



Early Childhood Services Scan

Montana KIDS COUNT
presentation to the
Best Beginnings Advisory Council



9/28/2011

Goals of the Scan

- 1. Develop list of early childhood services**
- 2. Determine:**
 - how these services help young children
 - existing successes and/or challenges
 - potential needs for improvement
 - if services are part of larger early childhood system in Montana



Who Do the Scanned Programs Serve?



- **Children: 12**
 - *Newborns* 1
 - *0 – 3 years* 2
 - *0 – 5 years* 1
 - *0 – 12 years* 3
 - *0 – 18 years* 6
- **Families : 9**
- **Practitioners and Providers: 5**



What geographic areas do the programs cover?



- **Entire State:** 11
- **State through offices of public assistance:** 6
- **State through other specific departments:** 4
- **Limited geographic coverage:** 4



How are the programs funded?



- **Federal funds** 8
- **Federal & state funds** 9
- **Federal, state & other** 7



How many programs have needs assessments?

- Programs w/formal or informal needs assessment 9
- Programs without a needs assessments 15



Interaction between early childhood programs



Total number of services/programs interacted with	113
Average number of programs interacted with	4.7
HIGH (Head Start Collaboration)	18
LOW (TANF)	0



Task forces and/or advisory groups attended



Total number of task forces/advisory groups listed	64
Average	2.6
HIGH (Montana's Children's Trust Fund)	9
LOW (TANF, Healthy Montana Kids Plus, Montana In-Home/Reunification Services Program, WIC)	0



How many programs agree they are part of a larger early childhood system?

- **Strongly agree** 17
- **Somewhat Agree** 2
- **Agree** 4
- **Somewhat Disagree** 0
- **Strongly Disagree** 0



Early Childhood System Components



ECS COMPONENTS:

1. Health and Medical Home
2. Mental Health
3. Early childhood/education
4. Family support

COMPONENTS OFFERED:

- 6 programs offer all 4 components
- 2 programs offer 3 components
- 6 programs offer 2 components
- 8 programs offer 1 component



Services Provided

- Health Care 8
- Education 2
- Food and nutrition 3
- Family support 5
- Supporting providers & practitioners 6



Program aspects that have worked really well



Themes of what is working well	Number of Programs with Identified Theme
Communication, Collaboration, Relationship Building Etc.	16
Program features/services	11
Program functioning	10
Program Accessibility	10
Leadership	4
Training	4



Program aspects that have not worked well



Themes of what hasn't worked well	Number of Programs with Identified Theme
Administrative or program processes	12
Insufficient Resources resulting in inadequate program service, provider availability etc.	9
Outreach, communication challenges	7
Philosophical Differences	5
Program functioning challenges	4
Data challenges	3
Sustainability	3



Changes that would improve program



Themes of what could be changed to improve the program	Number of programs with identified theme
Programmatic Improvements	14
Collaboration, partnering, communication etc.	7
More resources	7
Training and Professional Requirements	7
Political and Administrative Flexibility	5





Thank You!

Questions and Discussion

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