

Ministry of Children  
and Youth Services

Minister's Office

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**AUG 07 2007**

**RECEIVED**

**AUG 13 2007**

**alPHa**

Ms. Linda Stewart  
Executive Director  
Association of Local Public Health Agencies  
502-425 University Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5G 1T6

Dear Ms. Stewart:

Thank you for your letter regarding Healthy Babies Healthy Children and your request to meet to discuss ongoing funding for this initiative.

Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) is a key building block of Best Start. By providing a range of prevention and early intervention supports related to healthy child development and family well-being, HBHC plays a key role in helping to ensure that children arrive at school ready and eager to learn. The program represents a true partnership between my ministry and public health units across the province. I appreciate the public health units' commitment to the program and the achievements they have made in serving Ontario's children and their families.

Our government's ongoing commitment to the continued success of HBHC is demonstrated by our 2007 Ontario Budget investment of \$5.46 million in new annualized funding.

The ministry looks forward to continuing to work together with organizations such as yours to improve Ontario's system of early intervention and prevention. I encourage you to contact Darryl Sturtevant, Assistant Deputy Minister of my ministry's Strategic Policy and Planning Division, to set up an initial meeting to address your concerns. Mr. Sturtevant can be reached at 416-327-9481.

Once again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Anne Chambers".

Mary Anne Chambers  
Minister

c: Mr. Darryl Sturtevant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy and Planning Division