well as those marked "mixed" and "bi-racial".

² This represents the age at earliest assessment date (difference between the number of years between date of birth and assessment date). When this difference was negative, the date of birth was replaced with 'missing' and the item was not included in the summary statistics.

Table 3
Child Demographics (n=2,025)

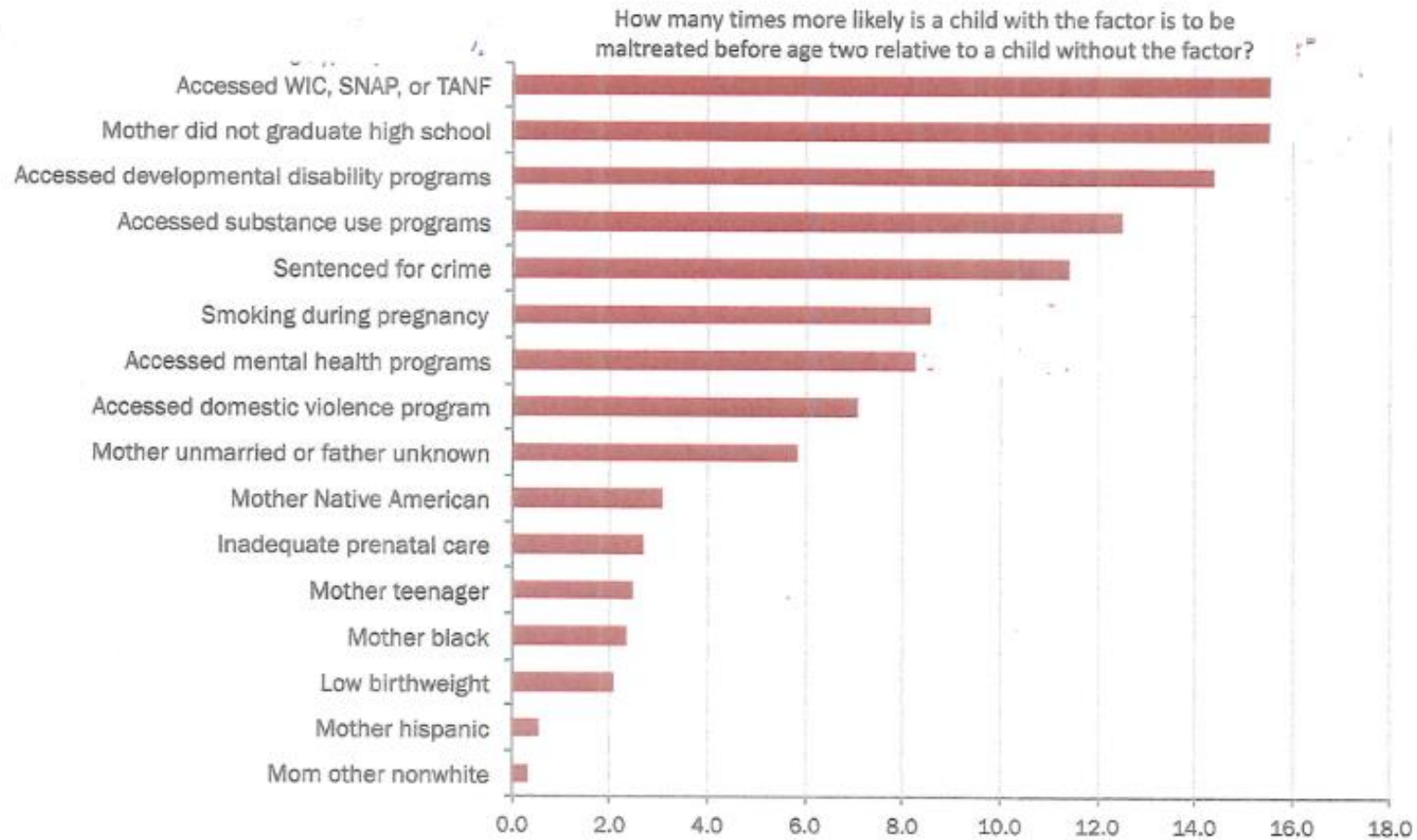
	Number	Percent
Race/Ethnicity		
African American	79	3.9
American Indian/Alaska Native	61	3.0
Asian	14	0.7
Caucasian	1,094	54.0
Hispanic/Latino	505	24.9
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	11	0.5
Other ¹	107	5.3
Missing	154	7.6
Gender		
Female	927	45.8
Male	1,016	50.2
Missing	82	4.0
Age in Years ²		Years
Mean	2.95	
Median	2.02	
Minimum	0.00	
Maximum	69.19	
Standard Deviation	5.3	

¹ Due to differences in reporting across nurseries, "Other" includes ethnicities that were specifically marked as "Other" as well as those marked "mixed", and "bi-racial".

² This represents the age at earliest assessment date (difference between the number of years between date of birth and assessment date). When this difference was negative, the date of birth was replaced with 'missing' and the item was not included in the summary statistics.

Relative Risk of Maltreatment and Foster Care

(characteristics of the mother or child at birth)



Source: ECONorthwest analysis of ICS administrative data. Dataset include characteristics of mother or child known at birth and any interaction with certain Department of Human Services programs or sentencing from the Department of Justice two years prior to giving birth. All variables shown have a statistically significant relationship with maltreatment before age two and eventual entry into foster care before age six.

