



CHILDREN'S OPPORTUNITY FUND INITIATIVE (COFI) REPORT

SITUATION

Katie Riley from the Children's Opportunity Fund Initiative (COFI) of Washington County will present a report on COFI's vision and planning.

COFI is committed to creating a sustainable source of funding dedicated to proven, successful programs that support school success of all children by preventing child abuse, assuring high quality early childhood care and education, and combating hunger.

Too many of our youth suffer from hunger, child abuse, inadequate care in early childhood, and unsupervised time after school that interferes with their school success.

Washington County has one of the largest youth populations in the State of Oregon.

- **Child abuse continues to affect children in Washington County.** Abuse leads to school failure, juvenile crime, addiction to drugs and alcohol, and sexual activity at an early age.
- **Child poverty is increasing in Washington County:** Free and Reduced Lunch eligibility escalated from 22% of students in 2000 to 40.3% in 2010. The number of schools with more than 50% FRLU students has increased from 10 to 33 schools in the same period.
- **The number of quality child-care openings has not kept up with** the increased need. This leaves too many children alone at home, or with unskilled child-care providers.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Beaverton School Board receive this report as an informational item.

District Goal: All students will show continuous progress toward their personal learning goals, developed in collaboration with teachers and parents, and will be prepared for post-secondary education and career success.

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