



MAKE THE
**FIRST FIVE
COUNT**[®]

State of Early Intervention: Oregon

Every year, we as a nation fail to identify more than one million young children at risk for developmental delays or disabilities—children who will enter school already far behind other kids their age. But with the right treatment and therapy before the age of five, we can change the state of early intervention for thousands of kids in Oregon.

Through *Make the First Five Count*[®], Easter Seals is raising awareness and activating the American public to demand that all young children get the support they need before the age of five. Make life better for children in your community—those at risk for autism, developmental delays and other disabilities—and help us achieve \$100 million in additional federal funding for Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This is the federal program that provides critical services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and to their families.

Funding for Part C will help kids like Lucero.



Lucero

Easter Seals Oregon, Salem

Maria and David weren't sure what to expect of their baby, Lucero, when they began services at Easter Seals Oregon's Healthy Start/Healthy Families. The family had several stressors in their life—and few natural local supports.

But a lot has changed for their family since that time. They are connected to the Oregon Health Plan, the Women, Infants, and Children program, and have already met many parenting goals. Maria says, "I think Healthy Start helps you way, way, way more than you think." Through receiving help as well as giving back to others, Maria and David were able to make friends in the area. "That's another thing Healthy Start does... it connects you to the community."

Maria's Easter Seals Oregon family support worker can see the positive impact of the program during each visit, where Lucero is active and vibrant. The consistent and supportive relationship with their family support worker has really made a difference in the life of this family.





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The State of Funding

Today, it's harder than ever for families to access care, because essential programs to treat young children with disabilities are chronically underfunded and in danger of being scaled back even further this year and in 2014.

Through *Make the First Five Count*, Easter Seals is calling on Congress to protect and grow funding for Part C by \$100 million, for a total of \$539 million, in the years to come.

- **Federal funding:** Currently, Oregon receives \$4.8 million from the federal government to support early intervention services under Part C. This is an increase of \$30,000 from the previous year.
- **State funding:** Oregon allocates nearly \$11.3 million in funding for early intervention. This represents a decrease of \$1.6 million between 2012 and 2013.

Investing in early diagnosis and treatment now will save in future care costs—there is no better investment than in our children.

The Numbers in Oregon

- There are 150,381 kids in Oregon ages 0-3.
- On average, fewer than 20% of young children are properly screened to identify their special need, or approximately 30,076 Oregon children.
- In Oregon, 19,550 kids under the age of 3 are at risk of developmental delays or disabilities, yet only 2,940 are currently receiving early intervention services through Part C of IDEA.

Sources:

http://www.ideadata.org/tables34th/AR_C-2.xls
<http://mchb.hrsa.gov/nsch/07main/moreinfo/pdf/nsch07child.pdf>
https://www.ideadata.org/arc_toc12.asp#partcCC
<http://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statetables/12stbyprogram.pdf>
http://www.nectac.org/~xls/IDEA/PartC_2012_allocations.xlsx

State funding information provided by a state government official is available upon request.

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