



## Docs For Tots Washington State

December 2006

**Dear Washington State Doctors,**

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the **DFT Washington State Newsletter!** This update provides a brief overview of the news, upcoming advocacy opportunities, and some recent activities of your local Docs in Action. The newsletters, along with other regularly updated information, are available on our web site at [www.DocsForTots.org/DFTWA.asp](http://www.DocsForTots.org/DFTWA.asp). You can subscribe to receive them in your Inbox by clicking [here!](#) We hope that you find this information useful in your advocacy efforts. We welcome your feedback and ideas, and thank you for your great work on behalf of young children!

Dr. Jill Sells, Director, Docs For Tots Washington State

### Docs For Tots

- **Grand Rounds at Seattle Children's Hospital.** Please join us for Dr. Sells' presentation *Early Childhood Learning: The new emphasis and its potential impact on child health.* Thursday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 8 am.
- **Docs For Tots Washington State is now 100 docs strong!** We are thrilled to see such commitment to advocacy and know that this growth will benefit young children!
- **Docs For Tots recently conducted a statewide survey of pediatricians** around early learning and advocacy. In early 2007 we will share what we learned to help us support your advocacy efforts.

### Early Learning Updates

- **Governor Gregoire's Early Learning Summit** brought together teams from across Washington State in November, and each will have ongoing efforts to enhance systems that would benefit from local physician involvement. Click [here](#) to learn more, and contact Dr. Sells if you are interested in getting involved with your local team.
- **Thrive By Five Washington names 1st CEO.** Governor Gregoire and Bill Gates Sr. announced the selection of Dr. Graciela Italiano-Thomas as Thrive's first CEO. See [www.thrivebyfivewa.org](http://www.thrivebyfivewa.org).
- **"Washington Learns: World-Class, Learner Focused, Seamless Education,"** the final report of an 18-month comprehensive study of education in Washington was released at a November event, which included commentary by Governor Gregoire and Bill Gates. See [www.washingtonlearns.wa.gov](http://www.washingtonlearns.wa.gov).

### Advocacy Opportunities:

- **Olympia: Have a Heart for Kids Day, Monday February 19, 2007:** Children's Alliance annual advocacy day in front of the state capital. Click [here](#) to learn more and to join Dr. Jill Sells and other network docs for this event!

### Docs in Action



Washington State doctors Jill Sells, Francie Chalmers, Phyllis Cavens, and Michelle Terry attended Governor Gregoire's Early Learning Summit

#### **Dr. Phyllis Cavens**

Attended the Early Learning Summit and is working to increase access to well child care from birth on to ensure that children are ready to learn when they enter kindergarten. [More...](#)

#### **Dr. Phillip McGuiness**

Evaluates grants for the Foundation for Early Learning in Clark County, Washington. [More...](#)

For the latest news, information, and opportunities, visit Docs For Tots Washington State online:

[www.DocsForTots.org/DFTWA.asp](http://www.DocsForTots.org/DFTWA.asp)