



King County

BEST STARTS FOR



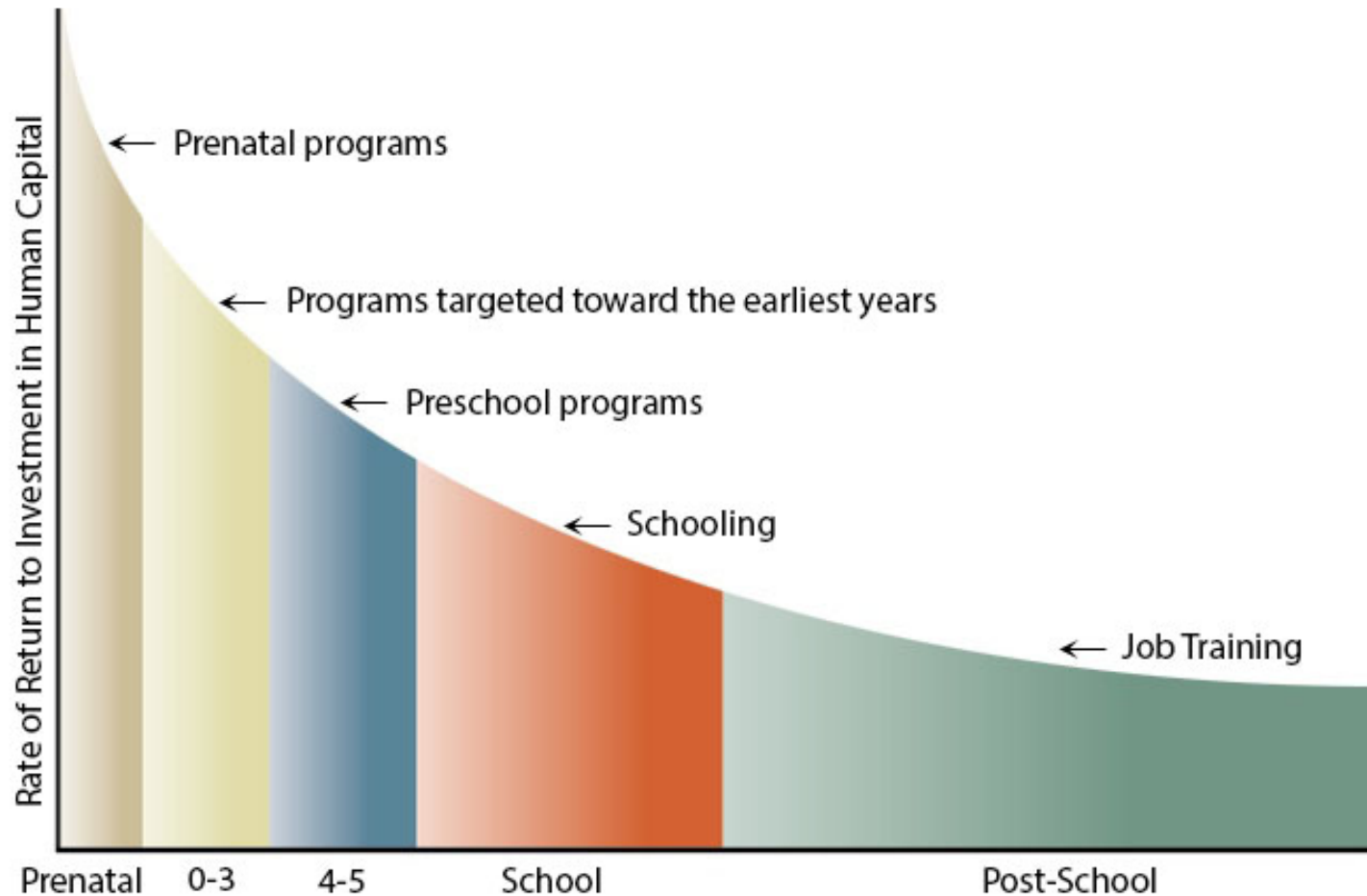
Bellevue City Council Presentation
May 26, 2015

“An Ounce of Prevention Is Worth A Pound of Cure”

- Science tells us **prevention and early intervention** are most effective and least expensive approach
- Yet, much of the County’s funding is responding to negative outcomes
 - **75%** of the County’s general fund pays for the law and justice system



The Earlier the Investment, The Greater the Return



Source: Heckman (2008)

Prevent Crises Before They Begin

- Start early and invest heavily before age 5
- Then, make strategic investments at the critical points in a young person's development
- Invest at the community level to reinforce a child's progress



What is Best Starts for Kids?

