



ZERO to THREE
Early connections last a lifetime

Sustainability Planning for Infant-Toddler Court Teams: Policy & Financing Strategies

Sustainability Webinar Series

July 21, 2022

Introduction to Sustainability Webinar Series



Today's webinar is the *third* in a series and will focus on policy and funding strategies to sustain Infant-Toddler Court Teams in states and local communities.

- The [first webinar](#) focused on an introduction to Sustainability Planning with partners in Washington State.
- The [second webinar](#) focused on collaboration and key champions with partners in Pueblo, Colorado.

This program is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$19,581,161 with 0 percent financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit [HRSA.gov](https://www.hrsa.gov).

Today's Speakers



Carrie Toy

Operations Manager, Office
of Family Courts, Office of
the State Courts Administrator



Lisa McGarrie

Sr. Policy/Finance Specialist,
National Infant-Toddler Court
Program, ZERO TO THREE



Jaclyn Szrom

Sr. Policy Analyst,
National Infant-Toddler Court
Program, ZERO TO THREE

What Is Sustainability?

“Sustainability is not just about funding. It’s about creating and building momentum to maintain communitywide change by organizing and maximizing community assets and resources. **It means institutionalizing policies and practices within communities and organizations...**involving a multiplicity of stakeholders who can develop long term buy-in and support throughout the community for your coalition’s efforts.

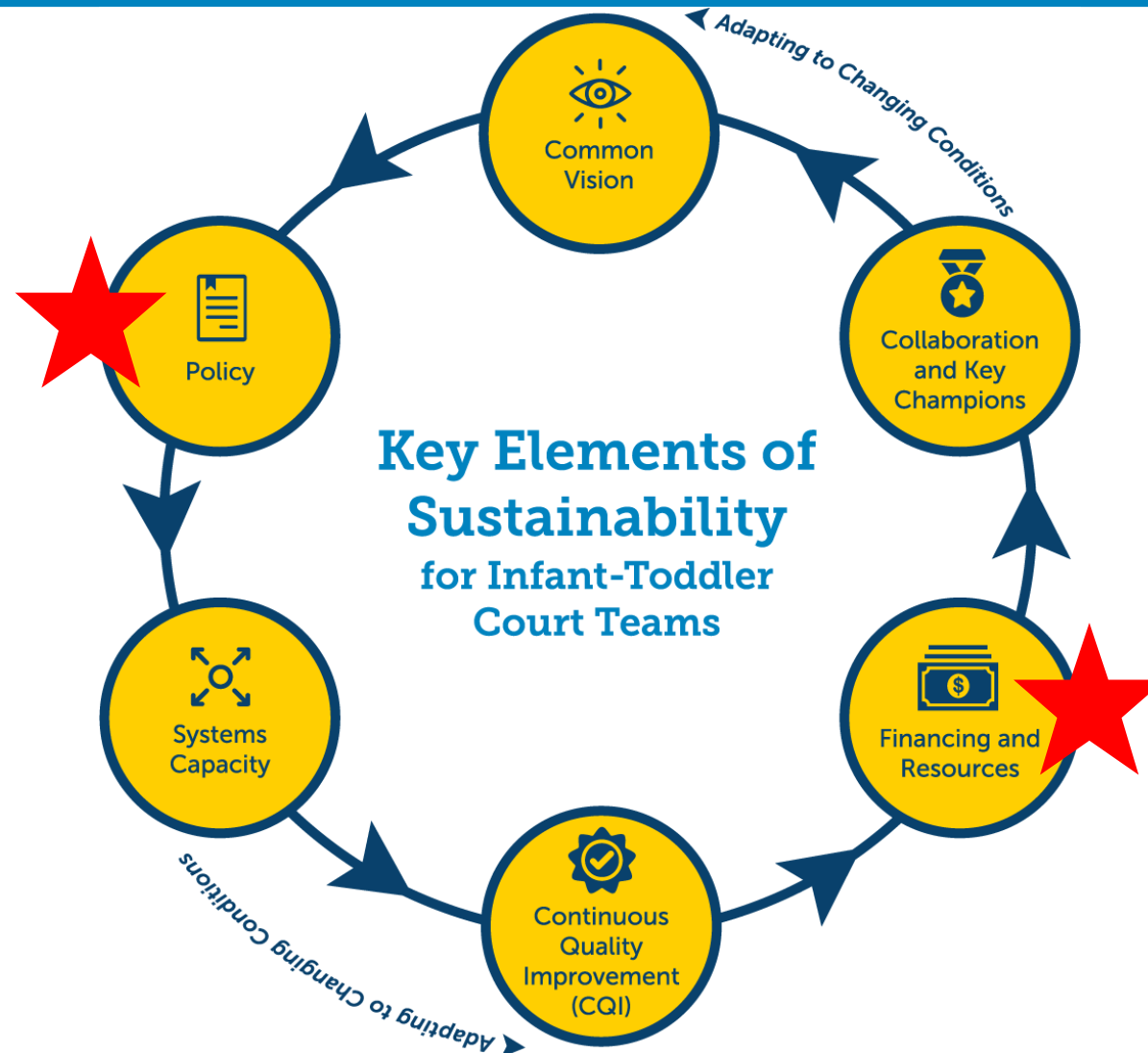
These elements are crucial to ensuring lasting change and making a difference in people’s lives.”