OREGON CHILDREN AT RISK

Between 2001 and 2010, almost half a million children were born in Oregon. Over 2% of these children entered the foster care system before age four. Many of these children were at foreseeable risk. P4P research and modeling has identified key characteristics of children and their families that predict the likelihood of childhood abuse and neglect. Children without these characteristics are at much lower risk.

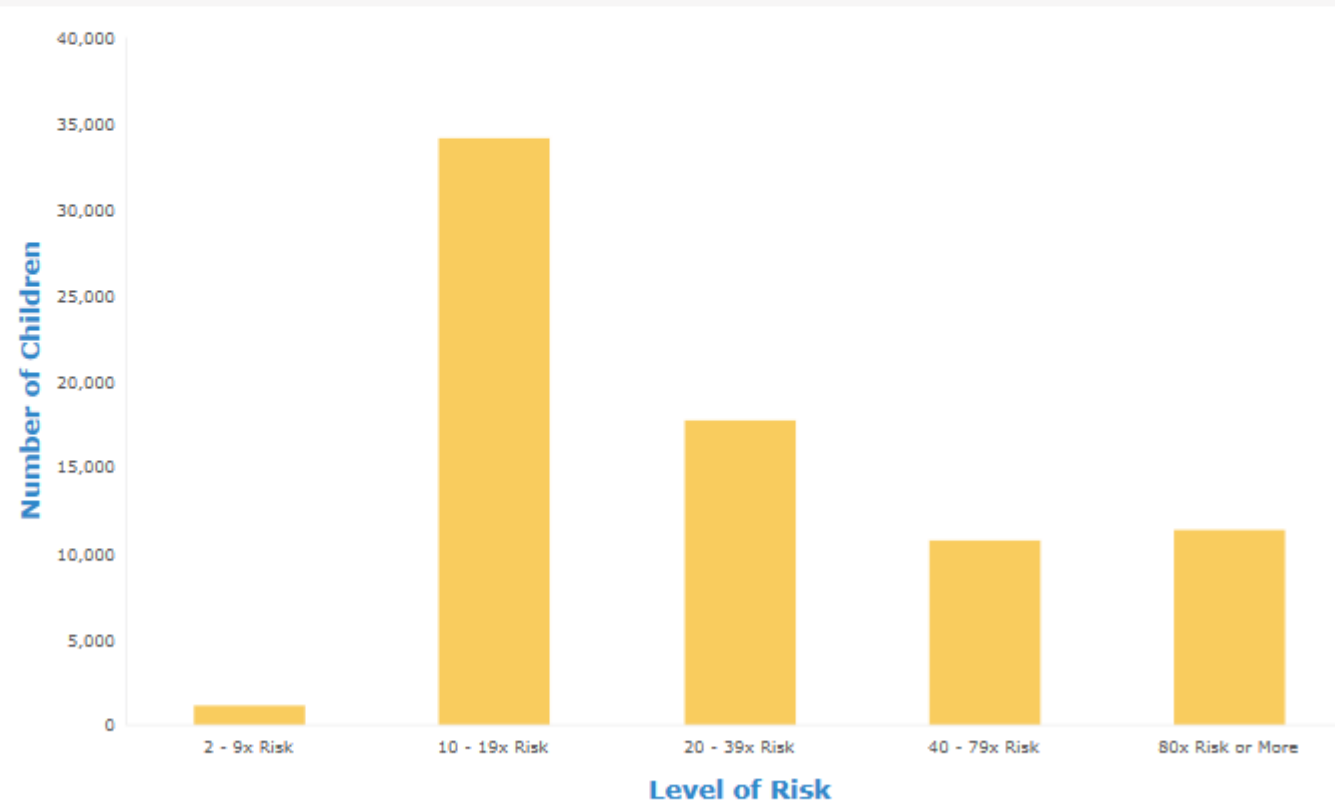
These data show all children born in Oregon between 2001 and 2010. Children with predictive factors are at much higher risk of maltreatment and entering foster care than children with none of these factors.

Oregon Children 75,074

Select and unselect any combination of the following P4P predictive factors:

- ☒ Poverty
- ☐ Parental education
- ☐ Parental substance abuse
- ☐ Parental criminal activity
- ☐ Parental mental health
- ☒ Family instability

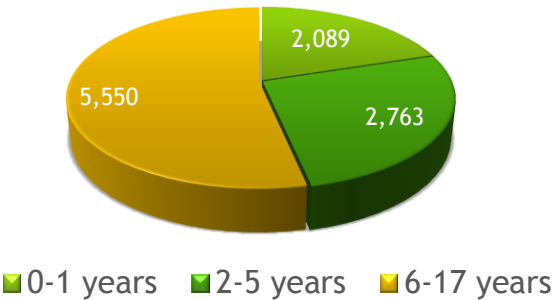
Children Born at Elevated Risk of Abuse and Neglect



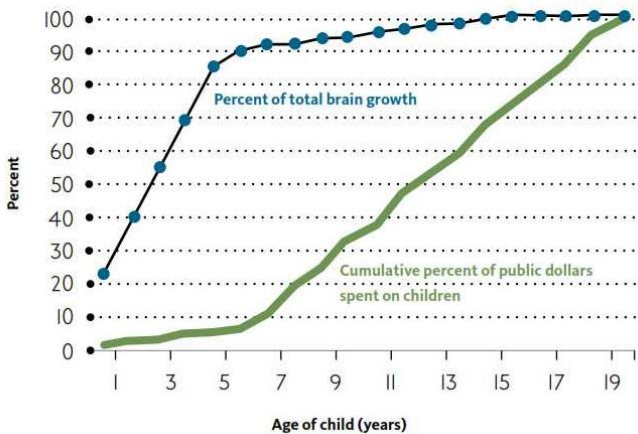
Source: ECONorthwest and CEBP analysis of Oregon DHS Data. Data shown include all children born in Oregon between 2001 and 2010. Comparison population is all children born with none of these predictive factors. These are not all possible predictive factors, but they exerted the strongest influence on the chances of maltreatment and were confirmed in the literature review.

