



## **Neurodevelopmental Centers**

### ***December 2016***

**Description:** The Department of Health supports 18 Neurodevelopmental Centers (NDCs) across the state. Fifteen centers are located in eight counties in western Washington and three centers are in three counties in eastern Washington. These centers are private, non-profit organizations that use a variety of funding sources to support their work. They provide evaluation, diagnosis, coordinated treatment planning, and specialized therapies to children with developmental disabilities and a variety of special health care needs like Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and autism.

**Mission/Purpose:** Help children with special health care needs develop to their full potential by supporting NDCs. These centers provide quality, community-based, early intervention, and specialized therapy services not available in other facilities in the state.

**Target Population:** Children with developmental disabilities and other special health care needs, birth to age 18. The centers served approximately 21,000 children in 2015; 55 percent were under age three.

### **Services**

- Designation as a Neurodevelopmental Center by the agency allows the NDCs to bill Medicaid directly without going through managed care contracts.
- Centers provide data about the children they serve to the department through local health jurisdictions.
- The department uses the collected data to perform a required data match with Title XIX (Medicaid) and report to the federal Maternal and Child Health Block Grant.
- Consistent agency funding is part of an interagency agreement with the Department of Early Learning.
- Funding allows the NDCs to offer additional, diverse services needed by the children and their families not covered by Medicaid and most private insurance.

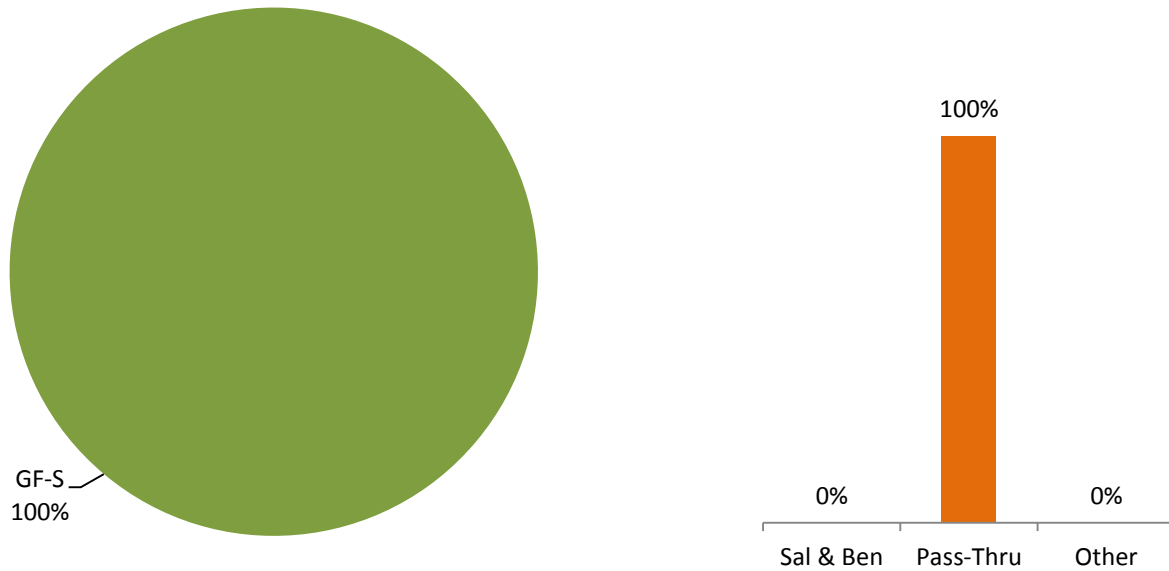
### **Stakeholders**

- Children who need specialized therapies and their families
- Nonprofit therapy centers
- Nonprofit hospitals
- Therapists
- School districts

### **Impact from potential loss of GFS funds**

- Access to therapy services for children would be greatly reduced, particularly for children on Medicaid.
- Some centers may go out of business entirely without this funding support, further reducing access to services for all children.
- Without timely, specialized therapies, developmental delays in children will worsen, leading to additional medical and functional complications for the children as they enter school.

**2015-2017 Biennium  
Neurodevelopmental Centers Fiscal Information**



	GF-S	Federal	Dedicated	Fees	Total	Sal & Ben	Pass-Thru	Other
Total	1,285,612	0	0	0	1,285,612		1,285,612	

**Recent Funding History**

- NDCs had stable funding in the 2015-2017 biennium
- NDCs had stable funding in the 2013-2015 biennium
- NDCs had stable funding in the 2011-2013 biennium