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), A Sustainable Planning Guide for Healthy Communities



ZERO to THREE

Key Elements of Sustainability for Infant-Toddler Court Teams

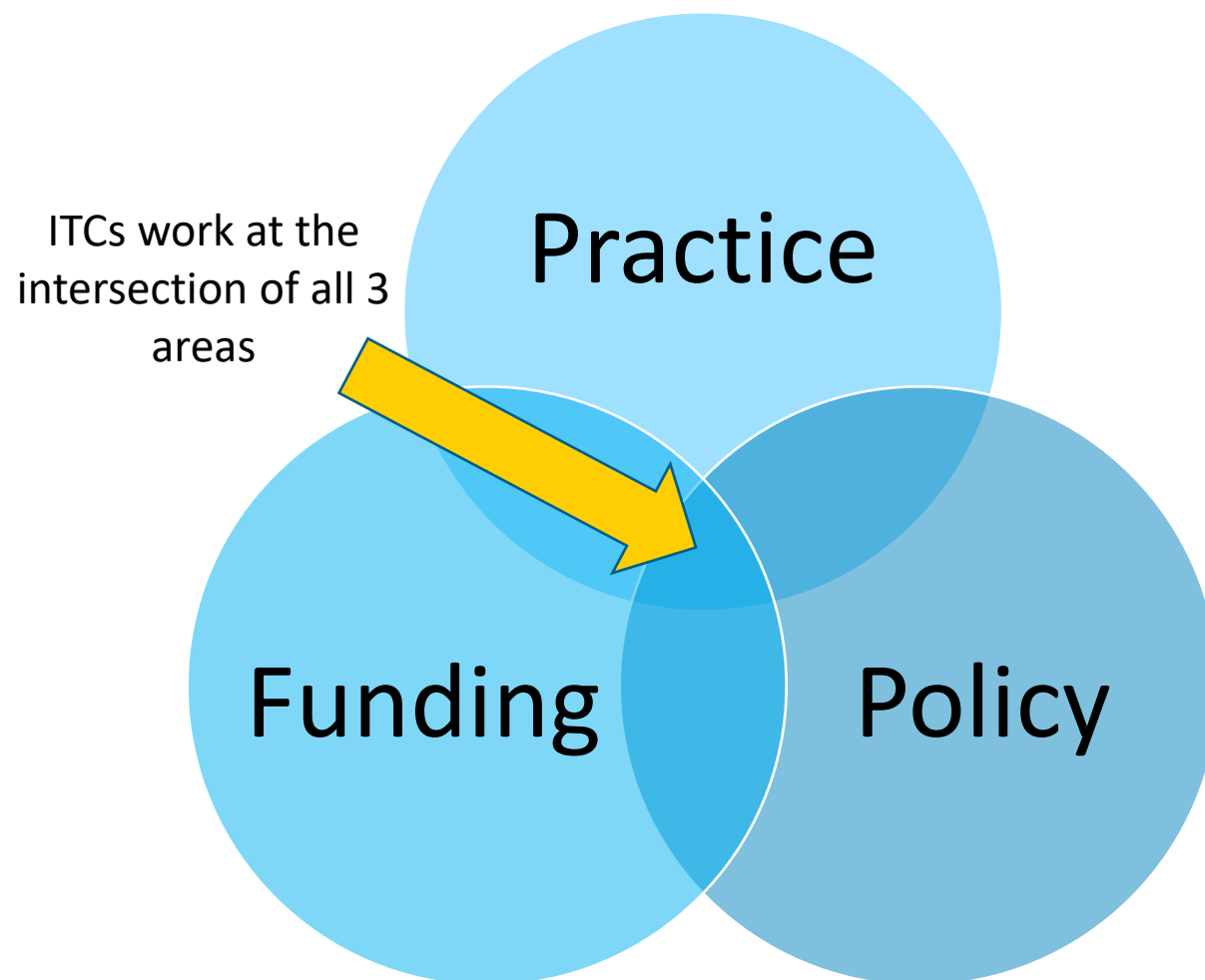


This sustainability framework developed collaboratively with our partner the Center for the Study of Social Policy

Intersection of Policy & Funding



ZERO to THREE





ZERO to THREE
Early connections last a lifetime

Policy Connection to ITC's



What do we mean by policy?

