Strengthening children and families through early learning, child development education, and community partnerships.

~ working together for generational change

A premier leader for early learning and family services since 1967

Our Mission
Strengthening children and families through early learning, child development education, and community partnerships.

~ working together for generational change
Educational Opportunities for Children and Families (EOCF) is in our 49th year of operation. We continue to be the leading provider of comprehensive early childhood education and family support programs in Southwest Washington. As one of the largest social service organizations in Southwest Washington, EOCF is the second largest social service nonprofit organization in Clark County with an annual operating budget of more than $11 million and 260 employees. EOCF serves more than 1,500 at-risk children and families annually in our federal and state early learning programs. Another 2,000 children are served in the HotShots Youth Sports program for children grades 1-6. EOCF’s service areas include Clark County, Long Beach in Pacific County, and the Woodland portion of Cowlitz County.

EOCF is fortunate to have strong community support. Clark College partners with EOCF to give nursing students the opportunity to experience working with young children. We receive state and federal funding that allows us to provide early learning for children birth to age five; however, it takes an additional mandatory $1.6 million in community donations of cash and other in-kind goods and services to operate. Therefore, our community partnerships are essential. We are extremely grateful for our dedicated families, partners, community members, Board of Directors, Parent Policy Council and staff for their ongoing support.

“EOCF continues to focus on expanding the numbers of families that we provide quality comprehensive early learning and childcare services to in SW Washington.”

EOCF continues to collaborate through community partnerships, to seek classroom facilities in neighborhoods with the most need and to position the agency for additional expansion of the state’s Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) in 2017 and beyond.

Timeline

- **1967** - Incorporated in 1967 as Economic Opportunity Committee (EOC) of Clark County, a Community Action Program agency to administer War on Poverty programs.
- **Early 1970s** - EOC’s Board of Directors focused exclusively on serving low-income children and families through Head Start, the federal government’s preschool education program.
- **1980s** - EOC added the Washington State-funded Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP).
- **1990s** - EOC expanded Head Start (HS) services to Pacific County, opened seven new HS centers in Clark County, moved a center to Woodland, became the administrator of the Early Support for Infants and Toddlers program (ESIT), and launched Early Head Start and full-day HS services.
- **2003** - The agency’s name was changed to Educational Opportunities for Children and Families to better reflect the services provided to the community. EOCF also assumed sponsorship of the HotShots Youth Sports program.
- **2000–2010** - EOCF faced several challenges in the first decade of the new millennium related to significant funding decreases and service expansion slowdowns.
- **2013** - EOCF introduced our new logo and tagline: **connect | empower | transform** to refresh our look and more clearly communicate our mission and outcomes for some of the most vulnerable children and families.
- **2014** - EOCF opened two new centers in Clark County: one on MacArthur Blvd. and one at the Ninety Ninth Center in Hazel Dell.
- **2015-16** - EOCF partnered with Evergreen Public Schools to offer co-taught special education classrooms at two elementary schools.
EOCF offers a wide range of services and programs in response to the needs of children and families in EOCF’s service areas, including:

★ Part-day, full-day, and home-based Head Start and co-taught blended classrooms, partnering with Evergreen and Battle Ground Public Schools
★ Part-day Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP)
★ Full-day and home-based Early Head Start
★ Sponsorship of the Vancouver HotShots Youth Sports basketball program for grades 1-6

Founded in 1967, EOCF continues to provide children the best possible start on their educational careers with a whole-child individualized curriculum and observational assessment. EOCF also supports a foundation for parents to be their children’s first and best teachers and helps parents strengthen their families’ skills and experience in the following areas:

★ Family well-being
★ Positive parent-child relationships
★ Families as lifelong learners and educators
★ Family engagement in lifestyle transitions
★ Family connections to peers and community
★ Families as advocates and leaders

Research demonstrates that early learning programs help children to succeed in kindergarten, elementary school and beyond. All of EOCF’s preschool programs and services promote high-quality and developmentally appropriate best practices, focusing on the whole child, including cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development. School readiness is the focus and foundation for all of EOCF’s programs. Many opportunities exist for parents to build on their strengths, improve their parenting and leadership skills, connect with their community, and advocate for themselves and their families.