Need for services...

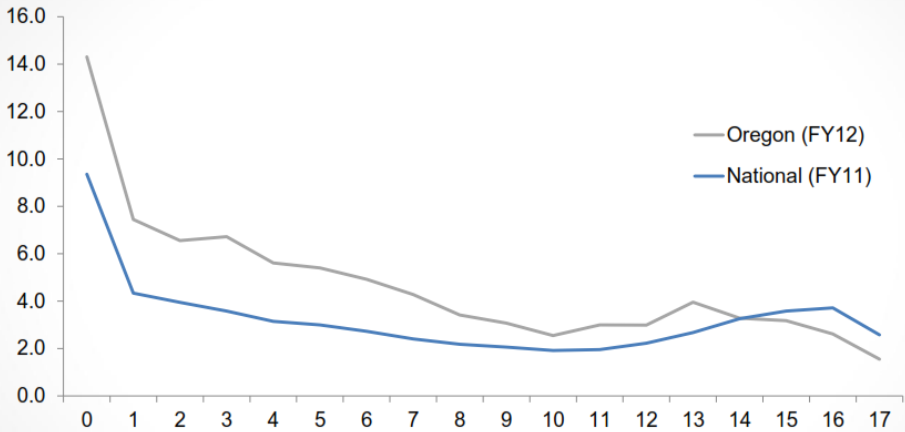
Oregon Child Abuse Victims
2015



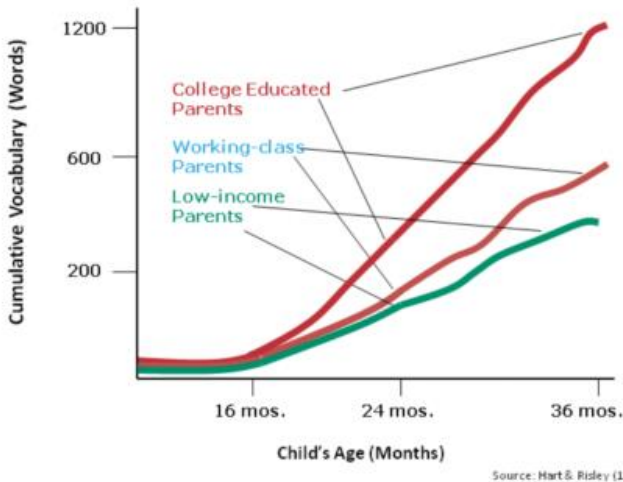
Brain Growth Compared to Public Expenditures
on Young Children



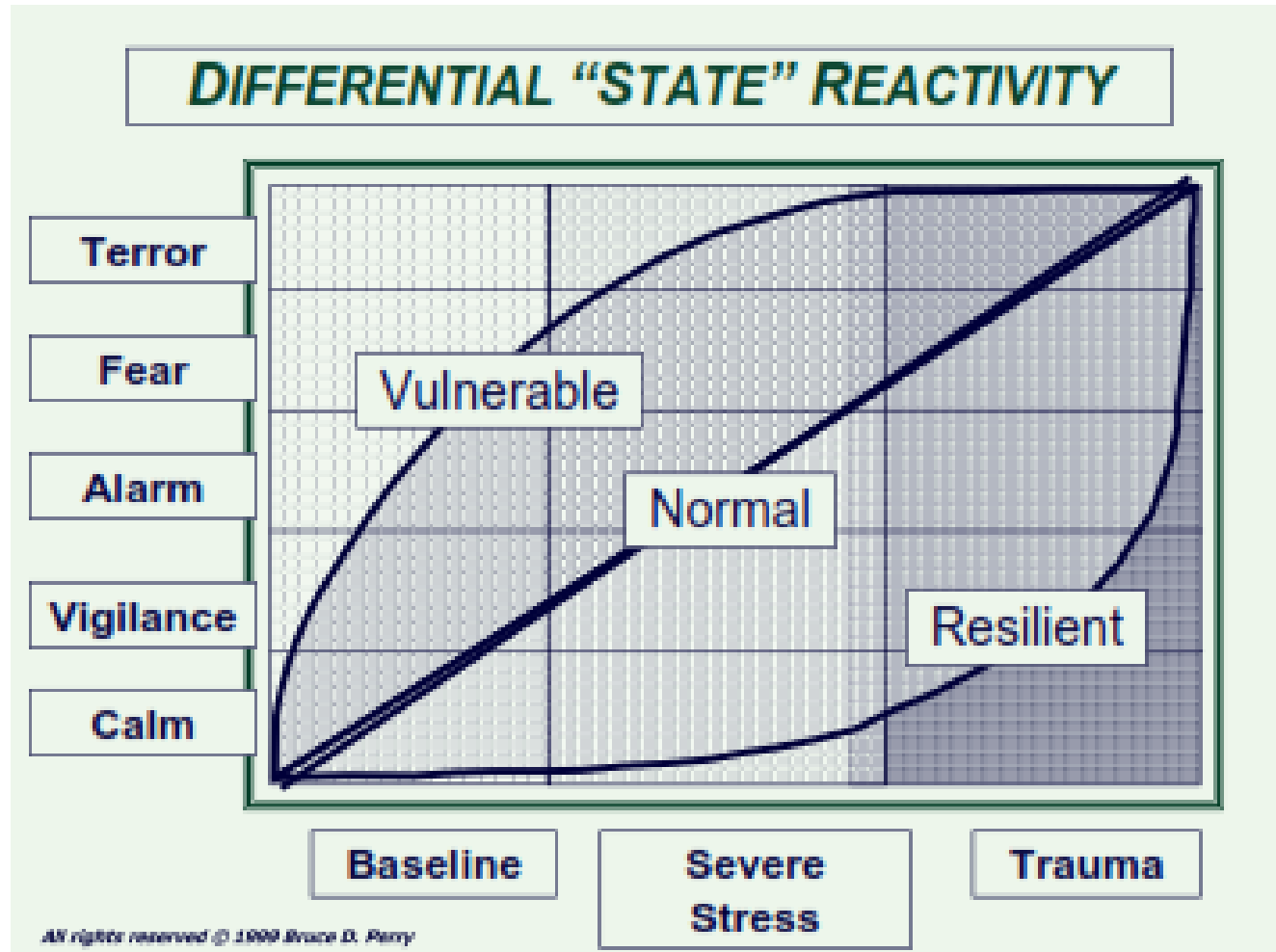
Rate of children entering care, by entry age
(per 1000 children under 18 in general population)



