

BETTER WORLDS START WITH GREAT FAMILIES

AND GREAT FAMILIES START WITH US

Oregon Senate Committee on Early Childhood and Behavioral Health

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Matthew Richardson Government Affairs Manager The National Office for Nurse-Family Partnership & Child First matthew.richardson@nursefamilypartnership.org Nurse-Family Partnership[®] is an evidence-based, community health program with 45 years of research showing significant improvements in the health and lives of first-time parents and their children affected by social and economic inequality.



Nurse-Family Partnership in Oregon

Established: 1999

Families Served: 7931 (cumulative)

Active programs: 7

Counties currently served:

9





Who We Work With

OREGON NFP PARENTS

24 Median age at intake

74% Unmarried at intake

85% Clients enrolled in Medicaid at intake

*Aggregate data provided by NSO. Includes state data from 01/01/2019 to 12/31/2021.

\$9,000-\$12,000

Annual median household income at intake

Oregon families served by NFP are ethnically and racially diverse, with over 50% BIPOC families served from 2019-2021.

Race 70% White 11% Black or African American 2% Asian 2% American Indian or Alaska Native 1% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander 7% Multi-racial 6% Declined Ethnicity 35% Hispanic 63% Non-Hispanic 1% Declined





KEY GOALS

- Improve Pregnancy Outcomes
- Improve Child Health and Development
- Improve Economic Self-Sufficiency of the Family



EXPERT: Specially-trained nurses

VOLUNTARY: Parents achieve their own hearts' desires

PROVEN: Extensive and compelling evidence

INTENSIVE: Pregnancy through age 2

> **TIMELY:** First 1000 days

THE FIRST 1,000 DAYS

- Early experiences influence the developing brain
- Toxic affects of chronic stress
- Adversity can lead to lifelong problems
- Early intervention can prevent consequences
- Stable, caring relationships essential for development



Synapse formation dependent on early experiences



Source: Nelson, C.A., From Neurons to Neighborhoods (2000). Shonkoff, J. & Phillips, D. (Eds.)

GOLD STANDARD RESEARCH







1977 Elmira, NY 400 Low-income whites Semi-rural area

1990 Memphis, TN 1,138 Low-income blacks Urban area 1994Denver, CO735Large proportion of HispanicsNurses and paraprofessionals

Trial outcomes demonstrate that Nurse-Family Partnership delivers against its three primary goals of better pregnancy outcomes, improved child health and development and increased economic self-sufficiency making a measurable impact on the lives of children, families and the communities in which they live.

For example, the following outcomes have been observed among participants in at least one of the trials of the program. **TRIAL OUTCOMES 48%** reduction in child abuse and neglect¹ **56%** reduction in ER visits for accidents and poisonings² **50%** reduction in language delays of child age 21 months³ 67% less behavioral/intellectual problems at age 64 **32%** fewer subsequent pregnancies⁵ 82% increase in months employed⁶ **61%** fewer arrests of the mother¹ **59%** reduction in child arrests at age 15⁷

^{1.} Reanalysis Olds et al. Long-term effects of home visitation on maternal life course and child abuse and neglect fifteen-year follow-up of a randomized trial. Journal of the American Medical Association. 1997

^{2.} Olds DL, et al. Preventing child abuse and neglect: a randomized trial of nurse home visitation. Pediatrics. 1986

^{3.} Olds D.L., Robinson J., O'Brien, R. Home visiting by paraprofessionals and by nurses: a randomized, controlled trial. Pediatrics. 2002

Olds DL, et al. Effects of nurse home visiting on maternal life-course and child development: age-six follow-up of a randomized trial. Pediatrics. 2004

^{5.} Olds, D.L., Eckenrode, J., et al. Long-Term Effects of Home Visitation on Maternal Life Course and Child Abuse and Neglect Fifteen-Year Follow-up of a Randomized Trial. JAMA. 1997

^{6.} Olds D.L., Henderson C.R. Jr., Tatelbaum R., Chamberlin R. Improving the life-course development of socially disadvantaged mothers: a

Nurse-Family Partnership Projected Outcomes in Oregon

Based on a review and analysis of more than 40 NFP evaluation studies and replication data, Dr. Ted Miller of the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation predicts the following outcomes from offering NFP at scale in OR:

- Smoking in pregnancy \downarrow 23%
- Pregnancy-induced hypertension ↓ 30%
- Closely spaced births (15 months postpartum) ↓34%



- Emergency department use for childhood injuries ↓31%
- Full immunization \uparrow 12%
- Language delay ↓37%



- First pre-term births \downarrow 14%
- Infant mortality $\sqrt{43\%}$
- TANF payments ↓7% (13 years post-partum)
- Person-months on Medicaid ↓7% (15 years post-partum)
- Costs if on Medicaid ↓13% (through age 18)

Return on Investment

When broader cost savings to society are taken into account, like savings on medical care, child welfare, special education, and criminal justice, the predicted Oregon benefit-cost ratio grows to be **\$6.10 to \$1** for every dollar invested in Nurse-Family Partnership.





Funding for NFP in OR

- Federal funding through the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program
- Federal funding through Medicaid reimbursement
- County funding through paying the non-federal match required by Medicaid (~60% fed, 40% local)



What is the problem we are trying to solve?

- Requiring counties to pay the non-federal Medicaid match limits where NFP services can be offered. 27 Oregon counties don't have access to an NFP program. This arrangement also makes current programs dependent on the resources and political will of county leaders.
- Having counties pay the non-federal Medicaid match puts NFP out of alignment with how nearly all Medicaid services in Oregon are supported by a state match. It also is a deviation from how other evidence-based home visiting programs are supported with state dollars without a county match, such as Healthy Families Oregon or Family Connects.
- Without consistent match funding provided by the state, Oregon will lose out on federal funds.



2025 Legislative Ask – SB 1033

In 2024, the legislature made a one-time \$3.16 million appropriation for FY25 to pay the non-federal Medicaid match for NFP, which saved services from ending in parts of the state. This funding was part of critical behavioral health investments needed to support Oregonian.



In 2025, we are asking the legislature to preserve and expand NFP services to families across Oregon by **making permanent the approach of having the state pay the non-federal Medicaid match**. Continuing the same amount of funding appropriated last session would **cost \$6.32 million over the biennium**.



QUESTIONS?