While EOCF strives to serve as many children as possible, current funding only allows EOCF to serve about 25% of the eligible children in our service area.

2016 Highlights

★ Parents and support staff attended the 2016 Advocacy Day in Olympia.
★ Hosted the 5th annual Early Learning Champions Awards Luncheon, honoring seven community champions and sharing the proceeds with SELF (Support for Early Learning and Families).
★ Held our 4th annual “Red & White on a Summer’s Night” event at Bethany Vineyard & Winery, celebrating early learning.
★ EOCF is working with three Washington Reading Corps members to deliver literacy activities for children and families throughout the program year.
★ EOCF is working with Clark College nursing students to provide hands-on learning and interaction with young children throughout the program year.
EOCF programs significantly impacted my family. Our experience began after a well-child check up for my son. He and I were asked questions about kindergarten readiness and I was stunned at how much he was lacking. They referred me to EOCF and my son was enrolled in Home-based Head Start. In the short amount of time we had to work with, he was able to learn skills that helped him. And, I learned of some areas of concern that were an indicator of a learning disability in the future.

**Children Transformed**
I also have two daughters that have received services. The oldest one is in second grade and has done so well in school because of the foundation that Head Start provided. She was enrolled in the Home-based program which suited her best. My daughter was extremely shy and her teacher worked with her to help overcome the social anxiety she expressed. During that time I was shown the Parents as Teachers curriculum. I learned how everyday tasks were teachable moments with my child. Today my daughter is confident and eager to learn every day! My youngest daughter is currently enrolled in a Head Start classroom and it has been so beneficial for her and our family. The classroom setting fits her needs perfectly so she can grow and learn. In times that were very difficult for our family EOCF’s Head Start was one of the only stable influences in her life.

**A Family Empowered**
Our family experienced homelessness for almost two years. Because of the access to Head Start, I knew how to press on until brighter days. One of the greatest qualities about EOCF’s programs is the “whole family” approach. Our first Home-based teacher is the reason that I have found my passion in life. She saw something in me that I did not see in myself—a leader and an advocate. Through her prompting I ran for the Parent Policy Council and that opened the door to increasing opportunities. The Family Engagement role in serving families is a huge part of the success rate. I have benefited from the resources, trainings and encouragement from the staff. Through Policy Council parents learn to be an advocate, leader and teacher. Together as parents we give back to our community by serving in it. EOCF helps parents to see that once you place value in yourself you can keep pressing on until the right outcome happens. EOCF is such a powerful program to be involved with. They connect you with greatness, empower you with confidence, and transform you with community. I gained useful skills to help in all areas of my life!

**Community Connections**
Cherise was elected as chair of EOCF’s Parent Policy Council and a WSA Ambassador, and has advocated for early learning with legislators at state and national levels. She continues her involvement in early learning and mentoring other parents to advocate for their children through several community outreach programs.
Engaging the Entire Family

The involvement of families can have a powerful impact on a child. Research has shown that parental involvement in their children’s education can result in a variety of positive outcomes including greater interest in school, better attendance, enhanced teacher-child relationships, and increased self esteem. Staff at EOCF partner with parents and guardians to set family goals, develop connections to community resources, and create opportunities for family engagement through volunteering in the classroom, assisting with planning center events, participating in parent training opportunities, serving on EOCF committees, and representing program parents as an elected member of EOCF’s Parent Policy Council, one of two governing bodies for Head Start agencies.

Training and Events Provided for Families

★ Presenting Becoming a Love and Logic Parent classes
★ Family literacy events in partnership with Washington Reading Corps featuring storytelling, games, and free books
★ Classes for parents of children with disabilities such as Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Trainings
★ Parent Workshops, presented in partnership with Clark County Food Bank, included:
  • Cooking Matters
  • Seed-to-Supper
  • Garden Planting
  • Picky Eaters
  • Container Gardening

“EOCF coordinated over 100 family engagement events in 2016.”

