

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kaiser Permanente Grants \$15,000 to Innovative Services NW for Positive Behavior Support in Early Childhood Project

Vancouver, WA - Innovative Services NW is proud to announce a \$15,000 grant from Kaiser Permanente for the Positive Behavior Support in Early Childhood Project. Innovative's Early Learning Program provides quality education and day care for children, ages 1-5 years old. Our Pediatric Therapy and Neurodevelopmental Center provides physical, speech, occupational, and specialty therapies for children, birth through age 20, and Early Intervention services for children, birth through age 3. These programs serve a variety of children with extreme behaviors, whether due to developmental disabilities, including Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), or to the environmental risk factors like family violence, homelessness, chemical dependency, or CPS involvement.

This grant award allows us to offer Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) related techniques in an educational setting for at-risk, low-income, behaviorally challenged children in our Early Learning program and ABA therapy for children with ASD or other developmental disabilities/delays, particularly those on Medicaid, through our Pediatric Therapy Program. A Board Certified Behavior Analyst will launch the pilot in our Early Learning program, working with the most behaviorally challenged children and training our teaching staff in ABA supportive techniques. These techniques establish new neural pathways through intensity and repetition of desired patterns. For children with ASD, these treatment techniques are now considered to be at the forefront of therapeutic and educational interventions endorsed by the U.S. Surgeon General and the American Academy of Pediatrics. The future educational outcomes for all of these children would greatly benefit from intervening early in the life of the child with challenging behaviors using ABA therapy or ABA related techniques in the educational setting. Implementation of this program will decrease disruption in the classroom, resulting in all our children being better prepared for kindergarten and better educational outcomes for all.

Thank you to Kaiser Permanente!

Innovative Services NW is a Vancouver-based nonprofit that offers a continuum of services including early learning, child care, and pediatric therapy for children; employment training and job support for adults with disabilities or disadvantages; and intervention, education and support for foster youth and families.

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