



**Special Advocacy Edition: February 2016**

**Take Action to Support Early  
Intervention/  
Early Childhood Special Education  
Services**



**Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) helps over 11,500 Oregon children with disabilities prepare for kindergarten. EI/ECSE strengthens families, improves outcomes and is cost effective.**

**While more children with disabilities need EI/ECSE services, there are already about 700 children in need of services that are not factored into Oregon's 2015-17 budget. EI/ECSE needs \$5.4 million to serve eligible children and prevent reductions of current service levels which are already often less than what is really needed.**

**These programs CANNOT have waiting lists!**



**Download our newest fact sheet on Early Intervention/ Early Childhood Special Education for 2016 here!**

**Now is the time to ask  
legislators to**

**invest in EI/ECSE!**

**\$5.4 million is needed for caseload  
increases and to avoid service  
reductions**



# Oregon State Legislature

## Who Represents Me in Oregon?

### Who Do You Contact?

- Your State Senator
- Your State Representative
- Members of the Ways & Means Subcommittee on Education

### Three Ways To Connect With Legislators - Do One Or All!

- Participate in the Advocacy Day at the Capitol on February 1
- Schedule another time for personal meetings with legislators; or
- Email your State Senator, State Representative and Members of Ways and Means Education Subcommittee on Education

## Find your State Representative and Senator:

### Visit the website:

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/FindYourLegislator/leg-districts.html>

### for their email address and phone number.

Leave a message with staff or if you reach their voicemail.

### Education Subcommittee Member Email List:

<a href="mailto:Rep.BettyKomp@state.or.us">Rep.BettyKomp@state.or.us</a>	<a href="mailto:Sen.RodMonroe@state.or.us">Sen.RodMonroe@state.or.us</a>
<a href="mailto:Rep.JohnHuffman@state.or.us">Rep.JohnHuffman@state.or.us</a>	<a href="mailto:Sen.ArnieRoblan@state.or.us">Sen.ArnieRoblan@state.or.us</a>
<a href="mailto:Rep.BarbaraSmithWarner@state.or.us">Rep.BarbaraSmithWarner@state.or.us</a>	<a href="mailto:Sen.ChuckThomsen@state.or.us">Sen.ChuckThomsen@state.or.us</a>
<a href="mailto:Rep.KathleenTaylor@state.or.us">Rep.KathleenTaylor@state.or.us</a>	
<a href="mailto:Rep.SherrieSprenger@state.or.us">Rep.SherrieSprenger@state.or.us</a>	

## Three Easy Ways to Connect with Legislators:

### Advocacy Day at the State Capitol

- February 1, 2016 from 10AM-1PM (Room 257)
- The Alliance for Early Intervention is partnering with the Oregon IDD Coalition to support your advocacy.
- Advocacy Training offered at 10:30AM.
- Schedule your legislative visits now for February 1st!
- Use the room as a "home base" between appointments.
- Refreshments and snacks provided.

### Schedule Legislative Visits in Early February

- Request a 10 minute visit to talk about the critical need to invest in EI/ECSE Services
- Provide your name and mention what city you live in

### Email EI/ECSE Funding Request To Legislators

- Use the legislator identification link and the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education Member email list, above.
- Use the directions below to develop your email
- Consider attaching the EI/ECSE Fact Sheet ([INSERT LINK](#))

## How to Prepare Your Message..

Use one value statement to introduce the importance of EI/ECSE services to families. Some examples are below, or you can write your own.

- **Every child needs supports to learn. Some children with disabilities need different supports to catch up to their peers. EI/ECSE gives children with disabilities and their families needed support to prepare for kindergarten.**
- **If you expect children to succeed, they will. Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education programs help children with disabilities and their families gain the tools they need to succeed in school and beyond.**

Explain the powerful services that EI/ECSE provides children with disabilities and their families:

- **EI/ECSE helps over 11,500 Oregon children with disabilities get ready for kindergarten.**
- **EI/ECSE strengthens families, improves outcomes and is cost effective.**

**Now introduce the problem:**

- **The good news is that developmental screening works. More children with disabilities are referred to EI/ECSE each month.**
- **The bad news is that the result of developmental screenings is that about 700 children will need services who were not included in the 2015-17 budget.**
- **EI/ECSE cannot have waitlists. These children must be**

provided with adequate services!

### Propose a solution:

- Please support a \$5.4 million increase in EI/ECSE to serve eligible children and prevent reductions in service.
- EI/ECSE needs \$5.4 million to serve eligible children and prevent reductions in service.

### Tell your personal story:

- How has EI/ECSE helped your child?
- How has EI/ECSE helped your family?
- Describe one example of a specific thing that EI/ECSE did that helped you or your child.
- How is your life and your child's future better as a result of EI/ECSE?

Provide a copy of the EI/ECSE Fact Sheet to your meeting or attach it to your email.

### End by thanking the legislator for their service to our state!

Just one more step! Email Oregon's Alliance for Early Intervention to let us know who you called or emailed, and whether you got a response!

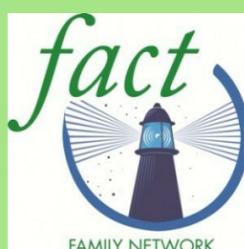
## Oregon Consortium of Family Networks

The Oregon Consortium of Family Networks is a formal partnership between family led community focused organizations around Oregon. Each organization is unique and is responsive to its own community and the strengths of the families who live there. Family Networks share the belief that peer support celebrates families as the tremendous resource they are. Sometimes the support we need is simply connection with someone else who shares common experience. Sometimes what we need most is another mom or dad, another sibling or grandparent, another neighbor or friend. That is the role of Family Networks - help connect families with each other, and help those families connect with their community.

Click the icon of the Family network working in your county to learn more about upcoming events close to you!



<http://www.codsn.org>  
Deschutes, Crooks, and  
Jefferson Counties



<http://www.factoregon.org>  
Clackamas, Multnomah,  
Washington, Hood River,  
Wasco, Columbia, Clatsop,  
Tillamook, and Lincoln  
County



<http://www.roccosfamilynetwork.org>  
Gilliam, Morrow, Grant,  
Wheeler, Lake and  
Harney County



<http://www.featt.org>

Douglas County, OR



<http://www.familiesforcommunity.org>

Josephine and Jackson Counties



<http://www.creatingops.org>

Polk, Yamhill, and Marion Counties



<http://www.arclane.org/families-connected.html>  
Lane County



<http://www.oregonaei.org>

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