Disparities in Early Vocabulary Growth



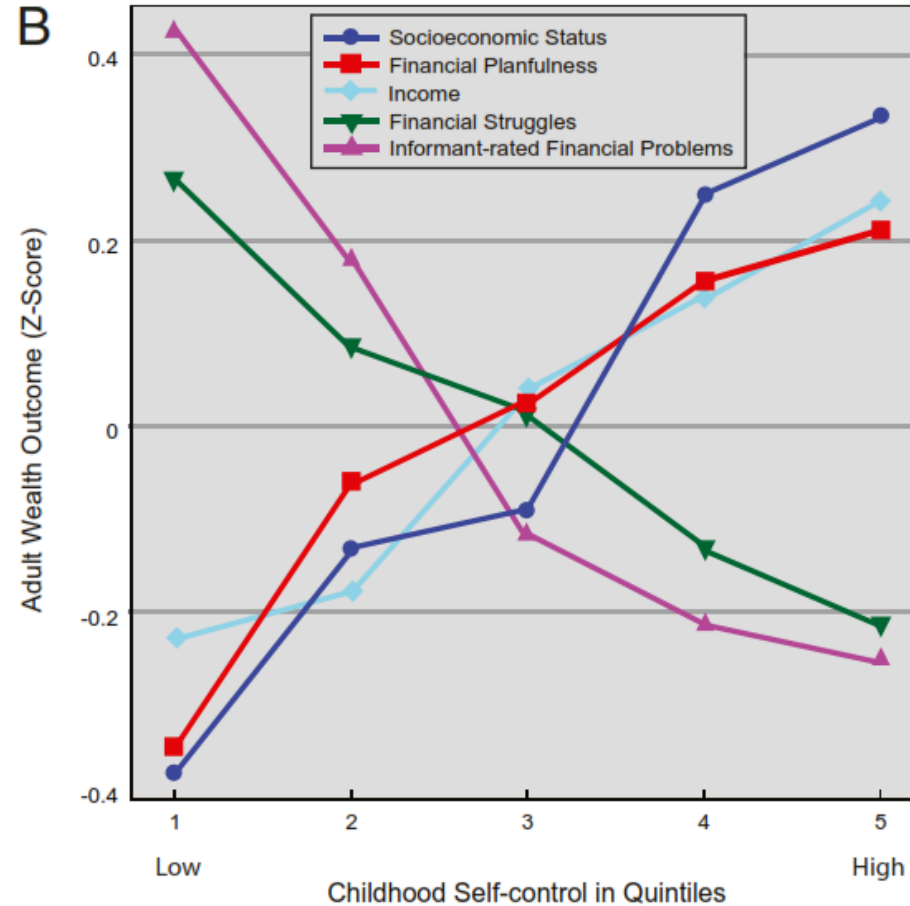
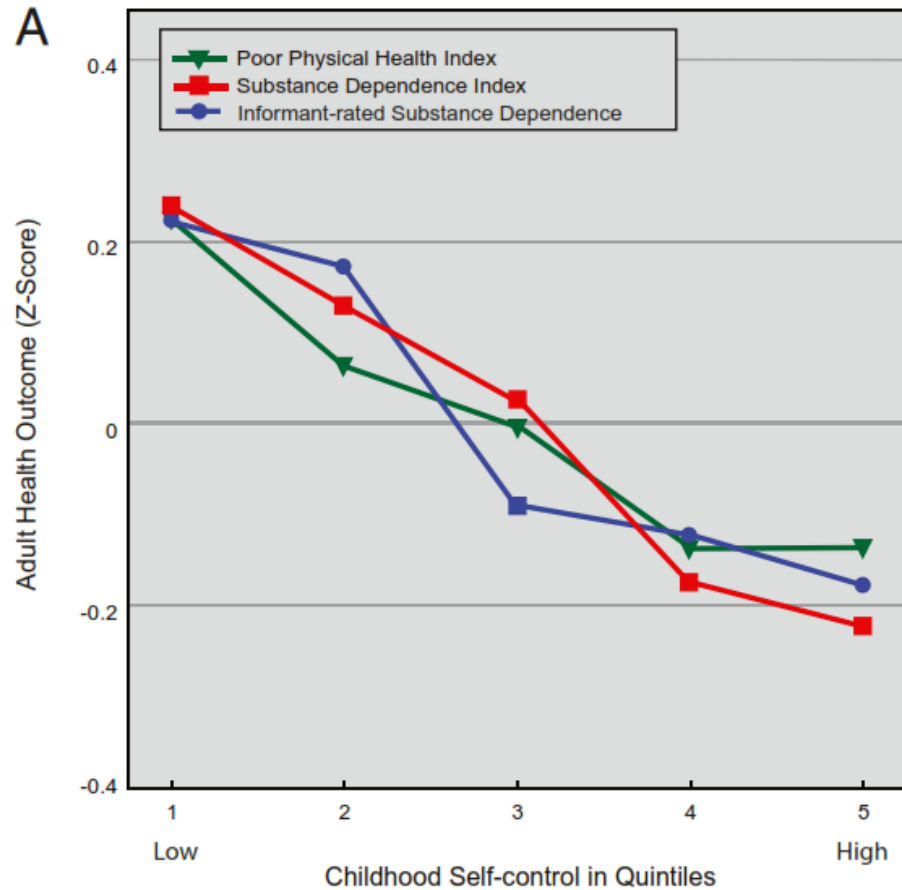
Impact of Trauma on Young Children



