Birth to Three Effectiveness

Beth Ramaley
Educational Studies 400
December, 2004
Is the Birth to Three Program in Hartford effective at meeting the needs of low income children with developmental delays?
Significance

- Developmental Milestones

- Enrollment increase
  - 5,303 in fiscal year 1997 – 9,403 in 2003 (77%)
Thesis

- Birth to Three is an effective early intervention program for children with special needs from low income families
Birth to Three

- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (2000)
  - Part C

- State of Connecticut Law

- State of Connecticut Regulations
Birth to Three Eligibility

Children under the age of three who live in Connecticut are eligible if:

- Experiencing a significant developmental delay
- Have a diagnosed physical or mental condition with a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay
- Standardized instruments are used to evaluate child
Birth to Three Services

- Individualized Family Service Plan

Examples of Services:
- Speech and Language
- Occupational Therapy
- Social Work
- Psychological Services
- Physical Therapy
## Birth to Three Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Adjusted Gross Annual Family Income</th>
<th>Monthly Participation</th>
<th>Without authorization for insurance billing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 45,000</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45,000-55,000</td>
<td>$ 25</td>
<td>$ 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55,001-65,000</td>
<td>$ 35</td>
<td>$ 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65,001-75,000</td>
<td>$ 45</td>
<td>$ 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75,001-85,000</td>
<td>$ 55</td>
<td>$ 110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85,001-95,000</td>
<td>$ 65</td>
<td>$ 130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95,001-105,000</td>
<td>$ 75</td>
<td>$ 150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105,001-125,000</td>
<td>$ 95</td>
<td>$ 190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125,001-150,000</td>
<td>$ 120</td>
<td>$ 240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150,001-175,000</td>
<td>$ 145</td>
<td>$ 290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>175,001-200,000 and more</td>
<td>$ 170</td>
<td>$ 340</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Methodology

- IRB Approval
- Primary Source Interviews
  - Birth to Three Director
  - Children Trust Fund with United Way for Help Me Grow Representative
- Secondary Sources
  - Academic Journals
  - Birth to Three Website
Interpretation and Analysis

- Ramey & Ramey (1998)
  - Six principles for an effective early intervention program

- Interviews
  - What is missing?
Conclusions

- Birth to Three is effective at meeting the needs of low income children with developmental delays

- However:
  - Cost changes
  - Volume
  - Transitions
Implications for Future Research

- What other programs are available?
- Transitions


http://www.birth23.org
I would like to thank Dr. Mark Brown for his help in finding my two interviewees, and for attending this presentation, Professor Henriques for her guidance throughout the semester, and my two interviewees for their time and knowledge.