



TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Health

FROM: Graham L. Pollett, MD, FRCPC  
Medical Officer of Health

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**2012 – 2013 100% MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVICES  
PROGRAM BUDGETS**

***Recommendations***

*It is recommended that the following 100% Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services funded Program Budgets, attached to Report No. 067-12 as Appendices [A](#), [B](#) and [C](#), respectively, be endorsed:*

- 1. 2012-2013 budgets for the tykeTALK: Thames Valley Preschool Speech and Language Program; and*
- 2. Infant Hearing Program (Southwest Region); and*
- 3. Blind Low Vision Program.*

**Background**

tykeTALK is one of 32 provincial preschool speech and language initiatives across the province of Ontario. The program focuses on the prevention, early identification and treatment of speech and language problems in children from birth to school entry age. The preschool speech and language initiatives, which commenced in November 1998, are funded 100% by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS). In April 2000, the Health Unit became the Lead Agency for the Thames Valley program.

The provincial Infant Hearing Program was announced in December 2000. This program consists of universal hearing screening for all babies, follow-up audiological assessment to confirm hearing loss in babies who fail the initial screening and communication development and supports for infants and their families where there is confirmed hearing loss. The Health Unit is one of 12 Infant Hearing Programs across the province and covers the regions of Middlesex-London, Huron-Perth, Oxford, Elgin-St. Thomas, Sarnia-Lambton and Grey Bruce Owen Sound. The Infant Hearing Program is funded 100% by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services.

The provincial Blind Low Vision Program was established for the purpose of providing an integrated, family centred system of services that will provide early intervention supports and services for all babies born blind or with low vision required to attain healthy development; and for those preschool aged children who are identified with, or develop blindness or low vision in early childhood provide child and family centred education and support for parents so that they can support the healthy development of their child. The Blind Low Vision Program is funded 100% by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services.

All 3 of these programs operate on an April 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> or fiscal year.

## 2012-2013 Projected Budget

The budget process is different from the Cost-Shared Program in that the MYCS provides grant amounts to health units early in the operating year. The respective budgets are developed based on the grant amounts communicated. The tykeTALK, Infant Hearing and Blind Low Vision Program received the same level of funding for 2012 as the previous year. That is, the tykeTALK, Infant Hearing, and the Blind Low Vision Program budgets 2012 grant are \$1,482,315, \$835,886 and \$158,702 respectively. Once the grant amounts are announced, staff develops a detailed budget for each program.

The projected budgets for 2012-2013 for tykeTALK, Infant Hearing Program, and the Blind Low Vision are attached (Appendices [A](#), [B](#) and [C](#)).

This report was prepared by Ms. Debbie Shugar, Manager/System Facilitator, tykeTALK and the Infant Hearing Program - SW Region, and Mr. John Millson, Director, Finance and Operations.

Graham L. Pollett, MD, FRCPC  
Medical Officer of Health

<p><b>This report addresses</b> Policy No. 4-10 (Budget Preparation and Approval) as outlined in the MLHU Administration Policy Manual.</p>
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