32 yr Longitudinal Study in Dunedin, NZ

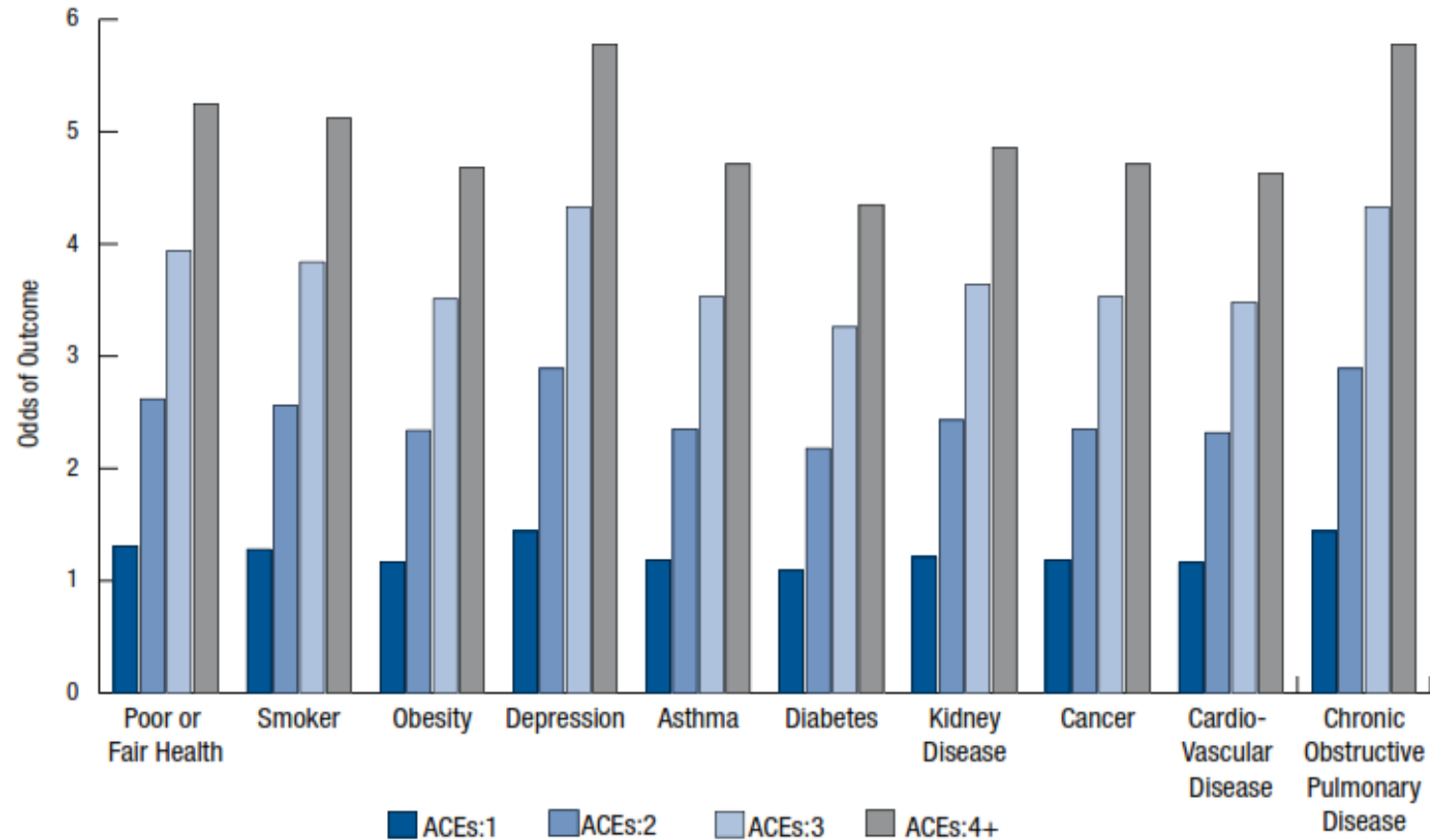
Childhood self-control predicts health, wealth and public safety

2011 paper by Moffitt, Arseneault, Belsky, Dickson, Hancox, Harrington, etc



Adverse Childhood Experiences...

