Leveraging Existing Funding Sources to Support Early Head Start and EHS-like Services

Rachel Schumacher
Senior Fellow,
Child Care and Early Education

May 26, 2010
Today we will discuss...

- The case for investing in birth to three
- Financing for what? Revisiting the continuum
- A framework for thinking creatively about financing
- Example strategies
- Oklahoma’s Pilot Early Childhood Program
- Vermont’s Children’s Integrated Services
- Discussion
Per Capita Public Spending for Children Under Three is Low

FIGURE 1. Per Capita Public Spending on Children by Age, 2004


Note: Tax expenditures are not included at either the federal or the state and local level.
Overall States Spend Less on Children Under Three than Older Children

FIGURE 2. Portion of Federal and of State and Local Spending on Children by Age, 2004


Note: Tax expenditures are not included at either the federal or the state and local level.
Heckman, J. “Investing in Disadvantaged Young Children Is Good Economics and Good Public Policy” Testimony before the Joint Economic Committee Washington D.C., June 27, 2007

For the full discussion, see: The Heckman Equation, www.heckmanequation.org
A Continuum of Ways the EHS Model Can Inform State Systems and Services

- Connect federal EHS to state and local early childhood systems
- Coordinate state early childhood systems to offer EHS-like services to families
- Support community partnerships between EHS and local programs, e.g. child care and home visiting
- Expand access to programs that meet federal Program Performance Standards for EHS
The role of the state is to engage and coordinate all components that can enhance the lives of vulnerable infant/toddlers and their families.

State actions take place along a continuum of short- and long-term activities to implement the vision.
### Steps to Comprehensive Infant/Toddler Development Policies

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• Child Care Licensing  
• Child Care Resource and Referral  
• Education  
• Head Start – State Collaboration Office  
• Early Intervention  
• Health  
• Mental Health  
• Maternal and Child Health  
• Public Health  
• Child Welfare/Child and Family Services | | | • Welfare/Workforce  
• Substance Abuse Services  
• Adult Education/ Family Literacy  
• Institutes of Higher Education/State and Community Colleges  
• Immigrant/Refugee Assistance  
• Home visiting (state or local)  
• Liaison with business and philanthropy community |

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**Early Childhood Education & Development**

**Child Health**

**Child Mental Health**

**Child Nutrition**

**Family Partnerships & Economic Supports**

**Supports for Expectant Families**

**Child Safe Environments**
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## Steps to Comprehensive Infant/Toddler Development Policies

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- Early Childhood Education & Development
- Child Health
- Child Mental Health
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### Funding Sources
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- Even Start
- SSBG
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- TANF
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- Private Foundations
- Business
- Tax system

### System Actions
- Plan across agencies
- Set benchmarks across early childhood
- Leverage federal funds
- Mandate linkages across agencies
- Work with Region staff
- Create cross-agency mechanisms to share funding, staff expertise and functions, and decision-making
- Support local partnerships
- Allow flexibility to braid funds locally
- Align functions, e.g. shared intake, screening, training, technical assistance, professional development, and program support
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### Example Policies

- **Fund state EHS or EHS/child care partnerships**
- **Make families eligible for child care subsidy as long as in EHS/HS**
- **Require health screenings for children in licensed or subsidized care**
- **Use Medicaid to pay for mental health therapy and home visits**
- **Make FFN eligible for CACFP and conduct outreach**
- **Put family support workers in subsidized child care centers or support community hubs**
- **Extend home visiting to low-income pregnant women, and include FFN**
Steps to Comprehensive Infant/Toddler Development Policies

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How 20 States Finance Initiatives to Build on EHS

States use multiple sources of **State**, **private**, and **federal** funding

- State General Revenue (10)
- CCDBG Subsidy (10)
- CCDBG Quality Set-aside (3)
- Infant/Toddler Earmark CCDBG (1)
- State Gaming Revenue (1)
- Private Foundation (1)
- TANF(1)
- State Tobacco Settlement (1)
- Head Start – State Collaboration (1)

Other Strategies

- **State**
  - Set-aside in state pre-kindergarten funding
  - Public/private partnership
  - Endowment

- **Local**
  - Shared services/hubs

- **Individual**
  - Refundable state income tax credit for low-income filers tied to QRIS rating
Contact Information

Rachel Schumacher
Senior Fellow, 
Child Care and Early Education 
CLASP
rschumacher@clasp.org
202-906-8005
www.clasp.org