

HB 2144
Children's Wraparound
January 15, 2009**Concept**

The Statewide Wraparound Project was initiated in 2007 through a Governor's Order (No. 07-04). This order directed a steering committee to develop a strategic plan for statewide implementation of a system of care approach to the delivery of behavioral health services and supports for children, youth, and families. This Legislative Concept is a continuation of a broadly supported initiative based on nationally recognized models to organize a system of services and supports that would:

- Provide services and supports as early as possible so that children can be successful in their homes, schools, and communities.
- Make services available based on the individual needs of the child and family, rather than on system requirements.
- Maximize resources available to serve children and families across systems, to most appropriately and effectively meet the physical and mental health needs of Oregon's children.

The Legislative Concept provide clear direction, legislative oversight, and statutory authority for state agencies to establish an organized and integrated system of services and supports that will achieve the following outcomes:

- Increased days at home (fewer days in residential placements);
- Improved school attendance;
- Improved school performance (fewer discipline problems, better grades);
- Reduced contacts with law enforcement;
- Reduced contacts with child welfare;
- Reduced length of stay within child welfare system;
- Improved daily functioning; and
- Increased satisfaction of families with services received.

Need for policy change

Oregon's state and local agencies, public and private organizations, care providers, advocates, and many others have worked tirelessly for years to provide the services

and supports needed by children with developmental and behavioral disorders. While these efforts have had some success, progress has been hindered by splintered delivery systems. Services historically have been provided independently by an array of specialized providers, rather than part of an integrated and holistic approach. This has resulted in occasional duplication of services as well as gaps in service delivery, particularly for children and youth with the most complex needs and multiple diagnoses.

Impact if not approved

Children and youth from birth to age 18 with emotional, behavioral, or substance abuse related needs, and who touch two or more systems and their families would continue to receive services and supports that does not meet their needs or achieve their outcomes.

Other possible solutions

None available at this time.

Supporters

- State agencies including the Department of Human Services, Department of Education, Oregon Youth Authority, and Commission on Children and Families
- Oregon Family Support Network,
- Governor's Council on Alcohol and Drug Use,
- Oregon Association of Community Mental Health Programs, and
- Other professional and provider organizations.

Fiscal impact

None

Contact

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