

August 24, 1998  
cfcord  
clerk 8/27/98

Introduced By:

MAGGI FIMIA  
LARRY GOSSETT

Proposed No.:

98-528

MOTION NO. **10559**

A MOTION adopting the King County Children and Family  
Commission expansion plan for the Healthy Families Program.

WHEREAS, the 1998 Budget Ordinance provides \$165,000 for expansion of the  
Healthy Families Program, contingent upon council review and approval of a plan for such  
expansion, and

WHEREAS, the 1998 Budget Ordinance directed the departments of public health  
and community and human services and the children and family commission to develop a  
plan for the expansion of the Healthy Families Program throughout the county, including  
the city of Seattle, and

WHEREAS, the departments of public health and community and human services  
and the children and family commission have jointly prepared an expansion plan;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

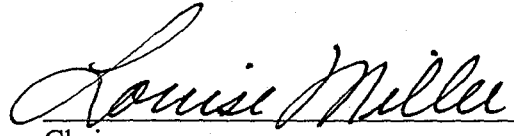
10559

1 The expansion plan for the Healthy Families Program is hereby adopted.

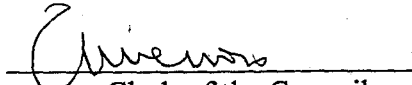
2 PASSED by a vote of 10 to 0 this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September

3 1998.

4 KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
5 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

6   
7 Chair

8 ATTEST:

9   
10 Clerk of the Council

11 Attachments: Expansion Plan for Healthy Families/Early Childhood Program

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**KING COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILY COMMISSION  
EXPANSION PLAN FOR  
HEALTHY FAMILIES/EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM**

**Background**

In the 1998 Budget, the King County Executive designated \$165,000 of discretionary funds for the purpose of expanding the Healthy Families/Early Childhood program in King County. The Proviso required collaboration among the Department of Community and Human Services, (DCHS), the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health (DPH), and the Children and Family Commission (CFC).

The Children and Family Commission convened a work group with representatives from DCHS, Community Services Division and DPH. Meetings were held where the discussions explored ways to improve the internal coordination and collaboration within King County Departments serving young children and families. The work group accomplished the following:

- ◆ reviewed current status of Healthy Families/Early Childhood projects;
- ◆ identified related early childhood and family support projects in King County;
- ◆ identified resources from each of the departments currently supporting Healthy Families/Early Childhood projects;
- ◆ explored strategies to leverage additional non-County resources;
- ◆ identified ways to improve collaboration within and between departments involved in Healthy Families/Early Childhood projects; and
- ◆ outlined a plan for expansion of Healthy Families/Early Childhood projects.

In 1993, the Council provided \$670,778 for new demonstration projects promoting healthy development of children from birth to 5 years old. The Council focused these new funds on early childhood development because of the work done through the Human Service Roundtable Healthy Start planning process. This planning process included extensive research into the best models for prevention of child abuse and neglect. After review of the research the Roundtable concluded that a model of early childhood intervention, proven to reduce child abuse and neglect in the state of Hawaii, was the most effective. This model included four key components:

1. preventive education
2. home visit assessment of families after the birth of a child
3. identification of service needs
4. follow-up services for those families and children determined to be most at-risk

A proviso was adopted that directed the King County Children and Family Commission to develop no more than two early childhood intervention projects. These projects were to be developed outside Seattle in the balance of the County in collaboration with DPH, DCHS, Suburban Cities, and the Human Services Roundtable. At the same time, the City of Seattle provided funding to the DPH for a demonstration project in the Rainier Valley area of Seattle. The proviso held the funds in contingency until the CFC completed an implementation plan and obtained Council approval of the plan.

In the implementation plan, the CFC requested that it be allowed to fund more than two projects, if proposals warranted, and the Council concurred. Through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, four projects were selected and received funding for a three-year demonstration beginning January 1994.

The Human Services Roundtable conducted an evaluation of the Auburn site, and the Seattle Rainier Valley site in 1995. Since these projects were the direct result of the Roundtable's model development work they were interested in learning how the projects had been implemented. This evaluation found the Auburn site to be exemplary, especially in its integration of health with community-based family support services. The Seattle Rainier Valley site provided the services almost exclusively by the DPH and lacked the community involvement and support found in the Auburn site.

In 1996, during the final year of the demonstration phase, the CFC completed an outcome evaluation of the four early childhood projects. The evaluation indicated that two of the projects had been implemented as planned, focused on families with young children birth to five, and had been the catalyst to creating successful collaboration with other community resources which significantly increased the positive impact of the project. Two of the projects were not as successful in implementing the original intent of the early childhood model and were unable to fully meet the desired outcome of support to families with children birth to five years of age. Funding for these two projects was discontinued. The successful projects were:

- ◆ Auburn Healthy Start (Children's Home Society of Washington) providing service to families in the Auburn area
- ◆ Eastside Healthy Start (Friends of Youth) providing service to families in the East King County area

Both successful projects involved close collaboration between community-based providers, families, and the DPH. The projects utilized nurses from the DPH during the home-visiting phase of the project, proving to be a key component of their success. Based on the results of the evaluation, the CFC decided to continue the successful projects and put money from the other two projects out for bid for enhancement and expansion of the successful models.

