

# Early Learning Council Best Beginnings Committee Report: June 13, 2018

**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, Vice Chair Elena Rivera, Sherri Alderman, James Barta, Cindy Bond, Jessica Britt, Christy Cox, Donalda Dodson, Beth Green, Marguerite Kenagy, Lindsey Manfrin, Janet Dougherty-Smith

## Report:

During the June 13, 2018 Best Beginnings Committee virtual meeting, the Committee received an update on the Infant Toddler Assessment, as well as an opportunity to review and weigh in on the emerging themes that have evolved from the Council's strategic planning process.

### Infant Toddler Assessment

David Mandell provided an update on the Infant Toddler Assessment and the next steps and deliverables to expect. The Division is currently working on analyzing the qualitative data captured from the focus groups held throughout the state. The Oregon Health Authority is working on analyzing the qualitative data received via the Infant Toddler Assessment survey that was distributed last spring. Both agencies are working on preparing a joint report to the Committee and Council and hope to have additional updates to share in the fall.

## Key Issues Discussed & Uncovered:

### Strategic Planning Emerging Themes

The Committee reviewed the draft Emerging Themes document that attempts to capture all of the thoughts Council members shared and submitted during the debrief processes of the Human Services/Family Supports, Early Care & Education, and K-12 sector engagements. Committee members walked through all themes and "sub-theme" details. In particular, the Committee noted the need to specifically call out where Home Visiting work would live within these themes, as it could easily be represented throughout and is key to the entire Prenatal to age 3 continuum that feeds into the overall success of Prenatal to age 5. Alyssa will be working to incorporate this feedback for final review at the September Early Learning Council meeting.

EARLY LEARNING COUNCIL

Kate Brown, Governor



Committee members also provided input on the areas that were of most interest to them as potential work for the committee to support in the future. The Committee noted that a missing theme of interest is Maternal/Child Health. In addition, the committee identified five other themes of potential interest moving forward:

- 1) Cultural Responsiveness & Equity
- 2) Supply of Early Care & Education Settings
- 3) Workforce
- 4) Supporting Families
- 5) Use of Data

**Upcoming Key Decisions:**

- The Committee will reconvene on July 19<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will be entirely devoted to a facilitated discussion for the BB's recommendations to ELC for Prenatal – 3 goals for the ELC strategic plan.

**Staffed by:** Nakeshia Knight-Coyle (ELD), Erin Deahn (ELD), Cate Wilcox (OHA), Benjamin Hazelton (OHA)

