



Washington State Department of  
**Early Learning**

*Kids' Potential, Our Purpose.*

**“Together, with  
parents and  
partners, we offer  
children world-  
class learning  
opportunities so  
they reach their  
full potential.”**

**Head Start and Early Head Start  
Directors Meeting**

*DEL Update*

**December 6, 2007**

**Joe Egan, Chief Operating Officer**

# Quality Rating & Improvement System

- ❑ Investment: \$5 million *over two years for pilot program*
- ❑ Partnerships
  - △ White Center (Thrive by Five Washington)
  - △ Bremerton (Olympic Educational Service District #114)
  - △ Yakima (Thrive by Five Washington)
  - △ Washington State University, Spokane
  - △ Vancouver (Educational Service District #112)

# Quality Rating & Improvement System

## ▣ Progress

### ▣ Selection criteria

#### ▣ Evaluation panel

### ▣ Timeline

#### ▣ Design Phase: November – June, 2008

#### ▣ Implementation Phase: July, 2008 – June, 2009

### ▣ Evaluation

# Child Care Consultations

- ❑ Investment: \$250,000 per year
- ❑ Partnerships
  - △ Eastern WA: Catholic Family and Child Service, Diocese of Yakima
  - △ Northwest WA: Seattle-King County Public Health
  - △ Southwest WA: Child Care Action Council
- ❑ Progress
  - △ RFP released October 18, 2007
  - △ Work to begin by December 1, 2007
  - △ Project evaluation contract being negotiated

# Parent Needs Assessment

- ❑ Investment: \$400,000
- ❑ Partnerships
  - ▢ Stakeholder Planning Group, Parent Advisory Group
- ❑ Progress
  - ▢ Contract with SRI International, effective Nov. 15, 2007 to:
    - ⦿ Assess supports, services and information parents desire
    - ⦿ Random sample survey, oversampling of DEL consumer groups, and specific focus groups
  - ▢ Final Report due: June 15, 2008

# Early Learning Reading Initiative

- ❑ Investment: \$2 million per year
- ❑ Partnerships
  - △ National Children's Reading Foundation (NCRF)
  - △ Thrive By Five
  - △ Early Learning Stakeholders throughout WA
- ❑ Progress
  - △ NCRF contract expands infrastructure to assist local reading foundations
  - △ Thrive By Five awards early reading grants to 14 local organizations
  - △ Developing contract to guide DEL and Early Learning Stakeholders through statewide comprehensive early literacy plan.

# Family Help Line (1-800-923-HOPE)

- ❑ Investment: \$215,000
- ❑ Partnerships
  - △ Contract with Parent Trust for Washington Children
- ❑ Progress
  - △ Effective November 1, 2007
  - △ Enhancements:
    - ⦿ Expansion of live help line services into evenings
    - ⦿ Hire and train Spanish-English bilingual staff
    - ⦿ Public awareness

# Culturally Relevant Parent Support & Education

Investment: \$320,000

## Partnerships

- DEL will contract with private non-profit agencies, local government entities, tribal organizations and faith-based organizations

## Progress

- Informal bid released October 5
- 80 Applicants
- 23 contracts to be awarded at up to \$15,000 each
- Contract period: January – June 2008

# DEL Parent Advisory Group

- ❑ Investment: No funds allocated
- ❑ Partnerships
  - △ The CTED ECEAP Parent Advisory Group agreed to bring parent voice to DEL during early agency formation
  - △ Current Membership: Parents accessing ECEAP and other early learning services in 6 communities statewide
- ❑ Progress
  - △ Group members have analyzed core DEL services and programs
  - △ Parents proposed new voices to join table and identified opportunities for DEL
    - ⦿ Expansion of the group will occur in 2008



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