
Early Childhood System of Care Workgroup Recommendations

Filling gaps, Expanding Expertise and Access to
Quality Early Childhood and Family Supports



HEALTH SYSTEMS

Operations and Policy

Early Childhood Workgroup Participants

- **Sherri Alderman** (OHA, Developmental Behavioral Pediatrician)
- **Tonya Coker** (Willamette ESD)
- **Lee Coleman** (DHS, Office of Child Welfare, retired)
- **Cate Drinan** (PSU, Ctr. for Improvement of Child & Family Services)
- **Robin Hill-Dunbar** (Public Health, Ctr. for Prevention & Health Promotion)
- **Alison Hinson** (Douglas County ESD)
- **Jeanne McCarty** (GOBHI Children's System Coordinator)
- **Julie Magers** (NAMI, Child and Family Program Director)
- **Lynn Matthews** (DHS, Office of Child Welfare)
- **Margaret MacCleod** (Morrison Child and Family Services)
- **Sandra Raven** (Parent, Foster Parent)
- **Sharyn Smith** (Parent)
- **Laurie Theodorou** (OHA, Early Childhood Mental Health Policy Specialist)
- **Amy Baker** (former OHA Child and Adolescent Mental Health Manager)
- **Frances Purdy** (OHA, Family Partnership Specialist)

Overview

- The focus of the CSAC early childhood workgroup is children age birth to three years.
- Significant reductions in lifelong suffering and medical costs can be achieved with promotion, early prevention and intervention services supporting families of very young children.
- Many of the same concerns are common to all children under 6 years old.

