



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Nov. 5, 2010

CONTACT
Molly O'Connor, Thrive by Five Washington
206-621-5562; molly@thrivebyfivewa.org

THRIVE BY FIVE WASHINGTON AWARDS \$200,000 IN GRANTS TO 10 EARLY LEARNING COALITIONS

Funds to support parent outreach and connecting local work to statewide early learning plan

SEATTLE – In an effort to help local communities strengthen their efforts on behalf of children birth to age 3, Thrive by Five Washington has awarded Community Momentum grants to 10 early learning coalitions totaling \$177,324. Another \$23,000 will be shared among the coalitions to support their work on a parent campaign that will launch early next year.

Thrive by Five Washington, the state's nonprofit public-private partnership for early learning, has worked with and helped to support these 10 coalitions over the past several years. Together, the coalitions cover 90 percent of the state's population.

"We're proud to continue our support of the local coalitions," said Nina Auerbach, president and CEO of Thrive by Five Washington. "We have a lot of work to do in Washington state to make sure all children get the best start in life possible, and the coalitions are very much our partners in that work. They help us reach families, organizations and potential supporters in ways that we couldn't do on our own. We're extremely grateful for their work and commitment."

The Community Momentum grants help local coalitions raise public and parent awareness about the importance of early learning, and over the next year all of the coalitions will help launch the new statewide "Love. Talk. Play." campaign aimed at parents with children birth to age 3. Grant money also will help connect their local work to the state's new 10-year early learning plan as well as build the capacity of the coalitions to do the work they need and want to do in their communities.

Coalitions were eligible for grants ranging from \$7,500 to \$27,500. The Bezos Family Foundation provided the funding for these grants.

Grant awards are as follows:

▪ First 5 FUNdamentals of Pierce County (Pierce County)	\$15,000
▪ Inland Northwest Alliance for Early Learning (Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane and Stevens counties)	\$27,500
▪ The Partnership for Children & Families (Chelan and Douglas counties)	\$10,000
▪ South Central Washington School Readiness Partnership (Yakima, Kittitas, Grant and Klickitat counties)	\$20,000
▪ South Sound Born Learning Community (Lewis and Thurston counties)	\$10,820
▪ SELF (Support for Early Learning and Families) (Clark County)	\$20,000
▪ SOAR - United Way of King County (King County)	\$26,504
▪ Northwest Early Learning Coalition (Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom counties)	\$7,500
▪ Olympic-Kitsap Peninsulas Early Learning Coalition (Clallam, Jefferson, Mason and Kitsap counties)	\$20,000
▪ Walla Walla Valley Early Learning Coalition (Walla Walla County)	\$20,000

About Thrive by Five Washington

Started in 2006 by Washington state businesses and foundations, Thrive by Five Washington is the state's nonprofit public-private partnership in early learning. Thrive mobilizes the statewide commitment to early learning by raising public awareness about the importance of early learning for all children birth to age 5; identifying and driving proven programs, best practices and promising models across the state; and collaborating with early learning and K-12 partners to build an early learning system that helps families and caregivers give their children the best start in school and life possible. For more information about Thrive by Five Washington: www.thrivebyfivewa.org

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