Skagit County

Parenting Information and Support

GOAL:

Children are Healthy & Ready for School

OUTCOMES

Parent & Caregiver

- Increased stress-reduction skills
- Increased availability of community resources & support networks
- Improved understanding & practice of nurturing behaviors to promote children's optimal social-emotional development & mental health

System

Increased availability of parent education resources & services

Child Changes

Increased number & percentage of children who live in safe, stable & supportive families

STRATEGIES

1

PRIORITY: Access and referral to quality parent education is increased. Inventory where parents are and integrate parent education into those settings with Born Learning 'trusted messengers' to include physicians, faith-based community. Support school districts to use school readiness to reach more isolated families.

2

Home visiting programs meet the child development and parenting needs of families not in other service models. Increase access to home visiting programs to families with 0-5 year olds who are not normally served including Family Friends and Neighbor caregivers.

3

Services to families of birth to three year olds promote attachment and positive adult/child relationships. Expand training and resources to multiple programs / agencies/ individuals who work with birth to three.

4

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 Servcies 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 involvrement 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

FAMILY SUPPORT APPROACH, STRATEGY, OR OUTCOME