



Dr. Douglas Goldsmith, the Executive Director of The Children's Center will be presenting the following information to the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee:

Budget Explanation

- The Children's Center is requesting a **\$250,000 ongoing allocation** to provide financial support to families with severely behaviorally and emotionally disturbed preschool aged children.
 - In 2014 the Legislature allocated The Children's Center \$1,000,000 of TANF funds; \$250,000 per year for four years. The TANF funds from DWS are no longer available.
 - The Children's Center is located in Salt Lake City but provides treatment for families throughout the state of Utah. We also provide training for mental health therapists across the state.

- 2017-18 Operating Budget for our Therapeutic Preschool Program:
 - \$1,685,905
 - State support for Therapeutic Preschool Program = 9% of our annual budget
 - The Children's Center is highly valued by the community and has developed an outstanding public/private partnership bolstered by \$1,500,000 in charitable contributions from individuals and foundations annually.

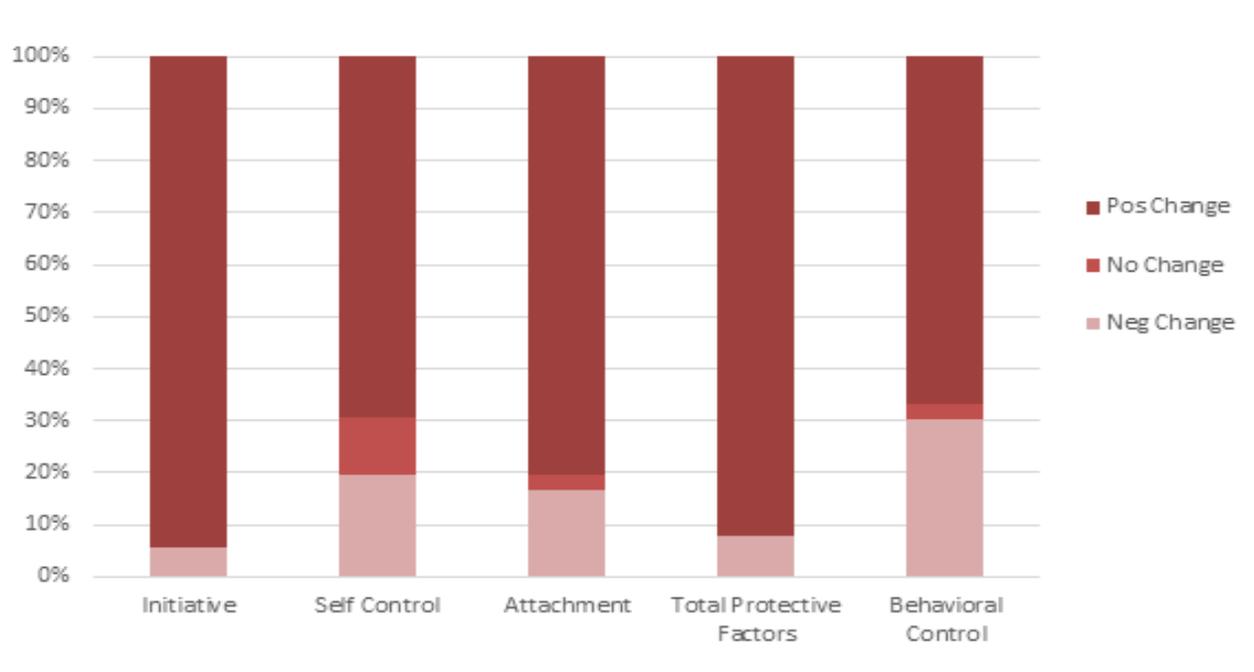
- **Legislative Request - \$250,000 ongoing allocation**
 - The \$250,000 allocation will be expended to support families during the 2018-19 fiscal year.
 - Number of families served by state grant – 65
 - Family income must be at 300% of poverty or less to qualify for assistance using this grant.
 - Average financial assistance for a family of four:
 - Family earns less than \$6,150 in gross income/ month
 - Grant will provide \$1,100 month for child to attend Therapeutic Preschool Program.

Performance Measures

The Children's Center utilizes Evidence Based treatments. In order to validate and ensure the efficacy of our therapy programs we evaluate every child's progress every three months. Using the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) we are able to monitor progress across five critical factors; initiative, self-control, attachment, protective factors, and behavioral control.

Our current 6 month data demonstrates the outstanding results of our Therapeutic Preschool Program. Over 70% of children showed excellent gains during their first six months of therapy. When children demonstrate no progress or some regression the clinician meets with the parents or caregivers to update the child's treatment plan in order to address ongoing concerns.

We will continue to follow children and report our data to the Legislature in order to demonstrate the success of the program and the positive utilization of state funds.



6 Month Follow-Up Data for Children Attending our Therapeutic Preschool Program