



BROWARD CHILDREN'S STRATEGIC PLAN

"PARTNERING FOR CHILD & FAMILY WELL-BEING"



TURN THE CURVE REPORT BABY SNAC – BIRTH TO 5 YEARS SUBCOMMITTEE

POPULATION RESULT: Children are healthy. Children are prepared to succeed in school.

SERVICE SYSTEM RESULT: All underserved children with special needs 3 to 5 years are identified and served within 75 days by the School Board of Broward County/Child Find.

INDICATORS

3 to 5 year old PreK ESE Referral/Intake Timeline				
	2016/2017	2015/2016	2014/2015	2013/2014
Timeline from the initial call to Child Find to the screening/assessment appointment	1 – 3 months	2 – 4 months	4 – 5 ½ months (10/14) 3 – 4 months (12/14) (English only children are scheduled now in February 2015; and Bilingual children are scheduled in March 2015)	5 ½ - 7 months

STORY BEHIND THE CURVE

- The community liaisons are calling parents in advance to remind them of their appointment. Parents also receive a reminder letter one week in advance. With a goal to improve customer satisfaction, customer satisfaction surveys are available for families to provide immediate feedback. After the staffing meeting or after the assessment for children who pass, the parents are encouraged to complete a customer satisfaction survey on the computer.
- The data needs to be interpreted cautiously because it is comparing two different processes. Last school year children were screened during one appointment date, and then evaluated on a second date. This school year children are assessed all within one appointment date.
- There are ongoing challenges related to making sure there are a supply of ESE preschool programs available, to keep up with the demand/need. It is difficult to project and forecast the geographical areas needing additional preschool programs because that can vary based on children assessed that particular month and their zip code area where they reside.
- Children requiring evaluation by a Spanish speaking team are being given appointments farther out than those who only speak English.
- Some cases take longer than others to complete due to their complexity:
 - Suspicion of Visual Impairment or Deaf/Hard of Hearing concerns require additional evaluators.
 - Medically fragile children require additional evaluators and may need to be evaluated in home or in hospital settings.
 - For cases involving behavior concerns, best practice recommends observations in the community settings or childcare centers.
- Although evaluations and eligibility staffings are happening much more quickly than in the past, challenges continue regarding availability of Pre-K classrooms for these children to receive the needed services.



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Powered By:
**Children's
Services
Council**
of Broward County
Our Focus is Our Children

PARTNERS

Actual & Potential

- CDTC/Early Steps
- Family Central
- ELC
- SBBC/ChildFind
- ChildNet
- Pediatricians

- 211
- Children's Services Council of Broward County
- Healthy Families
- Children's Services Division of Broward County
- United Way
- Parents
- Providers

ACTION STEPS

- In order to turn the curve, the committee recommended that there needs to be a goal of 75 calendar days from the first call to Child Find to completion of the eligibility staffing and IEP (placing the children in services and programs). The committee recommended incorporating the 75 calendar day goal into the follow-up work being done related to the Evergreen Report.
- Support School Board actions needed to meet the 75 days target and streamline the process.

Accomplishments

- There are now 12 ½ evaluation teams for Part B
- 3 teams have a Spanish speaking School Psychologist and Spanish speaking Speech/Language Pathologist (SLP).
- 1 team has a Creole speaking School Psychologist
- 1 team that is split between the Part B and Part C groups has a Creole speaking School Psychologist and a Creole speaking SLP.
- To improve timelines for children requiring evaluation by a Spanish speaking team, several Spanish speaking School Psychologists assigned to schools have volunteered to float to Pre-K a couple of times per month to assist with evaluations, and 2 Spanish speaking SLP's have been contracted to provide assistance through the end of the school year.
- Staffing appointments are scheduled at the end of the evaluation appointment and are typically held within two weeks of the evaluation.