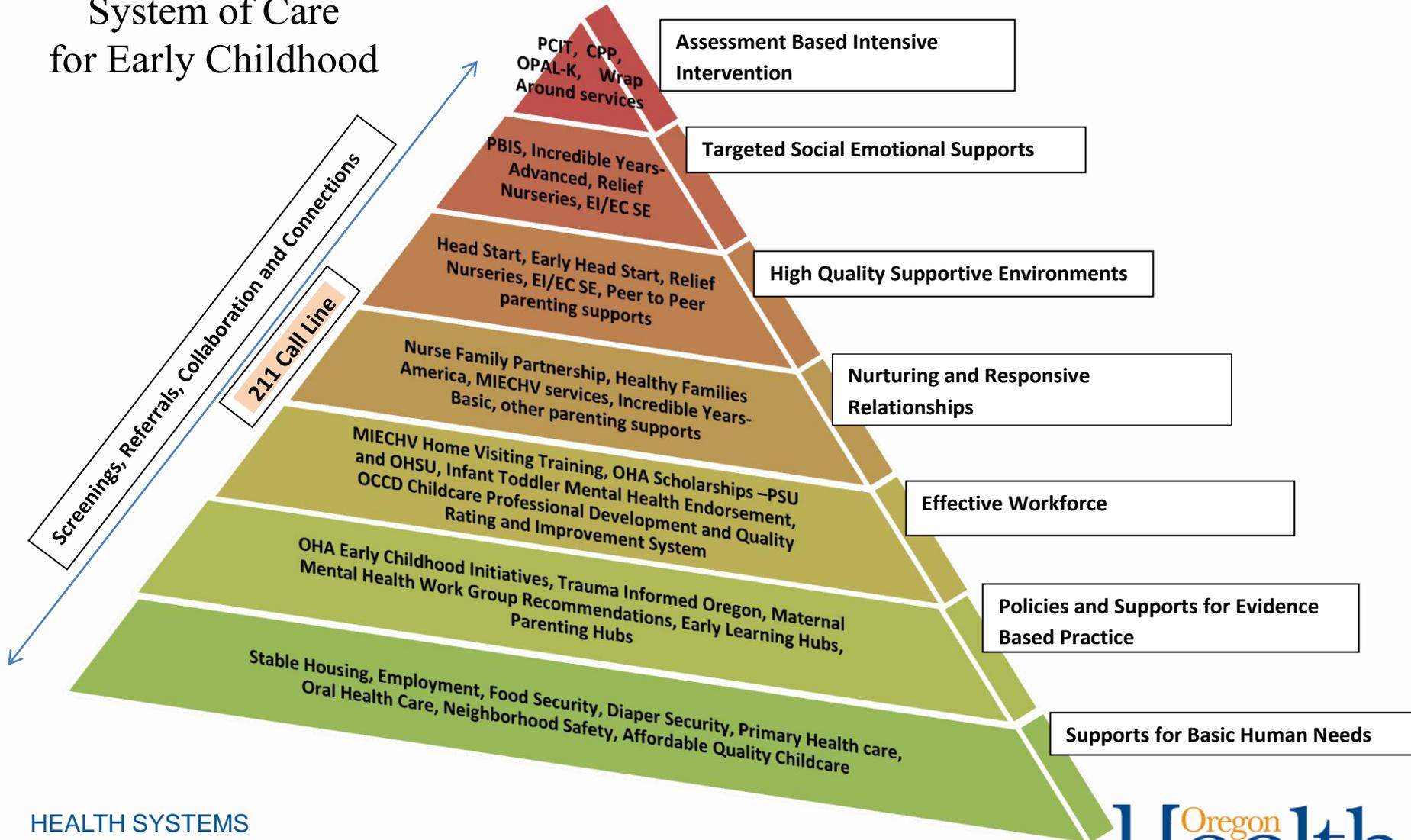
Guiding Principles

- Specialized training and a deep understanding of human development is needed to effectively assess and treat children ages birth to three years old
- A young child's physical, social-emotional, adaptive, linguistic, and cognitive health is greatly influenced by the relationships in their environment
- Systems must acknowledge the importance of supporting parents, and including families when intervention is offered

An Effective Early Childhood System Includes

- Coordinated, effective and consistent services to promote healthy social emotional development in children across systems in all communities.
- A continuum of care across intensity levels and across systems
- An understanding of the cultural, socioeconomic and environmental contexts in which families function.

Example: System of Care for Early Childhood



Gaps in the Current System

Oregon early childhood supports are fragmented and difficult to navigate

Rules require that a child be diagnosed to obtain mental health or developmental interventions

Oregon has a limited workforce with the expertise to assess, diagnose, and treat children 0-3 years

Treatment is currently focused on the individual child rather than on the family and is clinic centered

Family resources cannot be accessed through the child's diagnosis

(Gaps cont.)

Services for children 0-3 who either don't qualify, or whose needs can't be met by Early Intervention services

Mental Health Consultation to Daycare Centers and Preschools

Ongoing supports for overwhelmed parents such as Parent to Parent or Peer Delivered Services

Early Childhood Crisis and respite assistance

Recommendations to OHA in Cooperation with CCOs:

Billing for Children 0-3

- *Statewide dissemination and training for providers in billing mental health services for children ages birth to three years*
- *Disseminate the Oregon-specific **Early Childhood Diagnostic Crosswalk** to aid providers in selecting developmentally appropriate diagnoses and obtaining reimbursement for services*

Cont. Recommendations to OHA:

- *Workforce Development*
 - *Encourage CCO's to expand services to children ages birth to three years through financial incentives to providers*
 - *Recommend that Oregon Health Authority continue training and funding research-supported prevention and intervention programs*

Cont. Recommendations to OHA

- *Systems Development*
 - *Expand access to mental health consultation services in homes, early learning settings, and other environments where children experience life*
 - *Continue supports for online and phone information and referral services*
 - *Adopt the graphic depicting the **System of Care for Promoting Social Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children** as a model*

Recommendations to CSAC

1. Endorse in writing the **Early Childhood Work Group Issue Brief: Filling gaps, Expanding Expertise and Access to Quality Early Childhood and Family Supports**
2. Designate a CSAC representative to present the recommendations at Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC) to approve the billing codes for at-risk children 0-3

Recommendations (cont.)

3. Promote the EC Workgroup recommendations to CCO's in Cooperation with OHA and continue the Early Childhood Workgroup for another year to focus on:

A. Developing a framework for Early Childhood Systems to incorporate system of care principles and philosophies utilizing child and family partners

B. Creating special guidelines allowing G47.0 Insomnia (without apnea) for children 0-5 years of age

Questions?

The Children's System of Care Advisory Committee (CSAC) Early Childhood Workgroup (subcommittee) Issue Brief, supporting documents and Power Point were created by the workgroup participants in conjunctions with Laurie Theodorou, LCSW (OHA, Early Childhood Mental Health Policy Specialist) during meeting held between April, 2014 and October 2015

A full list of resources used to develop these recommendations are included in the CSAC Early Childhood Workgroup's Issue Brief Dated November 20th 2015

