

Tuesday, February 27, 2025

**RE: Healthy Families Oregon Home Visiting (SB 420) and Nurse Family Partnership Home Visiting (SB 1033)**

Chair Reynolds, Vice-Chair Anderson, Members of the Committee,

Early childhood is the foundation for all future learning and life experiences. **For Oregon to have a brighter future, the 2025 legislature must make progress for our youngest residents.** When we choose children, we improve people's lives and bend the cost curve on spending driven by crises.

**Home visiting is a proven approach that improves physical & mental health outcomes, strengthens parenting, enhances self-sufficiency, and keeps families together and safe.** Home visiting does this by supporting parents as their children's first teacher - starting prenatally and continuing through the critical first years of life. Trained home visitors help families to support child development, set and reach family goals, and navigate wrap-around services. And while home visiting is effective, only 18% of families with 2 or more risk factors have access. **This is why the Early Childhood Coalition supports SB 420 and SB 1033.**

SB 420 will invest \$6 million in the critical services of Healthy Families Oregon home visiting. This investment will increase the number of culturally and linguistically diverse home visitors, especially in rural Oregon. It will also stabilize existing services.

SB 1033 will support stability and future growth for Nurse Family Partnership home visiting. This program is largely funded through Medicaid, which requires matching funds. In the past, these matches have been provided by County governments, meaning many local programs were in jeopardy each year. This legislation will codify Oregon's current practice of the state paying the Medicaid match.

**The Coalition supports both bills to ensure we have a sustainable, effective home visiting available to families.** Half of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) occur by age 3. Experiencing 4 or more is correlated with challenges later in life, such as substance abuse and behavioral health challenges. Prevention and early intervention are critical in breaking this cycle ([Burke Foundation](#)). Home visiting is one critical strategy to heal families and break cycles.

**We urge your support for SB 420 and SB 1033 as a critical piece of supporting strong, stable families in Oregon and healing past harm.**

Sincerely,

Adelante Mujeres  
Ballmer Institute  
Children's Institute  
FACT Oregon  
Families First Child Care Center  
Happy Go Lucky Child Care  
IRCO  
Metropolitan Family Service  
Neighborhood House  
Northwest Regional ESD  
Nurse-Family Partnership  
Oregon Association of Relief Nurseries  
ORAEYC  
Oregon Head Start Association  
Our Children Oregon  
Prevent Child Abuse Oregon  
Reach Out & Read  
Southern Oregon Early Learning Services  
Yamhill Community Care