

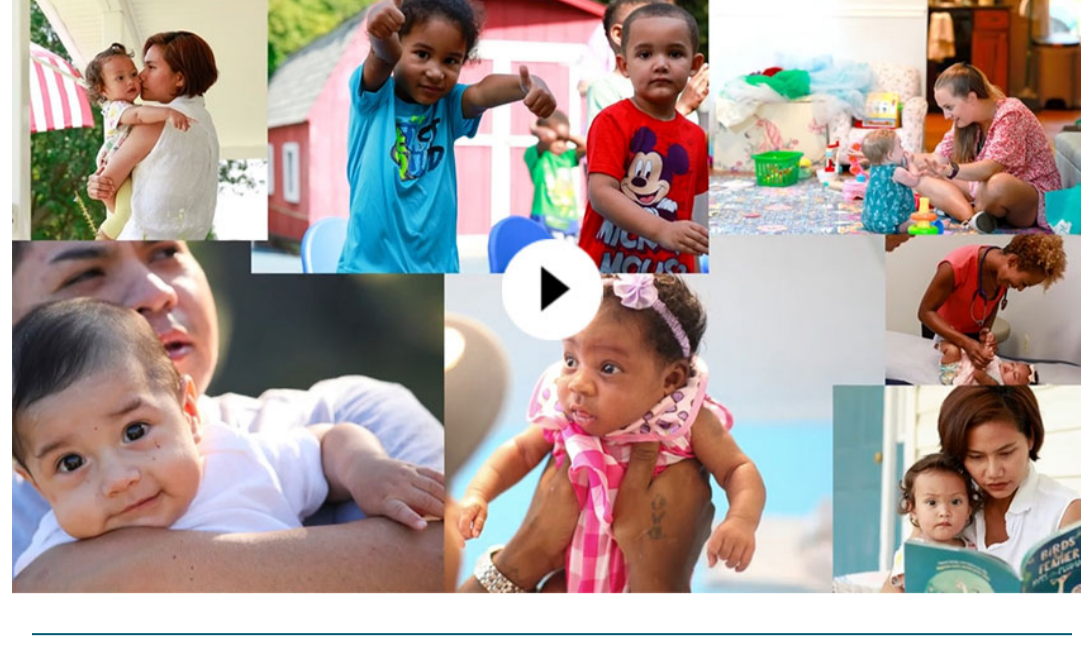


New Year, Same Commitment to Supporting Families

Happy holidays from the ECDHS: Evidence to Impact Center!

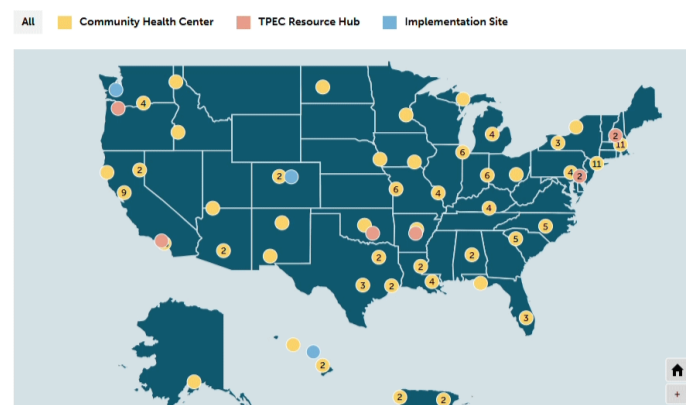
As we approach the new year, we have reflected on our work since our Center launched in September 2022. Our new video spotlights some of the strides we have made to help build and advance comprehensive systems of care, from providing technical assistance to state and community teams to launching our website and more.

We look forward to continuing this critical work with our funder, partners and local teams to help all babies and young children flourish.



Working Together to Transform Systems and Care

We're also excited to share two new resources highlighting the state, territory, community and Tribal teams we work with.



- Our [interactive map](#) shows what organizations near you are focused on systems building and pediatrics transformation, including 151 community health centers, eight Transforming Pediatrics for Early Childhood (TPEC) Resource Hubs and three Implementation Sites.
- This [new fact sheet](#) summarizes the goals of the TPEC program and introduces the eight TPEC Resource Hubs working to advance the delivery of early childhood developmental services in pediatric settings.

Elevating Comprehensive Services With the Well Visit Planner

The Well Visit Planner approach and tool helps health professionals engage families as partners in their child's care, promote early relational health and child flourishing, and build the trust needed to effectively address family priorities and address risks.

"We have to work together. The Well Visit Planner allows for a "through any door" approach where families can be engaged wherever they are and linked to quality whole child and family well child care, as well as other supports across systems."



