



Washington State Department of
Early Learning

Healthiest Next Generation (HNG) Update

Early Learning Advisory Council

June 2, 2015



Goals for Our Children

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Be physically active
- Eat and drink healthfully



Initiative Focus Areas

- Breastfeeding
- Physical Activity
- Healthy Eating



Initiative Focus Environments

- Healthy Early Learning Settings
- Healthy Schools
- Healthy Communities



Collaboration

- Governor's Council for the Healthiest Next Generation
- Community Steering Committee
- Cross Agency Team



Cross Agency Team

- Department of Early Learning
- Department of Health
- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction



Work of Cross Agency Team

- Development of Recommendations
- Fulfillment of Proviso Activities
- Initiative Communication and Engagement



Current Implementation of Healthiest Next Generation Initiative

HNG Proviso Actions for 2014-2015

- Identification of programs for expansion (All)
- Identification of toolkits for professionals (DEL, OSPI)
- Development of a system for mentoring (DEL, OSPI)

Proviso Actions Continued

- Enhance Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) performance standards. (DEL)
- Revise statewide quality health and fitness standards for schools. (OSPI)
- Establish performance metrics (All)

Current HNG Work at DEL

- Create a [Healthiest Next Generation Webpage](#)
- Review and promote current training opportunities
- Review and promote existing toolkits and resources



Current Work Continued

- Training child care licensors
- ECEAP performance standards



Leveraging HNG Funding

- Revision of Child Care Basics Curricula
- Development of Drinking Water Kit with WA Dental Services Foundation
- Funding for the Coalition for Safety and Health in Early Learning (CSHEL) to expand membership

Leveraging Continued

- Development of proposal to fund learning communities for early learning providers
- Respond to USDA request for comments on the proposed revisions to the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Best practices incorporated into DEL policies and systems

Longer Term Priority Areas for DEL

- Update child care center licensing regulations
- Increase professional training opportunities (Early Achievers)
- Fund regional learning communities for early learning providers



Next Steps for HNG Initiative

- End of legislative session
- Fulfillment of Proviso Activities



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