



Genetics and Newborn Hearing Screening

December 2016

Description: The Department of Health manages these two statewide programs:

1. **Genetics:** Regional clinics provide genetic counseling, testing, and follow-up services for Washington residents of all ages. Three of these clinics receive state funding through the agency, and the UW and Seattle Children's Hospital receive funding to help support regional clinics.
2. **Early Hearing-loss Detection, Diagnosis and Intervention (EHDDI):** The agency makes sure all infants born in Washington receive hearing screening through surveillance and tracking.

Mission/Purpose: Improve the health of people with or at risk of genetic disease and hearing loss.

Target Population: Residents of Washington State

Services

- Support and monitor statewide genetic services to over 11,000 families each year
- Prevent disease or detect and treat birth defects and genetic disorders early
- Make sure babies get screened for hearing loss and help infants with hearing loss get diagnostic and intervention services
- Provide information on disease risks and health services to help people make lifestyle, screening, and treatment choices
- Train providers about genetic health issues and newborn hearing screening

Stakeholders

- American Heart Association
- American Cancer Society
- March of Dimes
- Washington State Hospital Association
- Genetic Alliance
- Parent to Parent
- Family Voices
- The Father's Network

Impacts from potential loss of GFS funds

For Genetics –

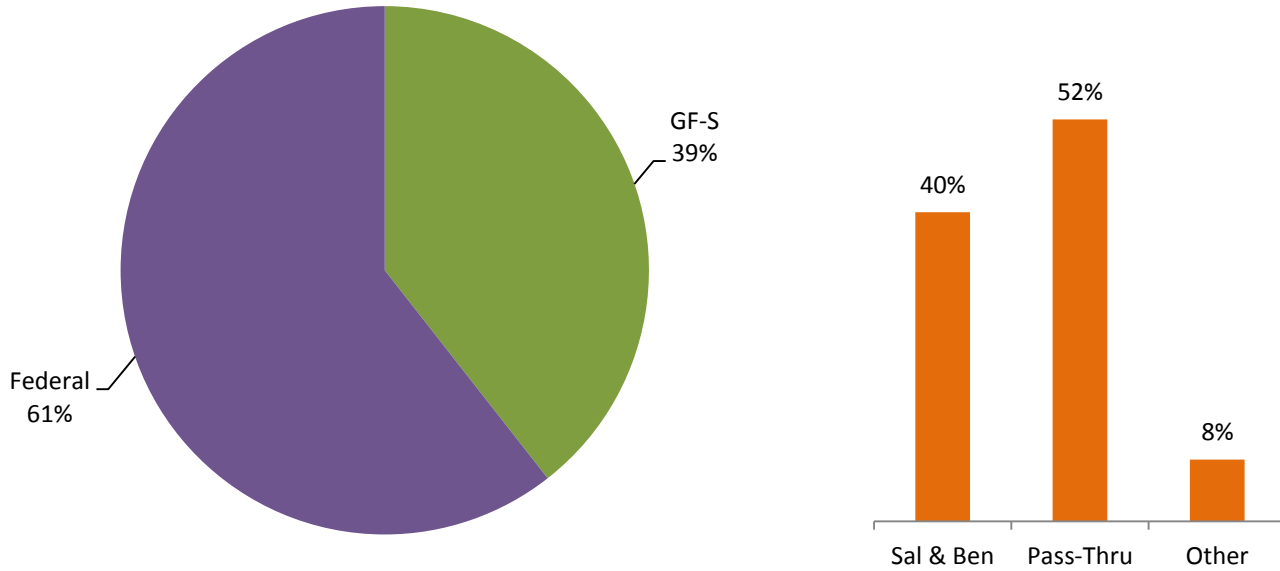
1. All contracts associated with ensuring access to medical genetic services, especially in rural areas, will cease.
2. We will no longer provide access to the TERIS database at the UW for all the genetics clinics.
3. We will no longer host an annual educational meeting for the genetics, neonatology, and developmental pediatric providers.

For EHDDI –

1. We will no longer contract with Seattle Children's Hospital to provide audiology support to program staff, hospital based screeners and pediatric audiologists statewide.
2. We will no longer contract with Hands and Voices to operate a Guide-by-Your-Side parent networking service.
3. We will reduce the amount of quality assurance activities by eliminating travel to the 63 birthing hospitals as well as birthing facilities and pediatric audiology clinics statewide.

2015-17 Biennium

Genetics and Newborn Hearing Screening Fiscal Information



GF-S	Federal	Dedicated	Fees	Total	Sal & Ben	Pass-thru	Other
966,168	1,484,601	0	0	2,450,769	968,115	1,459,650	23,004

Recent Funding History

Included in the 2007-09 biennium:

- Federal funding (Maternal Child Health Block Grant) was reduced by \$337,000 each year.
- Newborn Hearing Screening program received an additional \$325,000 in FY09 and ongoing.

Included in the 2009-11 biennium:

- State funds for the Genetics program were reduced by \$340,000. \$300,000 was restored.

Included in the 2011-13 biennium:

- State funds for the Genetics program were reduced by \$340,000. \$300,000 was restored.

Included in the 2013-15 biennium:

- State funds for the Genetics program were reduced by \$340,000. \$300,000 was restored.