Parent Policy Council: Strengthening Leadership
Thank you to our 2015-2016 Policy Council Members

Cherise Billington, Chair
Erin Stepanek, Vice-Chair
Jessica Weeks, PC Board Delegate
Bessie Cooper, Treasurer
Melissa Fields, Secretary
Jova Belmontes
Sinoun Buth
Tamera Collum

Amanda Corbin
Bertha Corona
Ana Correa-Farias
Jodhan Ford
Claudia Franson
Jeane “Nova” Gump
Ashlynn Hebdon-Fuller
Alba Martinez
Patricia Martinez

Patricia Mendoza-Gonzaga
Edith Patterson
Natalya Potapov
Viridiana Rios Rojas
Amy Roark
Stacy Robinson
Crystal Saylor
Dreva Smith
Victoria Westley
EOCF operates two programs serving children ages 3-5, the federally-funded Head Start program and the Washington State-funded Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP). The goal of these programs is to prepare children for entry into public schools. These programs actively recruit low-income families and children with disabilities and/or special needs. Head Start offers part-day part-year, full-day full-year, and home-based options, while ECEAP offers a part-day, part-year option. Programs provide education for children and families, ongoing assessments, opportunities to strengthen the home-to-school connection, comprehensive healthcare, family engagement activities, access and referrals to community resources, and 1/3 to 2/3 of children’s daily nutritional needs.

EOCF’s Head Start programs received funding for 520 children and families. Our part-day classrooms served 531 children, 79 were served in full-day childcare classrooms, and 49 were provided with Home-based services.

EOCF’s state early learning (EL) program received funding for 467 children and families and, with turnover, a total of 599 were served. Of the children enrolled in Head Start, 89% received physical exams and 94% received dental screenings. In ECEAP 90% received physical exams and 88% received dental screenings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015–2016 Program Year Enrollment</th>
<th>Funded</th>
<th>Total Children Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Head Start Part-Day</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start Full-Day</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start Home-based</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECEAP (State EL program)</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>987</td>
<td>1158</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Funded in partnership with DEL:
Early Head Start is a federally-funded, community-based program offering home-based and center-based models for pregnant women and low-income families with infants and toddlers (ages birth-to-three). Enrolled families and pregnant women/couples work with staff to develop a plan that is driven by family identified strengths, needs, resources, and goals. The program’s mission is to promote healthy prenatal outcomes for pregnant women, enhance the development of very young children, and promote healthy family functioning by focusing on relationship building. Of the children enrolled in Early Head Start, 72% received physical exams and 89% received dental screenings. EOCF received funding for 96 children and families and provided services to 159, which includes any enrollment turnover.

**Early Head Start offers:**
- Nutritional and developmental assessments
- Social and emotional screening and observations
- Parenting support and education
- Support in completing well-child exams and dental screenings
- Support to families of children with special needs
- Child growth and development education
- Health promotion and assistance accessing services

**Prenatal education includes:**
- Nutrition and health promotion
- Typical fetal development and risks of smoking and alcohol
- Labor & delivery expectations
- Postpartum recovery and maternal depression
- Assistance accessing services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015–2016 Program Year Enrollment</th>
<th>Funded</th>
<th>Total Children Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Head Start Home-based</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Head Start Center-based</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>96</strong></td>
<td><strong>159</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[connect | empower | transform]
HotShots Youth Sports provides basketball programs for Clark County youth grades 1-6, under the direction of Shannon LeBlé. HotShots’ philosophy promotes children having fun while playing sports. Children also learn the importance of teamwork, instruction, fair play, and sportsmanship. Approximately 250 teams involving 2,000 children competed during the fall, winter, and spring basketball seasons, primarily from the Vancouver and Evergreen School District areas. Scholarships may be granted upon request to ensure that income is not a barrier to participation. Registration information is available at:

www.hotshotsyouthsports.org

Community Support Enhances EOCF’s Programs

Community involvement is vital to the success of children and families. The federal office of Head Start (HS) mandates that all HS grantees obtain in-kind annually. Therefore, EOCF is required to secure $1.6 million worth of donated goods and services annually. Although the communities where EOCF serves are well known for their volunteerism and philanthropy, this goal continues to be challenging. Parents with enrolled children volunteer in the classroom, organize events, serve on Parent Policy Council, secure donations and advocate for early learning in our communities and to our legislators.