Big P Policy



- ✓ Enacted by national government, state government
- ✓ Takes a long time to develop; broad consensus required from many varied groups
- ✓ Often affects a whole population

Little P Policy



- Enacted by localities (local government, local public agencies, organizations)
- Takes less time to develop/deploy (relative to Big P Policy)
- Still requires collaboration, smaller scale
- Impact is limited in scale, fewer lives impacted

Big P Policy



- ✓ Laws enacted by Congress
- ✓ National budget decisions
- ✓ State regulations/law
- ✓ State budget decisions

Little P Policy



- Local laws
- Local government budget decisions
- Local government agency policies
- Organization or public entity changes to policy/practice

Examples of how ITCs have created policy change:

- Local or statewide ITCs established that are specialty courts serving families with 0-3 year olds
- Created formal roles for parent partners/mentors in the ITC process with policy guidance on the role, job descriptions
- Required more frequent court hearings for very young children and their families
- Established policies to create formal connections between ITC and other programs (e.g. Early Head Start)
- State law developed for ITC/early childhood court model
- State budget bills have included line items for ITC/early childhood courts

Is your ITC ready to work on policy?

Key Questions:

- Do you have relationships with people in your community/state who are early childhood advocates?
- Is there someone connected to the ITC team that has a pulse on policy actions?
- Are there advocates and others in policymaking roles understand your work?
- Are you ready to respond if you get an inquiry about the ITC?
- How are you seeking out opportunities to share about your program?



ZERO TO THREE

Newly Released: A Policy Framework for States



Strengthening Families with Infants and Toddlers:
A Policy Framework for States
National Infant-Toddler Court Program

Authors: Torey Silloway and Jaclyn Szrom
June 2022

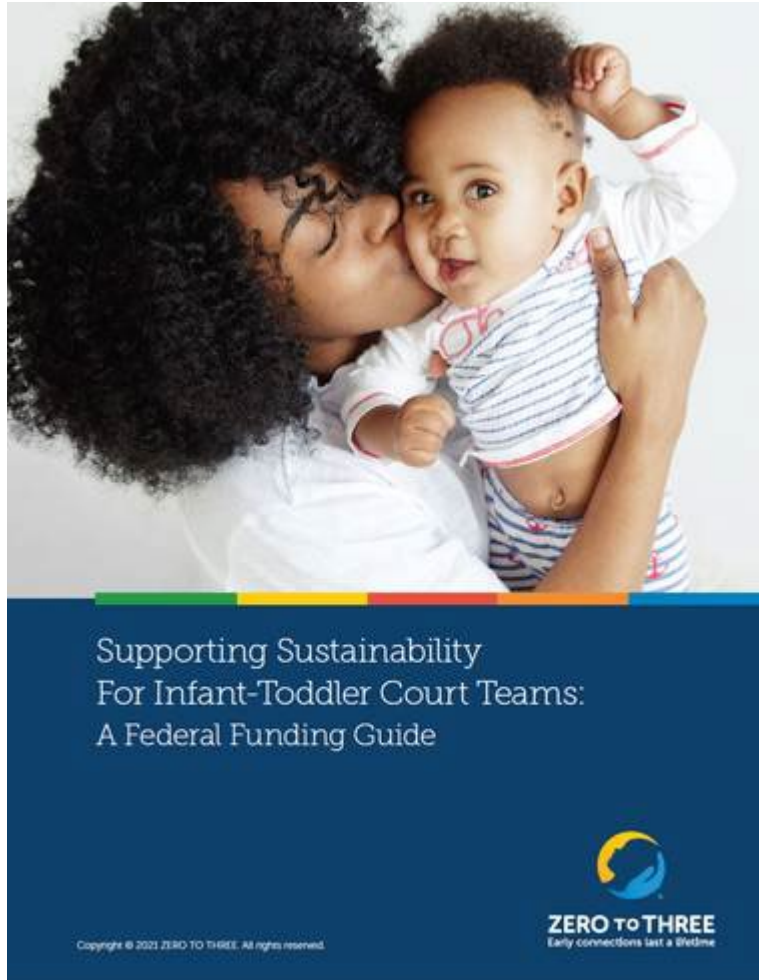


ZERO TO THREE
Early connections last a lifetime

Copyright © 2022 ZERO TO THREE. All rights reserved.