Christina Bethell, PhD, MBA, MPH
Director, Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative

Why It Matters: Well visits are a critical opportunity for families and health providers to connect, but there are wide gaps in the utilization and quality of services that require innovative, family-centered strategies.

- The Well Visit Planner ensures the universal provision of care that aligns with Bright Futures guidelines. It enables real engagement with families and "through any door" collaboration across early childhood systems.
- The Well Visit Planner features a brief family-facing digital tool, available in English and Spanish, that streamlines and integrates comprehensive screening and priority setting while educating and helping families and health professionals focus well-visit time on the unique needs, goals and priorities of each child and family.
- Learn more with our [September webinar recording, key takeaways and a list of Well Visit Planner resources](#).

New EPSDT Guidance for States

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently released new guidance on Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) requirements for eligible children enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP. The guidance discusses policies, strategies and best practices for states to maximize health care access and utilization.

Why It Matters: The EPSDT benefit provides comprehensive and preventive health care services for eligible children, with the primary goal of providing "the right care, to the right child, at the right time, in the right setting."

What States Can and Should Do: To implement EPSDT, health and systems leaders should align with best practices to prioritize prevention and early intervention, ensure access to a full range of health services, expedite medical necessity determinations, set clear expectations for managed care organizations and accountable care organizations, and report on child health outcomes.

- Read the new EPSDT guidance [here](#).
- You can learn more by watching [this recording of a town hall](#) co-hosted by our partners at the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). They joined leaders from CMS and other organizations to discuss the guidance.

Community Health Center Corner

Community health centers play a pivotal role in providing high-quality early childhood developmental health services. Below is a new resource along with insights from a needs assessment survey administered to health centers late last year.

- Nurture Connection's new [Guide to Transforming Care for Young Children in Community Health Centers](#) can help health centers achieve advancements and anchor their work in research, best practices and policy. Readers will find insights and strategies for developmental screening, team-based care, high-performing medical homes, Medicaid, quality improvement and more.
 - **Note:** This guide can also be leveraged by non-health center pediatric practices!
- Our Center provides technical assistance to [151 health centers funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration](#) to improve developmental outcomes for children ages 0-5. To inform our offerings, we disseminated a survey to gather a snapshot of the health centers' resources, most common barriers and top technical assistance priorities. Explore survey highlights [here](#).

Featured Resources

Social-Emotional Development Billing and Coding

Our [new resource](#) provides guidance on conducting social-emotional development screening and information on when and how to screen for perinatal depression, development, autism and social-emotional and social driver concerns. The guide details the billing and diagnosis codes recommended for use by pediatric providers, followed by case vignettes of social-emotional development coding in practice.

Road Map for Policy Changes to Transform Child Health Care

A [recent report](#) from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine lays out a road map for policy change and health care system transformation to better meet the needs of children and families. The report's recommendations call for sustained and coordinated leadership at the federal level on children's health and emphasize the need to better assess the impact of public policies.

Building for Babies: State Policy Self-Assessment Suite

ZERO TO THREE's [new self-assessment suite](#) is a grounding tool for state policymakers and advocates to understand the big policy areas that are important for babies and determine policy and system priorities they want to pursue. The suite includes a self-assessment tool, a dynamic Baby Book and an equity rubric.

Literacy Promotion: A Vital Part of Primary Care

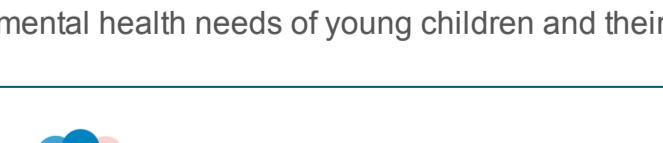
The AAP's [updated policy statement](#) and [new technical report](#) emphasize the importance of reading with young children to promote development. The policy statement includes recommendations for how pediatricians and pediatric advanced care providers can promote literacy development at health supervision visits from the newborn period through kindergarten.

Language Access Services Online Course

Family Voices recently released a [free online course](#) about language access rights and services, focused on how health care is better when people can communicate with their provider in their preferred language. The course is available in English, Spanish, Chinese and American Sign Language.

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) Funding Compendium

The Administration for Children & Families' Office of Early Childhood Development released a [new IECMH funding compendium](#) to support states, territories, Tribes and local communities in using existing federal resources to address the mental health needs of young children and their families.



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. 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, Institute for Child Success and James Bell Associates.

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Know someone who may be interested in receiving ECDHS: Evidence to Impact Center news and resources? [Invite them to 5910 URL](#).

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