

<b>Early Childhood Services Funding</b>		<b>Agency/Program #:</b> 6901-02-I1
		<b>Division:</b> Human & Community Serv.
		<b>Program:</b> Child Care
<b>Agency Name:</b>	Department of Health and Human Services	
<b>Agency Contact:</b>	Hank Hudson / Scott Sim	444-5902
<b>LFC Contact:</b>	Senator Cobb, Senator Williams	
<b>LFD Liaison:</b>	Marilyn Daumiller	444-5386
<b>OBPP Liaison:</b>	Ryan Evans	444-3163

**Program or Project Description:**  
Best Beginnings Child Care scholarship program.

Fund Name:	Appropriation, Expenditure and Source				Approp & Expenditure numbers are as of August 29, 2008
	2008		2009		
	Approp.	Expended	Approp.	Expended	
General Fund	7,913,001	7,910,166	8,598,237	126,680	
State Special	832,584	832,584	837,144	0	
Federal Funds	19,833,981	18,807,806	20,642,705	2,488,127	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$28,579,566</b>	<b>\$27,550,556</b>	<b>\$30,078,086</b>	<b>\$2,614,807</b>	

**Goal(s):**  
The goal is to make quality child care available and accessible to needy Montana families by maintaining child care reimbursement rates for parents at the 75th percentile of the annual market rate for the 12 Child Care Resource & Referral Districts. Affordability of child care will be ensured by maintaining eligibility for the Best Beginnings Child care scholarship program at 150 percent of the current federal poverty level. To ensure that there is no child care waiting list we will support the case load increase for low income working parents.

**Performance Measures :**

a) The estimate for the appropriation was that 5,570 unduplicated families could be in the workforce each year because they receive child care. As of FY 2007 , the number of working TANF households was 6,054; Year end FY 2008 = \_\_\_\_\_; b) An estimated 95 teen parents will be supported through scholarship assistance as they work to complete high school or achieve a GED. As of year end FY 2008, the monthly average of teen families supported is \_\_\_\_\_; c) Managerial reports will be posted on the website www.childcare.mt.gov .

- The Market Rate is surveyed and adjusted annually at the 75th percentile level. Market Surveys will be conducted annually and adjustments will be made to the reimbursement rate to the extent the budget will permit. State rates are distributed to eligibility offices.
- The Federal Poverty Index is incorporated into the Child Care sliding fee scale annually. The sliding fee scale is monitored annually to ensure that the eligibility and accessibility to quality child care is maintained at the recommended federal level. Updated sliding fee scales are given to eligibility offices and are posted on the website www.childcare.mt.gov.
- Caseloads are monitored monthly by the number of families, number of children, facility types, and types of care based on funding sources. Caseloads are monitored to insure accessibility and affordability. These managerial reports are sent to multiple managers within the government and are posted on the website www.childcare.mt.gov. The direct link to the statistical postings is: <http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/statisticalinformation/childcare/monthly/index.shtml>

2009 Biennium Significant Milestones:	Completion Dates	
	Target	Actual
1 The Market Rate Survey was conducted in May 2008 and implemented July 1, 2008 at the 75th percentile of market for the 12 Child Care Resource & Referral Districts in MT.	7/1/2008	1-Jul-08
2 The 2008 Federal Poverty Index was applied to the child care Sliding Fee Scale and implemented August 1, 2008. Annual application of the Federal Poverty Index is planned annually to assure all potential program participants are served at the current 150% of poverty.	8/1/2008	8/1/2008
3 Economic Impact Study for Early Childhood with the Governor's Office of Economic Development is being drafted for completion in the spring 2008.	Spring 2008	22-May-08
4 Early Childhood Comprehensive Consultation Pilot is in progress to run through 8/31/2008. Funding and pilot extended through 6/30/2009	8/31/2008	Extended to 6/30/2009

ECSB assumed the management of all CPS child care payments on the CCUBS system 7/01/2007, plus payment of Tribal IV-E and TANF Worker Caretaker Relative programs eff. 8/1/2007.

7/1/2007

8/1/2007

**Performance Report:**

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**LFD Narrative:**

**LFD ASSESSMENT:** Progress Report Needed: The division is on track with the over-all early childhood services funding, but the report does not address the initiative.

**DATA RELEVANCE:** NO - the report does not address the performance criteria presented by the division for legislative discussion of the decision package in the 2007 session as discussed below. One can't tell, for example, if any teen parents received child care scholarship assistance.

**APPROPRIATION STATUS:**

This initiative report was based on a \$1,741,650 present law decision package approved in the 2007 session. There were initial performance criteria presented by the division in its expanded justification that accompanied its appropriation request. Two of the criteria and the location of related management reports were selected LFD and OBPP staff, presented to the LFC workgroup in the October 2007, and agreed upon at that time. The workgroup reiterated that the October measurements would be used in the December 2007 LFC meeting. The criteria were sent to the division in the performance measures box, but were not addressed in the OBPP report. However the over-all management strategy is nicely stated and there are interesting milestones related to the market rate survey, federal Governor's Office of Economic Development, an early childhood comprehensive consultation pilot, and a reorganization of the child care payment systems from Child and Family Services to this division.

**COMMENTS/ISSUES**

The workgroup may want to ask about: a) The estimate for the appropriation was that 5,570 unduplicated families could be in the workforce each year because they receive child care. As of FY 2007, the number of working TANF households was 6,054; Year end FY 2008 = \_\_\_\_\_; and b) An estimated 95 teen parents will be supported through scholarship assistance as they work to complete high school or achieve a GED. As of year end FY 2008, the monthly average of teen families supported is \_\_\_\_\_.

**OPTIONS:** The workgroup may wish to keep the rating the same or upgrade the rating.



Version	Date	Author
6901-02-11 BO-1	9/24/08	MD

Change Description
Added LFD Narrative