

Relief Nurseries

A PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP SUPPORTING OREGON'S CHILDREN
AND FAMILIES SINCE 1976



Oregon Association
of Relief Nurseries

REDUCTION IN COSTLY FOSTER CARE

The Relief Nursery model reduces child maltreatment.

90- 95% of children enrolled in Relief Nurseries can remain safely living with their parents.



RETURN ON INVESTMENT

According to an [ECONorthwest analysis](#), Relief Nurseries provides an estimated \$2-4 return on every dollar spent due to improved educational outcomes, increased future taxes paid by participants, and reductions in child abuse, neglect, crime, and need for publicly funded services.

Oregon's 38 Relief Nursery Sites



**Relief Nurseries are
comprehensive child development
and family support agencies**



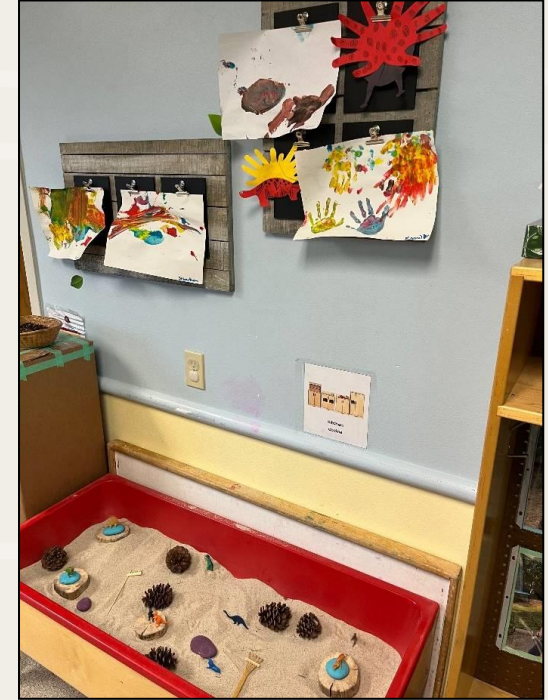
- Therapeutic Early Childhood Program classrooms
- Outreach & Respite Child Care
- Parenting Education
- Home visiting is part of all core Relief Nursery programs
- Transportation, Clothing, Meals, Food Pantry
- Mental Health Counseling
- Special Education Services
- Substance Use Disorder Recovery Support.

The Great Rotary Duck Race provided foundational support of Relief Nursery's capital campaign in 1990, to help us achieve our goal providing services under one roof.



How Relief Nurseries meet children's needs

- Focus on social and emotional development
- High ratio of adults to children
- Therapeutic indoor and outdoor play
- Teachers provide home visits





Relief Nursery children

- 14 toddlers, 2-3 years-old – most of whom have very few words
- Seven of 14 children have special education needs with a mental or behavioral health diagnosis
- Two are in Child Protective Services/ODHS custody
- One child's father is incarcerated
- Four of the children are being raised by grandparents
- One child abuse and neglect report was made



How does a child, as young as two, receive a behavioral or mental health diagnosis?

- Emotional dysregulation
- Don't speak – most children in class have very few words
- Hide and express fear
- Tantrums and self harm
- Violence and aggression towards teachers and other children

These behaviors are trauma revealing itself.

Relief Nursery family profiles and risk factors

- 100% extreme low income
- 56% substance abuse
- 45% domestic violence
- 44% ODHS history
- 48% mental health issues

90% of Relief Nursery families have 5 or more risk factors

Please champion and prioritize HB 3933 and the \$4.9M in additional funding for Relief Nurseries.

This funding will allow Relief Nurseries to continue responding to rapidly changing community needs and children and families in crisis.

Thank you.



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