

PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM ABUSE AND NEGLECT

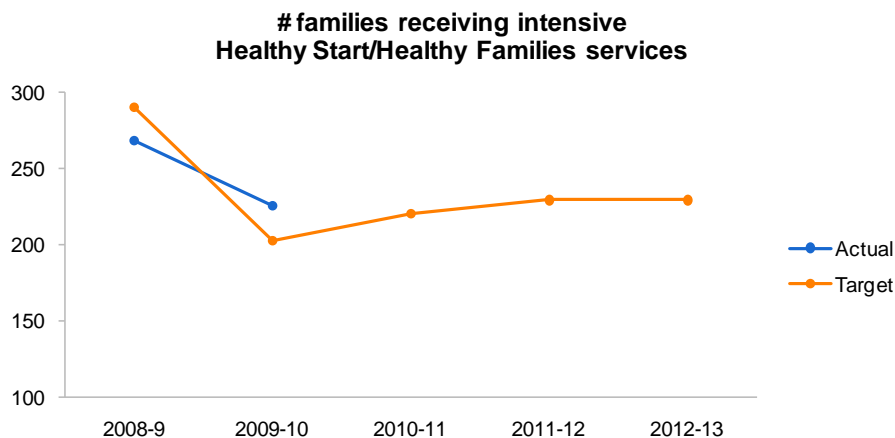
H3S Goal: Healthy & Safe Individuals and Families

What we measure: # families receiving intensive Healthy Start/Healthy Families services to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect

How often we update these numbers: Quarterly

Why this measure matters: Every child deserves to grow up, safe and free from abuse. Yet last year there were over 11,000 cases of child abuse and neglect across Oregon. It is impossible for newborns, one, two and three-year-olds to protect themselves. The best way to protect our children is to teach their parents positive parenting skills. Parents are personally responsible for their child's health and safety, but it's not fair to put a child at risk just because their parents have never learned positive parenting, abuse drugs/alcohol, are clinically depressed, or experience domestic violence. That's why Healthy Start/Healthy Families provides intensive services to parents who are at higher risk of abusing or neglecting their children. The more families we serve, the more children we protect.

Results for 2009-10: 225 families



What these numbers mean: In 2009-10, we served more than our target.

What we will do next: Provide information and screening to more first-birth families. Increase our outreach to hospitals, birthing centers, high school counselors, lactation centers, and postpartum clinics. Increase retention rates by beginning “check” calls with families before connecting them with Family Support Workers to see if they are interested in more home visits, serving more families prenatally, and coordinating prenatal services with community health nurses and home visitors from the Maternity Case Management team.

What else influences this measure: The birth rate in Clackamas County. The state of the economy, which influences stress levels in families.

Source of data: Clackamas County Children Youth & Families and NPC Research (www.npcresearch.org).