In August 1997, the CFC solicited applications from the community for the development, implementation and expansion of the Healthy Families/Early Childhood Program. The

intent was to fund one additional project in a new community. Two of the proposals were exceptional and the CFC decided to divide the available funds between two applicants. Children's Home Society received funding to expand into the Kent community (Kent Healthy Start) and Neighborhood House received funds to develop a project in the White Center area (Southwest King County Early Intervention and Prevention Program, Highline and Tukwila School Districts).

### Current Status

At this time, the CFC funds three projects: Auburn Healthy Start and Kent Healthy Start (Children's Home Society of Washington), Eastside Healthy Start and Sno-Valley Healthy Start (Friends of Youth), and Southwest King County Early Intervention and Prevention Program (Neighborhood House). The projects are offered in East King County, Snoqualmie Valley, Auburn, Kent, and White Center (Highline and Tukwila School Districts) areas. All of the projects have forged partnerships with community resources, families, and the DPH. These supportive networks have contributed significantly to the ability to successfully support families in raising healthy children. The Auburn Healthy Start and Kent Healthy Start (Children's Home Society of Washington) and Eastside Healthy Start and Sno-Valley Healthy Start (Friends of Youth) projects have on-going funding status. The Southwest King County Early Intervention and Prevention Program (Neighborhood House) is in the initial phase (see Healthy Families/Early Childhood Program Funding Policy).

The projects are funded through the early childhood funds in the CFC budget. The DPH provides in-kind support to all three contracts. The Children's Home Society sub-contracts with the DPH for additional nursing services. The involvement of the DPH is an integral part of all these projects and an important key to their success. DCHS funds other services that overlap with these projects but the focus is children with developmental delays. At this time there is no formal partnership, but discussions underway to find common areas to collaborate.

The current early childhood funds are allocated as follows:

Children's Home Society	Friends of Youth	Neighborhood House
\$349,138	\$225,076	\$80,000

### Expansion Plan

Based on the results of the recent evaluation, results of the competitive process, and the needs assessment recently completed by the Community Services Division and the East Urban Subregion<sup>1</sup> planning team, it is recommended that the \$165,000 be used to expand and enhance the existing program as follows:

<sup>1</sup> East Urban subregion includes Bellevue, Issaquah, Lake Washington, Mercer Island, Northshore and Shoreline School Districts.

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- Expand the Children's Home Society Healthy Start project to the Renton and/or Maple Valley communities as proposed in the application submitted to the CFC during the recent RFP process. Location of the expansion will depend on the amount of dollars available to this project and the readiness of the communities. The projected start date is September 1998.
- Expand the Friends of Youth Healthy Start project to address the needs identified in the CSD East Urban subregion plan to expand the target population beyond age 21 to include young parents up to the age of 24. The projected start date is September 1998.
- Expand the target population to parents 24 years or younger in the Southwest King County Early Intervention and Prevention Program (Neighborhood House). The current target population is teenage parents 18 years old or younger. The projected start date is September 1998.

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- Expand the Healthy Families/Early Childhood program into communities identified through the Community Services Division Subregional planning process. The availability of funding alternatives within local communities, private foundations, and government will be identified and utilized whenever possible.

Roles

***King County Children and Family Commission*** will continue to provide funding for the Healthy Families/Early Childhood program. The CFC will monitor, evaluate, and report to the other partners the results of these activities. In addition, the CFC will work in partnership with providers and County departments to pursue the identification of alternative and/or matching funding sources and a permanent home for these projects. The CFC will work with Executive and Council staff to establish a new or revised program in a specific County department or by formal agreement between two or more County departments. If transfer to another department is not deemed feasible or appropriate, the CFC will continue administration of the program.

***Seattle-King County Department of Public Health*** will continue to provide in-kind resources and utilize their ability to use the Healthy Family dollars to generate additional Medicaid funds. The Department of Public Health will also continue to participate in the identification and implementation of new projects in new communities.

***Department of Community and Human Services, Community Services Division*** will be a catalyst for the identification through the subregional planning of local communities that

are ready to build on existing community-based resources and are interested in investing in the Healthy Families/Early Childhood program.

*Department of Community and Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities* will explore with the state and federal governments the extent to which current funding for early identification and family resource coordination could be utilized in enhancing and expanding Healthy Families/Early Childhood program.