Community members donate their time and expertise by serving on our Board of Directors, Friends of EOCF and committees. Many help build playgrounds or plan, attend and contribute to fundraisers. EOCF provides internships for college students whose long-term service is an important addition to our classrooms, as are Washington Reading Corps/AmeriCorps members and Foster Grandparents. Community organizations generously give grants and sponsorships. All volunteers and donations are greatly appreciated!

We invite you to join in the rewarding experience of strengthening children and families at EOCF. You can:

- Donate books or classroom/office supplies
- Share your expertise with kids, parents or staff
- Volunteer in the classroom or at the EOCF office
- Invite your family, friends or group for a project
- Facilities: painting, cleaning and yard care
- Provide field trip scholarships
- Secure discounts for supplies or services

Can you help? 360-896-9912 or info@eocfwa.org

EOCF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax deductible according to law.

Volunteers and donors positively impact children and families through EOCF.
Preparing our students for kindergarten and beyond begins with ensuring that our student goals align with the Head Start Child Development Early Learning Framework, Washington State Early Learning Guidelines, local public and private school programs and in concert with the families we serve. Head Start’s definition:

“children possessing the skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary for success in school and for later learning and life”

It is in this spirit that EOCF plans measurement strategies, tools, timelines and process for implementing results. Data is aggregated using the early childhood assessment tools that include the CLASS Assessment Scoring System, Teaching Strategies GOLD, and the Infant Toddler /Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scales. Analysis informs decisions for children’s growth, as well as for staff professional development. Our data is compiled using a variety of pre-determined aggregates such as program wide, Dual Language Learners, by age, by classroom model and by individual student. Data is reviewed by staff and families to inform planning and instructional strategies.

On a larger scale, this data also guides our decisions for continuous classroom and program improvements, professional development, training, and financial and management systems. The graph below represents students’ percentage of growth and development within the six domains shown that demonstrate school readiness. Fall 2015 is our baseline and it is compared with spring 2016. The growth of students is well documented.

As a planned approach to networking, EOCF works with the community through the Southwest Washington Early Learning Regional Coalition (SWEL) and Support for Early Learning and Families (SELF) by actively participating in the WAKids Initiative.
Our Early Learning Centers

EOCF serves children and families in Clark, Cowlitz and Pacific Counties. Head Start, Early Head Start, and the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Programs serve children in full-day, full-year and part-day, part-year programs. EOCF offers an AM/PM model at most centers, offering Head Start in the morning and ECEAP in the afternoon. EOCF also works with several partner sites/subcontractors within the communities where we serve.

Administration Center
17800 SE Mill Plain Blvd., Suite 150, Vancouver, WA 98683-7588 | Phone: 360.896-9912 | Fax: 360.892.3209

Head Start

**BATTLE GROUND**
Battle Ground Early Learning Center *

**CAMAS**
ZAC Early Learning Center *

**PACIFIC COUNTY**
Long Beach Early Learning Center

**VANCOUVER**
Clark College Center *
Crestline Early Learning Center *
Ellsworth Early Learning Center *
Evergreen Early Learning Center *
Fruit Valley Early Learning Center *
Hazel Dell Early Learning Center *
Hearthwood Early Learning Center *
Home-based Program
Lake Shore Early Learning Center
Learning Avenues CC Center *
MacArthur Early Learning Center *
McKenzie Early Learning Center *
Memorial Early Learning Center *
Ninety Ninth Early Learning Center *
Orchards Early Learning Center *
Sarah J. Anderson Early Learning Center *
St. Johns Early Learning Center *
Sifton Early Learning Center *
Silver Star Early Learning Center *
Sunset Early Learning Center *

**WOODLAND**
Woodland Early Learning Center *

**YACOLT**
Yacolt Early Learning Center

Early Head Start

**VANCOUVER**
Ellsworth Early Learning Center *
Home-based Program
Ninety Ninth Early Learning Center *
Sandra J. Odren Early Learning Family Center *

Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP)

