



Welcome to the first quarterly newsletter from the Early Childhood Developmental Health Systems (ECDHS): Evidence to Impact Center! Learn about the latest Center activities and events, resources to support your systems-building work and news and stories from the field. And tell a colleague to [sign up](#) today!

Working With State and Community Systems-Building Teams



The ECDHS: Evidence to Impact Center works directly with state, territory, community and tribal teams to serve young children and families.

Why It Matters: Systems-building work is not one size fits all. By working with states and communities, we can identify what approaches are universal and what needs to be tailored to meet local needs.

- We provide technical assistance to three Implementation Sites in Colorado, Maui and Washington focused on systems implementation and evaluation.
- Through the Transforming Pediatrics for Early Childhood (TPEC) program, we provide support to Resource Hubs in Arkansas, California, Chickasaw Nation, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Oregon and Vermont to advance the delivery of early childhood developmental promotion and support services in pediatric settings.
- Learn more about [who the Center works with](#).

Families Leading Change



Members of our Family Advisory Leadership Council recently shared their experiences with early childhood services, thoughts on the importance of early childhood systems, what “family leader” means to them – and their favorite activities to do with their children!

Why It Matters: Babies, toddlers and their families are at the core of early childhood developmental health systems. To ensure systems are equitable and inclusive, families need to be at the table.

“Family leader” means having honest discussions, being an advocate, standing up for everything that your child wants and needs, connecting with programs and services, supporting other families – and so much more.

[Read Their Stories](#)

Implementing a Continuum of Care

The Center emphasizes the Early Childhood Development (ECD) Continuum of Care to promote optimal development through promotion and prevention, surveillance (i.e., monitoring) and screening, care coordination and linkage, and intervention.

Why It Matters: The ECD Continuum of Care helps ensure that pediatric health care is holistic, centered around families and emphasizes the importance of social-emotional development. The TPEC Resource Hubs implement the continuum in their work, and we also provide technical assistance around the continuum to 151 community health centers across 40 states and territories.

“Promotion and prevention, surveillance and screening, care coordination and linkage, and intervention – there are going to be different ways that we do it in community health settings that feel different, that look different, that have their own unique challenges, that also have their own unique creative innovations to address them.”



Sara del Campo de Gonzalez
MD, Baylor College of Medicine San Antonio

Dr. Sara del Campo de Gonzalez, general pediatrician at Baylor College of Medicine, shared strategies and stories for implementing the continuum in community health centers during a February webinar. She was joined by Dr. David Willis, senior fellow at the Center for the Study of Social Policy, and Kay Johnson, president of Johnson Policy Consulting.

[Watch the Recording](#)

Community Health Center Corner

Here are key resources and content that community health center staff can use to improve developmental outcomes for children ages 0-5 and support components of the ECD Continuum of Care (i.e., promotion and prevention; surveillance and screening; care coordination and linkage; and intervention):

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s [Learn the Signs. Act Early. program](#) includes free developmental surveillance resources for health care providers, including milestone checklists for ages 2 months to 5 years and guidance on developmental surveillance vs screening.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics’ (AAP) Bright Futures initiative reflects standard of care recommendations. Health care professionals can use this [tool and resource kit](#) to ensure they are following Bright Futures guidelines, access materials related to preventive health supervision and health screening, and adapt materials to meet the needs of their practices.

The AAP has also partnered with the Association of Clinicians for the Underserved to form the Community Health Center Pediatric Workgroup. The workgroup will help the ECDHS: Evidence to Impact Center create and adapt resources that help community health centers meet their ECD goals. Universal resources will be shared on the Center’s website and future editions of the newsletter. Learn more about the workgroup [here](#).

Diving Into earlychildhoodimpact.org

Early childhood systems can’t be built without building blocks. Our public website includes a trove of tools for health care providers, family support professionals, systems leaders and others working to secure the health and well-being of young children and their families, including:

- A [collection of resources](#) from national partners and affiliates covering key systems-building topics, such as equity, family engagement and leadership, pediatric care and more.
- An [archive of past events](#) that you can watch on your own time. Learn from early childhood experts about family engagement, family-engaged developmental monitoring, and data-driven decision making.

Featured Resources

Child Health Transformation Leaders Forum

The Child Health Transformation Leaders Forum is hosting a [special forum on Monday, March 25](#), at 2:00 PM EDT on two next generation, researched-based, primary care child health models to strengthen family nurturing, including a discussion of how the initiatives can contribute to overall child health transformation and health equity.

Family-Engaged Developmental Monitoring (FEDM) Toolkit

FEDM is an intentional partnership of families and providers working to highlight a child’s developmental progress and identify opportunities for support and education for positive outcomes. Use the [Help Me Grow National Center’s toolkit](#) to share the concept of FEDM and provide real-life examples of application and practice.

IECMH PediaLink Course

Learn how to promote infant and early childhood mental health (IECMH) principles with the [AAP’s new PediaLink course](#). Access for free using the code SAVES.

New AAP Trauma-Informed Pediatric Care Resources

The AAP has released new resources for pediatricians to build capacity for trauma-informed care, including a [video](#) on the power of relationships in pediatric care to uncover trauma and adversity and [Spanish infographics for families](#) to support children who have experienced trauma.

Healthychildren.org Ages & Stages

What should parents expect regarding their child’s early cognitive development? Check out [HealthChildren.org’s](#) updated guidance for [4-7 months](#) and [8-12 months](#).

Reflective Practice Daily Checklist for Early Childhood Professionals

[ZERO TO THREE’s checklist](#) can help make reflective practice ingrained in your work. Print it out, hang it next to your desk, save it to your desktop or attach it to your calendar reminder – whatever works for you!

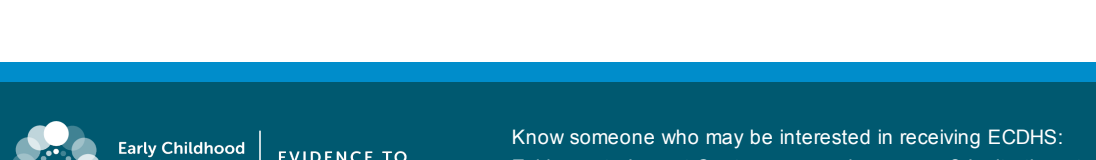
National Collaborative for Infants and Toddlers (NCIT) Membership

NCIT is committed to ensuring that every child and their families have what they need to thrive. Organizations can [become a formal NCIT member](#) for free to align with other members working on prenatal-to-three issues, gain access to the training opportunities and tools, and more.



The [Early Childhood Developmental Health Systems \(ECDHS\): Evidence to Impact Center](#) focuses on building and advancing early childhood systems to improve and strengthen the health and well-being of babies and toddlers’ most crucial years of development. ZERO TO THREE leads the ECDHS: Evidence to Impact Center in partnership with the American Academy of Pediatrics, Help Me Grow National Center, Center for the Study of Social Policy, Family Voices, Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development, and Institute for Child Success.

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