The association between ACEs and health outcomes in Oregon, 2011 & 2013



This table highlights the relationship between the number of ACEs experienced and associated health outcomes. This analysis controlled for sociodemographics including age, sex, education, poverty, race and ethnicity, and for smoking for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and cardiovascular disease.



Cascade of Experience- Societal Response Matters

Historic Trauma

Adverse
Childhood
Experience

Adverse Peer
&/or School
Experience

Adverse Adult
Experience

Multiple Mental,
Physical,
Relational, &/or
Productivity
Problems



ACE
Transmission
Risk




6:10 / 31:44



Laura Porter Keynote: NEAR Science & New WA State Resilience Factor Findings



Foundation for Healthy Generations (Healthy Gen)

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33

1,877 views

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2015 Status of Children in Oregon

Children First for Oregon

INDICATOR	2012 (OREGON)	2013 (OREGON)	2013 (US)	OREGON RANK (BEST = 1)
Cohort Graduation Rate	68%	69%	81%	49
Early Education Enrollment	40%	41%	47%	38
Foster Care Rate	1.5%	1.4%	0.9%	43
Abuse and Neglect Victimization Rate	11.1	12.0	9.1	36

child
abuse and
neglect:

↓ 2%

in Oregon

compared to

↓ 25%

nationwide

Oregon Department of Human Services

Child Safety in Substitute Care

Independent Review

September 13, 2016

Oregon Child Safety in Substitute Care Independent Review Findings

Safe and Appropriate Placements

More appropriate placements could prevent abuse of children and youth in substitute care.

- FINDING I - Space availability drives placement decisions, rather than the needs of children and youth.
- FINDING II - Oregon's placement capacity for children with high needs is shrinking.
- FINDING III - Substitute care providers are not adequately trained or supported to safely care for children and youth with high needs placed with them.
- FINDING IV - The urgency to find placements compromises certification and licensing standards.

Safe and Swift Response to Abuse in Care

A coordinated response to abuse in care could lead to earlier intervention and prevention of future abuse.

- FINDING V - Oregon's response to allegations of abuse in care is confusing and involves too many uncoordinated elements.
- FINDING VI - The CPS abuse in care reporting, screening, and investigation process is localized and may result in inconsistent responses to harm in care.
- FINDING VII - The current process of abuse in care reporting is rated untrustworthy by youth and other reporters.
- FINDING VIII - There is little to no follow-up on abuse in care investigations.
- FINDING IX - Information that could mitigate safety concerns is not efficiently shared between entities.

What is a Relief Nursery...

- ▶ **Community-based organizations** that seek to prevent the cycle of child abuse and neglect through early intervention programs that focus on developing successful and resilient children, strengthening family skills of parents/care givers, and preserving families.
- ▶ **Relief Nursery services** are offered within a comprehensive and integrated early childhood and family support system designed to appropriately meet the needs of the individual families with children who have been abused or are at risk of child abuse and neglect.
- ▶ Relief Nurseries **must include** therapeutic early childhood education programs, home visitation and parent education and support.
- ▶ Relief Nursery **services** are voluntary, strength-based, culturally appropriate, and designed to achieve appropriate early-childhood benchmarks and healthy family functioning.

Services include...

- ▶ **“Outreach”** - first contact with families includes intake & assessment.
 - ❑ Families who stay in this program receive home visits, respite child care , “basic needs” support and crisis intervention.
 - ❑ Home visiting schedule varies (weekly, monthly or on-demand).
 - ❑ Other names used - Home-Based services and Safety Net services
- ▶ **“Therapeutic Early Childhood Program”** (TECP) 300 contact hrs. annually
 - ❑ EC classes twice weekly for 3 hrs. with high staffing ratio and small group size.
 - ❑ Monthly home visiting focused on whole family
 - ❑ Monthly parenting classes and positive family socialization
 - ❑ Support services - transportation, material support and referrals for resources
- ▶ **Additional Services** - varies by program
 - ❑ Mental health (children and/or parents)
 - ❑ Parents in Recovery
 - ❑ Services for mandated parents ie supervised visitation
 - ❑ Home visiting program ie Health Families
 - ❑ Head Start, EI/ECSE, etc.

More about Services...

- ▶ Early Childhood classes are certified by the State Child Care Division
 - ▶ Compliance with rules for staffing, policies, practices, safety and sanitation
 - ▶ Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS) - typically 4 or 5 star
- ▶ Our niche is therapeutic early childhood classes
 - ▶ The Relief Nursery model has specified group size, staffing ratios and class frequency for infant, toddler and preschool classes.
 - ▶ Child Assessments - required
 - ▶ Curriculum requirements - focus on emotional, social and behavioral concerns.
 - ▶ Statewide evaluation system - required
- ▶ Home Visiting
 - ▶ Visits conducted by teacher
 - ▶ Promotes healthy development within the family context
 - ▶ Focused on family stabilization and resource referral
- ▶ Volunteers are key to delivering services in classroom