- 6-year countywide levy for Nov. 2015 ballot
- Outcome-based investment in kids, families and communities
 - Babies are healthy
 - Children are safe, healthy thriving community members
 - Communities are safe, welcoming and healthy



Funding Details

Amount:

- \$58.3 million in 2016
- \$392.3 million over six years (avg. of \$65.4 million/year)
- \$0.14 per \$1,000 of assessed value
 - costing the average homeowner about **\$56 per year**
 - **\$84 per year** for assessed valuation of \$600,000 (Bellevue)

Distribution:

- 50% (\$32.7 million annual average) for age 0-5
- 35% (\$22.7 million annual average) for age 5-24
- 9% (\$6.0 million annual average) for community
- 6% (\$4.0 million annual average) for data, evaluation and infrastructure

Initial Collection: Family & Youth Homelessness Prevention Initiative; scientific research for prevention; levy reserves

Implementation

- County will lead a comprehensive community planning process after levy passes
- Assumptions:
 - Majority of funding out to the community
 - Contracts will be competitive, outcome-focused
- Governance—two advisory bodies:
 1. **Investment strategies for ages 0-24:** Will create a new advisory body (*Youth Action Plan recommendation*)
 2. **Community investment:** Will use existing Communities of Opportunity Interim Governance Group

Implementation

- King County is diverse, geographically, culturally and with regard to the types of programs and level of services available in different jurisdictions and school districts.
- For the implementation plan, KC will work within geographic regions of the county to find out what programs currently exist and how BSK strategies will mesh with existing programs and service.
- KC will also work within diverse communities so that all children have access to BSK services that are appropriate regardless of race, culture, or language.

What Might BSK mean for Bellevue children and families

- Outreach, research and referral for parents and caregivers to know where and how to access services & programs
- Early detection of behavioral health issues such as depression, suicide indicators, substance use
- Partnership with City of Bellevue, Eastside Pathways, local non-profits and school districts by sharing data, indicators and outcome goals
- Going broader or deeper with existing programs

Investment Strategies: Before Age 5

Strategies

- Supporting parents and caregivers
 - Maternity Support Services (MSS), Women, Infants & Children (WIC), and family planning
 - Home-based visiting for new moms and babies (for example, Nurse Family Partnership)
- Providing training & tools for childcare providers
- Identification and early intervention for kids experiencing trauma



Outcomes

- Stabilize maternal child health public health services
- Reduce low birth weight
- Reduce unintended pregnancies
- Reduce suspensions & expulsions from child care, etc.

Investment Strategies: School Age (5-24)

Strategies

- Screening, early intervention and treatment for mental, behavioral and substance abuse
- Improving school nutrition and physical activity environments
- Expanding School Based Health Centers
- Helping to provide a successful transition to adulthood



Outcomes

- Reduce psychiatric hospitalizations
- Reduce youth at an unhealthy weight
- Reduce use of alcohol or drugs
- Reduce chance of entering justice system

Investment Strategies: Community

Strategies

- Communities of Opportunity
Examples:
 - *Improve opportunities for physical activities*
 - *Increase access to healthy and affordable food*
 - *Creating safe places to live*



Outcomes

- Address inequities based on place
- Improve quality of life index in communities

Timeline

- Executive transmitted Ordinance to County Council on April 29
- Council Budget and Fiscal Management Committee hearings: May 27, June 10, June 24
- Council to vote on legislation by July 20 for November 2015 ballot



Questions?

For more information:

Sheila Capestany

Strategic Advisor for Children and Youth

King County Department of Community & Human Services

(206) 263-7823

Sheila.Capestany@kingcounty.gov

www.kingcounty.gov/beststarts