**BATTLE GROUND**
Battle Ground Early Learning Center *

**CAMAS**
ZAC Early Learning Center *

**VANCOUVER**
Ellsworth Early Learning Center *
Fruit Valley Early Learning Center *
Hazel Dell Early Learning Center *
Learning Avenues Childcare Center *
MacArthur Early Learning Center *
McKenzie Early Learning Center *
Memorial Early Learning Center *
Ninety Ninth Early Learning Center *
Orchards Early Learning Center *
Sandra J. Odren Early Learning Family Center *
Sarah J. Anderson Early Learning Center *
Sifton Early Learning Center *
Silver Star Early Learning Center *
Sunset Early Learning Center *
YWCA - Y's Care Children’s Program *

**WASHOUGAL**
Hathaway Early Learning Center

**WOODLAND**
Woodland Early Learning Center *

* Partner/Subcontractor Site  ° AM/PM Model
  * Full-day, full-year program
  º Blended: co-taught classrooms, partnering with Evergreen Public Schools
Board of Directors

The EOCF Board of Directors shares program governance functions with the Parent Policy Council. The board is a continuing volunteer body, made up of community citizens who have an interest in and a commitment to an oversight role and to serving as fiduciary agents. The board’s membership represents the business, legal, educational, and social services communities of EOCF’s service area. It also has representatives who are parents of children currently or formerly served by EOCF.

Thank you to our 2015-2016 Board Members

Ginny Gronwoldt, Chair
Meridee Pabst, Vice-Chair
Rollin Perrigo, Secretary-Treasurer
Jessica Weeks, Parent Policy Council Rep
Jan Asai
Jason Green

Debbie Jennerjohn
Michelle Mallory
Chipo Sowards
Mei Taylor
Jane Van Dyke

“Amazing program! The skills that your children will learn are for life. Starting before kindergarten they will be more than ready. If families are struggling, EOCF will help you find the light at the end of your troubles. All I have learned is a gift of change for a better future. Thank you from my family!

- Claudia Franson, parent and Policy Council Member

Accountability: Audit Results

We are good stewards of the funding and donations entrusted to us. For the fiscal year ending October 31, 2016, EOCF is pleased to report that we had a clean and unqualified audit and we are in compliance with all requirements.

EOCF began the fourth year of our Head Start non-competitive five-year grant on November 1, 2016. The federal Office of Head Start conducted routine reviews of the following program areas during the winter of 2016:

- Comprehensive Services and School Readiness
- Leadership, Governance and Management Systems

The federal Office of Head Start reviews all Head Start programs on a regular basis to ensure quality and stewardship.
Fiscal Year Ending October 31, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue and Support</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Head Start Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Head Start Program</td>
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<td>USDA</td>
<td>427,124</td>
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<td>Non-Federal - other</td>
<td>347,400</td>
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<td>Washington ECEAP</td>
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<td>WA State childcare subsidy</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-kind</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>13,141,797</td>
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<th>Expenditures</th>
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<td>Personnel</td>
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<td>Fringe Benefits</td>
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<td>Travel</td>
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<td>Equipment</td>
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<td>Contract Services</td>
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<td>Facility Constructions</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-kind</td>
<td>1,592,035</td>
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<td>Fixed Assets</td>
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<td>Depreciation</td>
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<td>TOTAL with Depreciation</td>
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<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
<td>(37,967)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Assets</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets beginning of year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets end of year</td>
<td>2,287,379</td>
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<td>Change in Unrestricted</td>
<td>(37,967)</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Functional Expenses</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>Head Start Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Head Start Grant</td>
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<td>USDA Food</td>
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<td>Childcare Subsidy</td>
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<td>Non-Federal other</td>
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<td>ECEAP Grant</td>
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<td>Management &amp; General</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-kind</td>
<td>884,275</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>12,359,945</td>
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</table>

“EOCF is committed to using our limited resources wisely.”

Primary Funding Sources

- HotShots Youth Sports Program
- State of Washington Departments of:
  - Early Learning
  - Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
  - Health and Human Services
- US Departments of:
  - Health and Human Services
We have the BEST volunteers and donors!
You help us empower children and families every day. Thank you!

EOCF shall not discriminate in its staff, hiring practices, board, volunteers, volunteer committees, or recipients of any service on the basis of a person’s race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, marital status, veteran status, mental, physical, or sensory disability, or any other status not listed, as protected by state and/or federal law. EOCF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax deductible according to law.