



# Early Intervention Programme

## May 2006

# Early Intervention Approach

“all children have the best start in life, flourish in early childhood, and are supported to reach their potential”

# Early Intervention Components

All families:

- are provided with universal services and support that help them raise their children
- have easy access to good information and advice
- have access to community-based formal and informal support networks
- have access to quality specialised services to meet additional needs
- receive effective, co-ordinated intensive protective and remedial services when children continue to be vulnerable to poor outcomes

# Current Early Intervention Programmes

- Family Start
- Family Start Study Awards
- Early Learning Pilot
- Strategies with Kids – Information for Parents (SKIP)
- Parent Support to Complement Well Child (Toddlers without Tears)

# Family Start

- is a child centered, strengths based, intensive, home-based service for high need families
- is currently co-funded by MSD, MoE, and MoH
- directs up to \$27.2m by 2006/07 to 15% of families most at risk of poor outcomes

# Family Start

- will be operating in 32 sites across the country to almost 6000 families by 2007
- accepts families on a referral basis from approved health and social services organisations
- ensures children in families with the greatest need have improved health, education and social outcomes

# Family Start

MSD (FACS):

- currently manages contracts for 10 of 21 sites and will be taking on responsibility for the current MOH sites as at 1 July 2006
- established 8 urban and rural sites by 30 April 2006 (2 further sites currently being negotiated)

# Family Start Study Awards

- 2005 budget allocation of \$1.3m per year
- 54 awards this year in social work, health and ECE
- up to \$43,200 per student over 6 years covering fees, study support and recruitment costs



# Early Learning Programme

- aims to increase ECE uptake in Family Start families through removal of financial barriers
- provides funding for up to 1750 children in Family Start families (including siblings) in at least 9 sites
- pays for up to 20 hours per week for children 1½ to 2 ½ years old and then 15 hours per week for the following 6 months

# Strategies with Kids – Information for Parents (SKIP)

- is a universal programme aimed at parents and caregivers of children from birth to 5 years
- promotes vision that all children will be raised in a positive way, with parents who feel confident about managing children's behaviors as part of a loving and nurturing relationship
- is funded \$10.8m over three years to 30 June 2006

# SKIP Programme

- Develops, produces and distributes national resources
- Strengthens existing parent support and education
- Manages a local initiatives fund to support innovation and local projects

# Parent Support to Complement Well Child

- is a brief low cost parenting intervention delivered by Well Child
- is designed to educate parents about managing their toddler's behaviour and thereby prevent behavioural problems
- is funded \$2.3m for 4 years to June 2009

# Parent Support to Complement Well Child

Programme referred to as “Toddlers without Tears” and includes:

- 8 mths – one to one session with Well Child nurse
- 12 mths – group session with Well Child nurse and parent educator / co-facilitator
- 15 mths – groups session with Well Child nurse and parent educator / co-facilitator

# Parent Support to Complement Well Child

- **Phase One: Mar 2006 – Feb 2007**  
Small Pilot to be carried out in Auckland DHB area with approx 65-75 parents recruited  
Three providers: Tongan Health Society, Plunket and Community Child Health and Disability
- **Phase Two: July 2007 – Feb 2009**  
Larger Trial to be carried out in two further DHBs, yet to be selected (approx 680 parents)