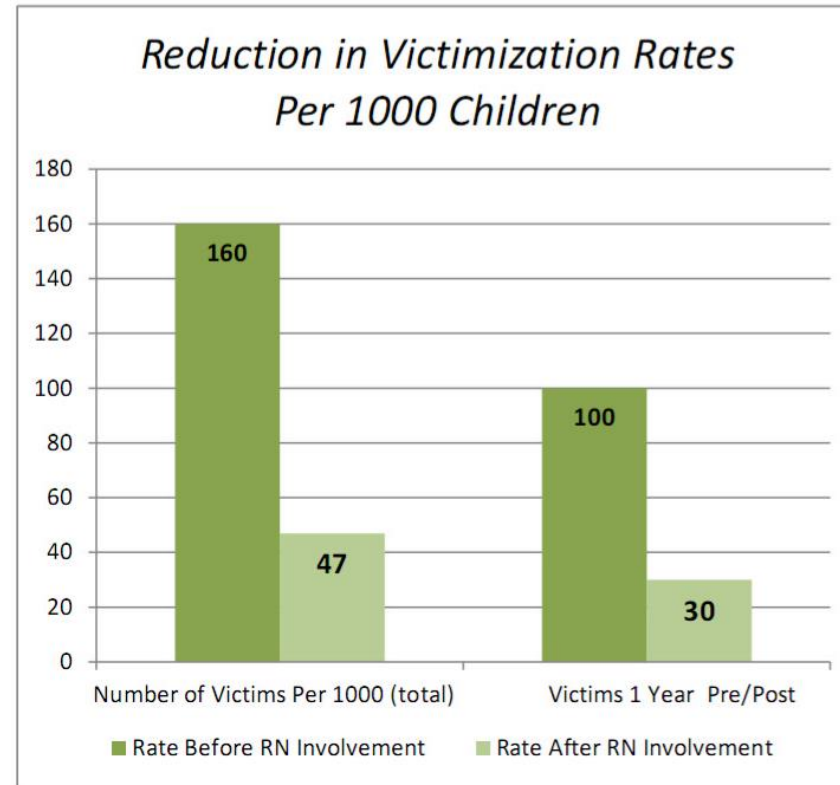
Relief Nursery Outcomes...

Report on outcomes produced every two-years by external evaluators

- ▶ Consistently documented 70% reduction in the incidence of abuse/neglect (2005-2012)
- ▶ 95% of children free from abuse and neglect

Report for 2012-14 documented positive impact on:

- ▶ Family Violence and Victimization
- ▶ Poverty
- ▶ Child Welfare
- ▶ Mental Health
- ▶ Family risk factors



Certification/Replication

- ▶ Key Relief Nursery program standards were in the (old) OAR's.
- ▶ Prior to Oregon Assoc. of Relief Nurseries (OARN), programs certified by team of 3 Relief Nursery directors with option for county or state representation.
- ▶ In the early years, Relief Nurseries replicated through Relief Nursery, Inc.
- ▶ Certification and Replication is now carried out by OARN.
- ▶ OARN staff along with volunteer Relief Nursery directors review materials and conduct a site visit to establish compliance with the Relief Nursery model in 70 areas.
- ▶ Replication support is provided by OARN and other Relief Nursery staff.
- ▶ “Relief Nursery” means something specific - more than a collection services.
- ▶ “Relief Nursery” is trademarked and materials copyright

Certification Process...

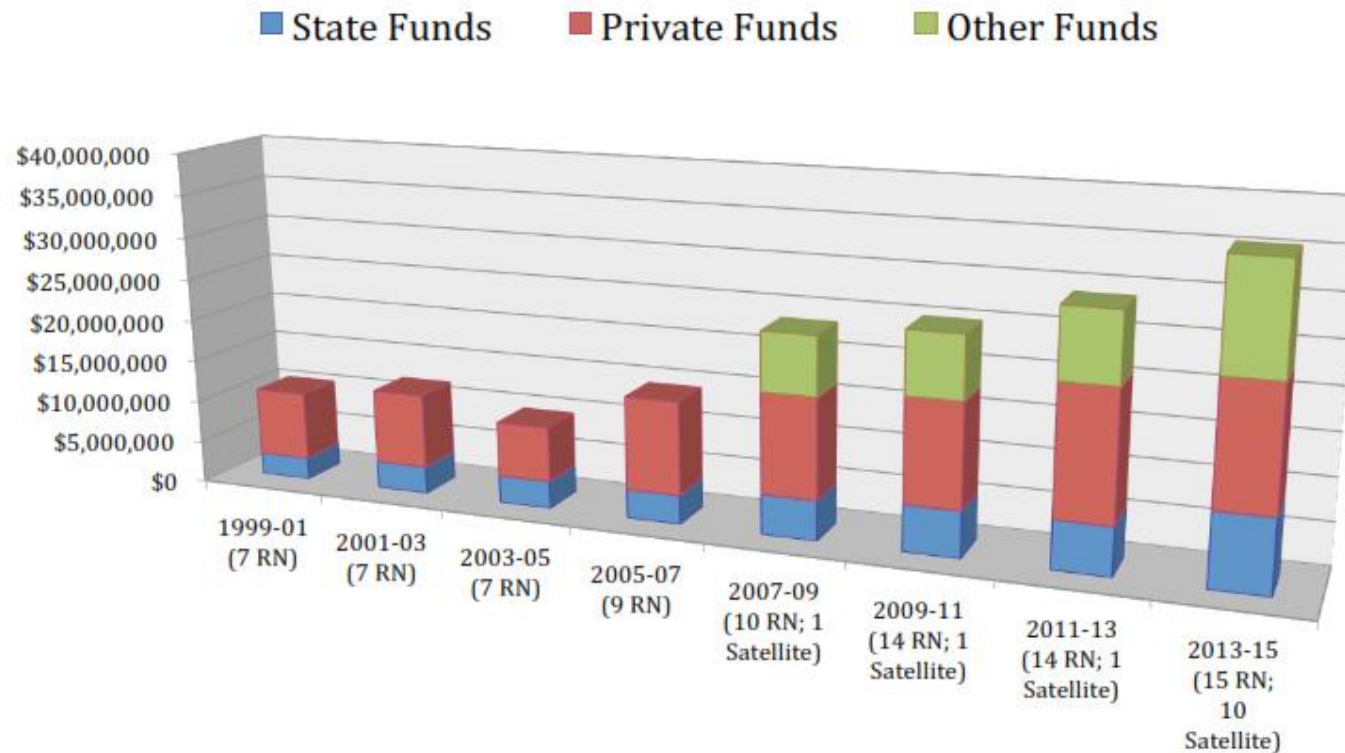
- ▶ Organizing “Group” creates local mandate for Relief Nursery services
- ▶ OARN provides information and replication support
- ▶ Group must fulfill the following requirements from following sources:
 - ▶ Oregon Administrative Rules
 - ▶ Community
 - ▶ Legal (501c3 nonprofit)
 - ▶ Fiscal (25% cash match)
 - ▶ Infrastructure
 - ▶ Development (fund raising) & volunteer support
 - ▶ “Certification Binder” documenting evidence of meeting standards
 - ▶ Relief Nursery, Inc. Quality Assurance Standards (copyrighted)
- ▶ New Relief Nurseries and satellite programs are encouraged (required) to bring new funding...otherwise support for existing programs is diluted.

