

that you got just before lunch, the primary piece of the bill are incentive grant programs that go to communities. On page 7 of the bill, outlined the kinds of services but the primary focus are preventive services and early intervention services, in other words, those kinds of things that a community might be able to do with a small grant from the state that could very effectively mobilize their own resources and address whatever needs that community identifies their primary needs are. Maybe one community, and Omaha is a good example, Omaha has a big problem with drugs and gangs. Omaha's plan that they might come in and apply for money under is going to look a lot different, for instance, probably than maybe what somebody in Senator Coordsen's district would try to bring in. A good model that's already in existence is what has happened in Beatrice, and I think Senator Byars is probably going to talk a little bit about that, where that community brought all of their child-serving agencies under one roof and made it easier for people to access services. So the first big piece of the bill is to add to a small pool of money that is already out there and put more money out there for incentive grants that go to communities so that communities can identify what the needs of children and families are, bring forward this proposal and then mobilize locally the state resources to best address issues at the early end of the continuum before we get to the point of having kids and families with lots and lots of problems. Second, pieces of family advocate project, this is a pilot project. We'd like to do three of them around the state. There is a sample of that going on in Lincoln right now through the Community Action Agency, but one of the things we've found, and there is information available about this about the initial success that we're having is that if there is just somebody in place that can show families how to access services and how to make good use of the resources, that we can make a tremendous difference in terms of strengthening families and, again, preventing problems before they get so serious that they become a major jeopardy to the family and to the child and also very expensive sometimes to the state. Thirdly, we create a Nebraska Commission on Families which is a 15-member group appointed by the Governor, the rationale being that, again, this group will help us know for sure that this project is being truly responsive to the needs across the state which, quite frankly, are quite different depending on the community you come from and also assure coordination. It's a way for the grass roots voice to be heard in state government. And finally, a big piece of this involves training and it's very important I think that we have an