

Report to Governor Kulongoski

Partners for Children and Families Accomplishments for 2003

Mission Statement: *State partners provide leadership to develop and implement community comprehensive planning and to lead the state and local communities in improving the well being of children and families by building comprehensive partnerships, supports and services.*

The work of Partners for Children and Families in 2003 continued to focus on increasing the visibility and knowledge about children's issues; ensuring that services to children and families are delivered in an effective, evidence-based manner; and streamlining, coordinating, and reducing county reporting requirements. To accomplish these outcomes, the following activities were completed:

Coordination

- Staff from DHS, OCCF, OCJC, and OYA coordinate their work with counties, including joint county visits and shared technical assistance.
- Joint accountability is enhanced by the development of the Common Allocation Form for county reporting on expected expenditures for juvenile crime prevention, alcohol and drug prevention, and local commission resources.
- County reporting uses an approach that links the strategies and expected outcomes from their comprehensive plan for children and families to state funding and state benchmarks.
- Quality Assurance Standards were developed for systems serving ages 0-18 and families, and include new, detailed cultural competency standards.
- A review of state agency-sponsored surveys and evaluations was conducted to reduce redundancies.

Communication

- A web page is being developed to allow for consistent information and to illustrate Partners for Children and Families work efforts.
- Work is underway to improve the visibility of Partners for Children and Families work, both in communicating technical information to counties and general information to increase understanding about the value of prevention.
- Implementation of SB 555 (1999)
- Phase III (biennial update) framework to be released to counties in December. State agencies will evaluate progress in implementing SB 555.
- Twenty-three people trained to provide train the trainer assistance to counties regarding culturally competent practices. Twenty-one counties completed training on gender-specific services.
- State agencies and seven pilot counties collaborate to develop data collection and reporting format for county prevention work. Work to be completed in early 2004.
- Work continues on consolidating planning requirements. At present those planning processes that are not consolidated are at least coordinated with the local community plan.