



GOAL:
Children are Healthy & Ready for School

OUTCOMES

Parent & Caregiver

- Increased understanding of the importance of comprehensive health care (including medical, dental, mental health, & vision).
- Increased ability to recognize an emerging issue with their child's health or development & connect with appropriate services.



System

- Increased number & percentage of children who have medical insurance.

Child Changes

- Increased number & percentage of children who receive recommended preventive care (e.g., well-child, immunizations).
- Increased number & percentage of children who have access to comprehensive health care (including medical, dental, mental health, & vision).

STRATEGIES

1

Medical and dental care is available and affordable. All parents understand the need for dental care and take their children dentists who are affordable; All eligible children access health insurance.

2

PRIORITY: Mental health services are locally available and destigmatized. Child and family mental health information is included in parenting education to promote an understanding of mental health. b) The criteria of mental health is expanded. c) Increase access to Latino / Spanish language mental health support.

3

Children with special needs and health concerns are identified and supported by screening with a tool such as the Ages and Stages Questionnaire. Child care providers and preschools offer health and developmental screening. Children with special needs are identified and obtain optimum support.

4

All early learning environments are supported in health education to include issues around safety, substance abuse, etc. Bright Futures or similar programs are integrated in early learning environments.

5

RESOURCES

System Building Initiatives

Participation in Northwest Early Learning Governor's Summit Development of a county early learning coalition

Participating Systems

Health Community College Libraries Child Welfare School Districts Educational Services District Early Intervention County Government Head Start and ECEAP Child Care Resource and Referral Tribes

Governance

Part of Northwest Early Learning, Children's Council of Skagit County with By-Laws, Board

Communication

E-mail communication Agency newsletters Born Learning Campaign monthly Children's Council meetings

Parent Leadership

Parent groups in Head Start, ECEAP, parent co-ops, school district parent involvement councils, early intervention parent involvement

Guiding Principles

Parents/guardians are child's most important teacher, services available to all, family choices, individual cultures are to be respected., collaboration among current systems, build on existing resources, close linkages to K-12, smooth transitions, adequate funding, public awareness of value of el developed, strong professional development systems, best practices and current research provide guidance

Funding

ELOA grant Safe Schools, Healthy Students grant, county funding, Department of Early Learning funding, Even Start, future private outreach