Self-Governance/Regulation

- ▶ Relief Nurseries are unique to Oregon
 - ▶ Our system of relief nurseries developed through 40 yrs of public/private partnership
 - ▶ Over half the funding for services comes to local program from private sector
 - ▶ OARN.. have written our own rules and divided our state funding among us
- ▶ Our work crosses typical silos of early childhood education, child welfare, behavioral and physical health, social services and private/public sectors.
- ▶ Oregon Association of Relief Nurseries is our statewide body to organize, advocate, and negotiate on behalf of individual Relief Nurseries in addition to supporting the evolution our program model.
- ▶ OARN has developed of a growing and robust system of Relief Nursery programs across Oregon.
- ▶ Relief Nursery programs have moved - Madras, Portland, and Gladstone

The Value of Engaging Communities

Relief Nurseries Stretch State Dollars with Local Support



	1999-01 (7 RN)	2001-03 (7 RN)	2003-05 (7 RN)	2005-07 (9 RN)	2007-09 (10 RN; 1 Satellite)	2009-11 (14 RN; 1 Satellite)	2011-13 (14 RN; 1 Satellite)	2013-15 (15 RN; 10 Satellite)
Other Funds					\$6,942,643	\$7,345,043	\$8,154,599	\$12,557,922
Private Funds	\$8,083,000	\$8,808,000	\$6,498,295	\$11,039,728	\$11,841,001	\$12,230,868	\$15,130,361	\$14,254,610
State Funds	\$2,600,000	\$3,238,856	\$3,275,000	\$3,416,000	\$4,709,702	\$5,439,279	\$5,659,132	\$8,598,800

2016 National Poll Conducted by the Independent Sector

a leadership network America's charitable and philanthropic sector



POLLING QUESTION:

Which do you think would be a better way to improve your community and your country? Pay an additional one thousand dollars in taxes to the federal government or give an additional one thousand dollars to charity.



74%
**TRUST CHARITIES
OVER THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT**

This includes.
85% of Republicans
75% of Independents
68% of Democrats
79% of voters who make
small donations
76% who donate time weekly
75% of millennials
80% of women under 44
81% of college grads

Contracting Issues...

A Special Report focused on solutions
to improve government-nonprofit contracting issues

**A Dozen Common Sense Solutions
to Government-Nonprofit Contracting Problems**



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In 2010, the Urban Institute issued the results of the nation's first in-depth survey documenting that nationwide **more than half** of all nonprofit human service providers under contract with governments at the local, state, and federal levels reported problems in the following government practices:

1. Governments not paying the full costs that nonprofits incurred in delivering contracted services;
2. Governments failing to pay on time;
3. Governments changing contract terms mid-stream after agreements were signed;
4. Governments imposing costly and burdensome contract application requirements; and
5. Governments imposing costly and burdensome contract reporting requirements.¹

Each of these and other problems with governments not meeting their contractual obligations adds unnecessary costs to nonprofits, governments, and taxpayers alike. The Urban Institute's latest nationwide survey reveals that those five core problems remain firmly entrenched.²

What Relief Nurseries need from ELD

- ▶ Support our partnership that is successfully keeping young children safe, ameliorating the effects of trauma, stress and chaos in their lives, and providing meaningful support for vulnerable families with young children.
- ▶ Assurance that Relief Nurseries meet standards for safe, high-quality, early childhood care and education programs.
- ▶ Regulations and contracting practices that support our public/private partnership - especially flexibility in our funding.
- ▶ Require all Relief Nurseries to be certified by OARN
- ▶ Recognition of our self-governance and regulation
- ▶ Some things to consider:
 - ▶ Trauma informed care is tremendously important to how we work with clients
 - ▶ Home visits are similar to work done by community health workers
 - ▶ Relief Nurseries could potentially have a bigger role in helping the state work across silos of early childhood, child welfare, and physical and behavioral health especially in preventing and ameliorating the impact of adverse childhood experiences.

Questions & Discussion....