



The Early Learning Division supports all of Oregon's young children and families to learn and thrive.

**EARLY LEARNING DIVISION**

February 20, 2018

# ELD Funding Request

- Additional Office of Child Care Staffing
  - ▣ **\$1,740,912**
  - ▣ **Total of 14 positions/7.72 FTE**
    - **3 manager positions in OCC**
    - **6 child care licensors**
    - **5 limited duration positions to pilot joint investigations with DHS**
- Lead testing for license-exempt providers serving families receiving child care subsidies (Regulated Subsidy Providers)
  - ▣ **\$239,796**
  - ▣ **Includes administrative support through an existing contractor**

# Why urgent need



- Tragedies in child care
- New steps and procedures to strengthen oversight
- New rules requiring testing water for lead in child care facilities
- Impact of recently implemented new federal monitoring requirements on caseloads

# ELD Funding Request: Licensing Staff

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- 6 Additional Licensing Staff
  - \$749,337
- 3 positions – Compliance Specialist 3
  - Provide training to licensing staff; review findings of enforcement actions; lead case reviews; reduce licensing caseloads
- 3 positions – Compliance Specialist 2
  - Lower caseloads; expand capacity to increase unannounced visits

## Licensing Caseloads

- Recommended caseload: 1 licensing specialist per 50 facilities
- Current Oregon caseload: 1 licensing specialist per 150 facilities
- Revised Oregon caseload with requested staffing: 1 licensing specialist per 138 facilities

# ELD Funding Request

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Requesting 3 positions (1.66 FTE)

□ \$410,181

- Licensing Director to oversee day-to-day operations
- Regional Manager (Medford) to oversee day-to-day operations in the Medford field office
- Additional Manager in the Central Office (Salem), to support operations of the central office team

Average current manager-to-staff ratio: 1:21

HB 3165 (2013) target: 1:11

# Focused oversight of licensing system

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- Quality assurance
  - ▣ Review of licensor actions
  - ▣ Tracking timely visits and follow up
  - ▣ Reviewing data and reports to identify patterns, and adjust management practices accordingly
- Successful implementation of new procedures and processes
- Greater consistency in the field
  - ▣ Documenting findings from inspections and complaint visits
  - ▣ Decision-making regarding citations, investigations, and follow up actions
- Enhanced, more frequent training for licensing staff

# ELD Funding Request: Pilot of Tandem Investigations

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- Agency Request
  - 5 LD Compliance Specialist 2 positions
  - \$581,390
- Allow OCC to conduct joint investigations with DHS when allegations of abuse and neglect occur in licensed child care
  - Currently OCC & DHS conduct separate investigations
  - New highly trained OCC investigators would accompany DHS on investigations
  - Pilot in Portland Metro, Salem & Eugene

# Current Investigative Authority/Roles

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## Department of Human Services

- Investigate allegations of abuse and neglect including in child care facilities
- Determine if abuse or neglect occurred, if child is in imminent danger, and work with partners on appropriate actions

## Early Learning Division

- Investigate whether a child care facility is in violation of regulations
- Take administrative action to ensure safety of all children in the facility



# Urgent Need for Joint Action

- Agencies conduct separate investigations – OCC waits for CPS investigations
- OCC cannot take timely actions without first-hand evidence
- OCC lacks staff trained in this kind of investigative practice
- Need to increase understanding of type and timeliness of information that each agency shares during course of investigation

# Commitment by ELD & DHS Leadership

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- Conduct review of joint investigations pilot
  - Secretary of State audit of pilot
- Determine if additional policy or statutory changes are needed to support the success of this shared work
- Next steps:
  - Signed Intergovernmental Agreement
  - Work group formed to develop pilot and outcome metrics
  - New staff hired by April 1<sup>st</sup>, pending funding

# Lead Testing

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- Early Learning Council adopting rules on February 22<sup>nd</sup> requiring all licensed child care and regulated subsidy facilities to conduct lead testing of water and take steps to prevent children's exposure to lead
- Mitigation: child care facilities will be required to submit a corrective action plan for approval; ELD in collaboration with OHA will analyze test data to assess extent of problem and costs for full mitigation

# Lead Testing

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- ❑ **\$237,796** to cover the cost of lead testing only for Regulated Subsidy Providers
  - Regulated Subsidy Providers are our least-resourced providers serving Oregon's most vulnerable children
  - Covers \$35 per test per fixture/estimated 2 fixtures for home
  - For Portland Metro area, some of the testing cost covered by Portland Water Bureau
  - Includes funding for administrative support to process the reimbursement of lead testing through an existing contractor



# Questions?

