

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Developing a)	RESOLUTION
Plan to Reallocate Administrative)	93-316
Savings from the Department of)	
Social Services to fund three new)	
Parent Child Development Centers)	

WHEREAS, the Chair has reorganized the County Department of Social Services to save dollars currently spent on administration and to focus our efforts to support children and families; and

WHEREAS, the Chair will ask the new Director of the Division of Children and Family Services and the new Children and Family Commission to develop a comprehensive plan to serve children and families including development of community-based Family Support Centers; and

WHEREAS, these actions are consistent with Multnomah County policy as adopted August 22, 1991 (Strategic Planning Resolution) which stated:

"... children are born into, and grow up in, nurturing, healthy, safe environments by providing support to these children and their families". To assist these families, the Board desired that services be "located in the community through multi-service centers accountable to the community."

WHEREAS, the County currently operates Child and Youth Centers serving youth and families age 12 to 18 in six districts in the County; and

WHEREAS, the County started operating Parent Child Development Centers for infants age 0 to 3 years and their families in two of the six districts (Southeast and North Portland) with Great Start money in 1991, with a partial third center added in East County in 1993; and

WHEREAS, the County does not have Parent Child Development Centers in Northeast, the west side and mid County; and

WHEREAS, Parent Child Development Centers offer a comprehensive service model for families with young children by serving the concurrent goals of increasing child-rearing competence of parents while promoting the development of the child. The centers are nonthreatening and natural access points for additional family services; and

WHEREAS target populations are families with infants and

toddlers, although with additional funding, we will also serve older children. The centers are based on the philosophy that the family is the critical factor in child development and the surest way to help children succeed is to support their ability to learn and grow.

WHEREAS, Parent Child Development Centers are neighborhood based and designed to be a hub for services to families with children. Each site provides a set of core services:

- parent development and education
- child development
- health promotion
- mental health promotion
- access to services

A community health nurse is provided at each site to visit every family with a newborn in the area. Each program meets standards set by a PCDC Steering Committee; and

WHEREAS, full development of Family Support Centers requires that each center be able to offer services to young children and their families through a Parent Child Development Center model.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners requests that the Children and Families Division, in conjunction with the Board of County Commissioners and the Commission on Children and Families, prepare a plan to open three new Parent Child Development Centers in conjunction with the current Child and Youth Centers in the North, west side, and mid county districts, and to fully fund the existing Center in East County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that funding these Centers will be a high priority for the Board in their 1994-5 budget process. and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Centers will open as soon as the Board has decided to include them in the 1994-5 budget.

APPROVED THIS 23rd day of September, 1993.

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By


Beverly Stein
Multnomah County Chair

REVIEWED:

LAURENCE KRESSEL, COUNTY COUNSEL
for MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By 