www.zerotothree.org/PolicyFramework

Supporting Sustainability for Infant-Toddler Court Teams: A Federal Funding Guide



www.zerotothree.org/federal-funding-guide



ZERO to THREE
Early connections last a lifetime

Financing ITCs



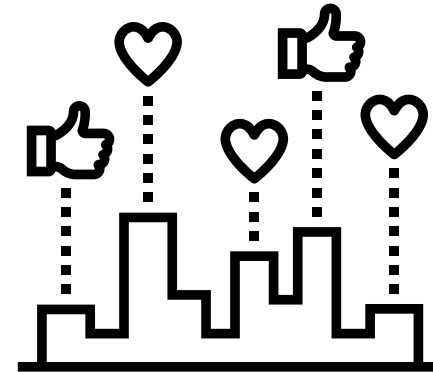
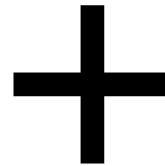
Funding & Resources



ZERO to THREE



Funding from One or
More Sources



Shared Resources with
Partners

Poll Question

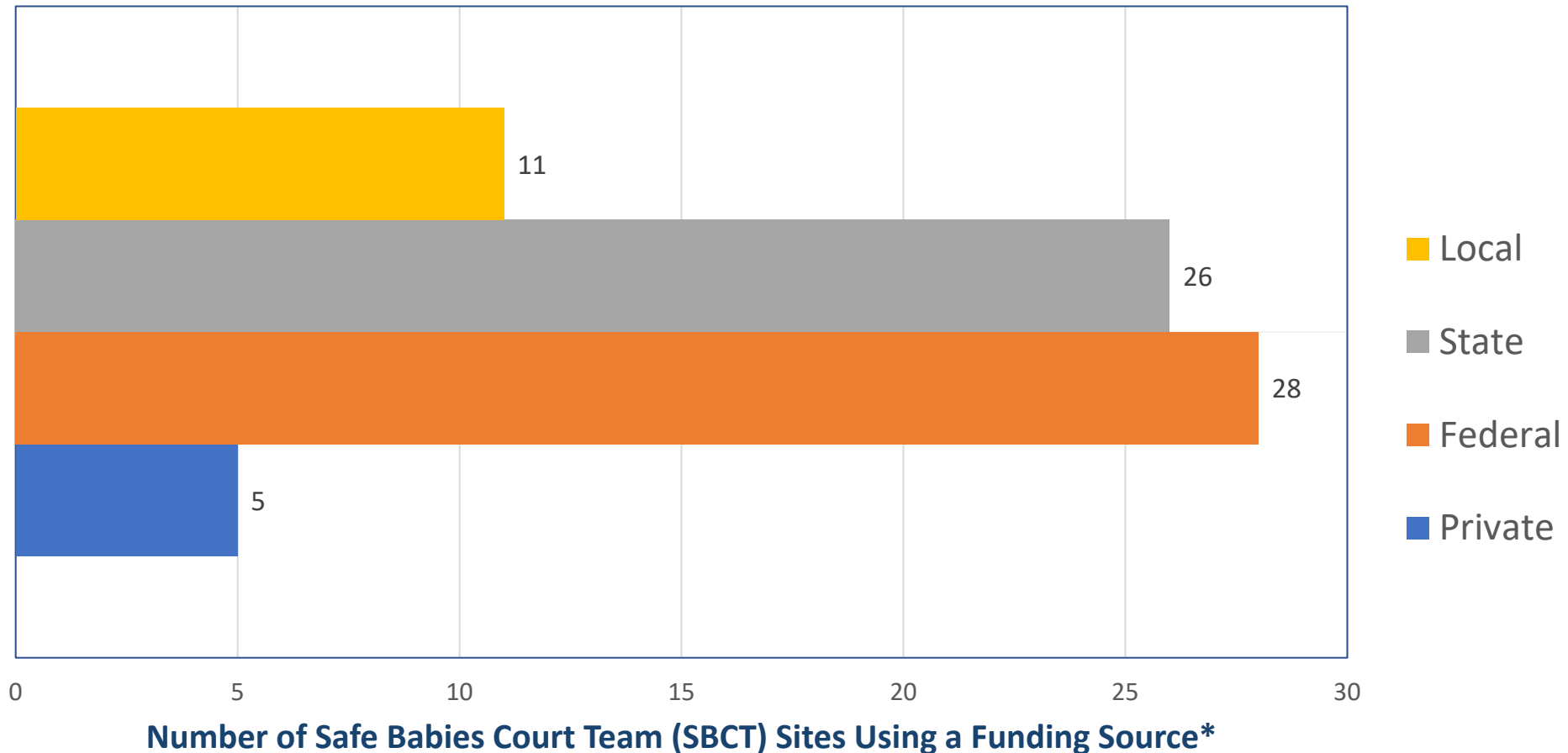


ZERO to THREE

How is your ITC funded currently?

- 1) Mostly federal funds
- 2) Mostly state funds
- 3) Mostly local funds
- 4) Other

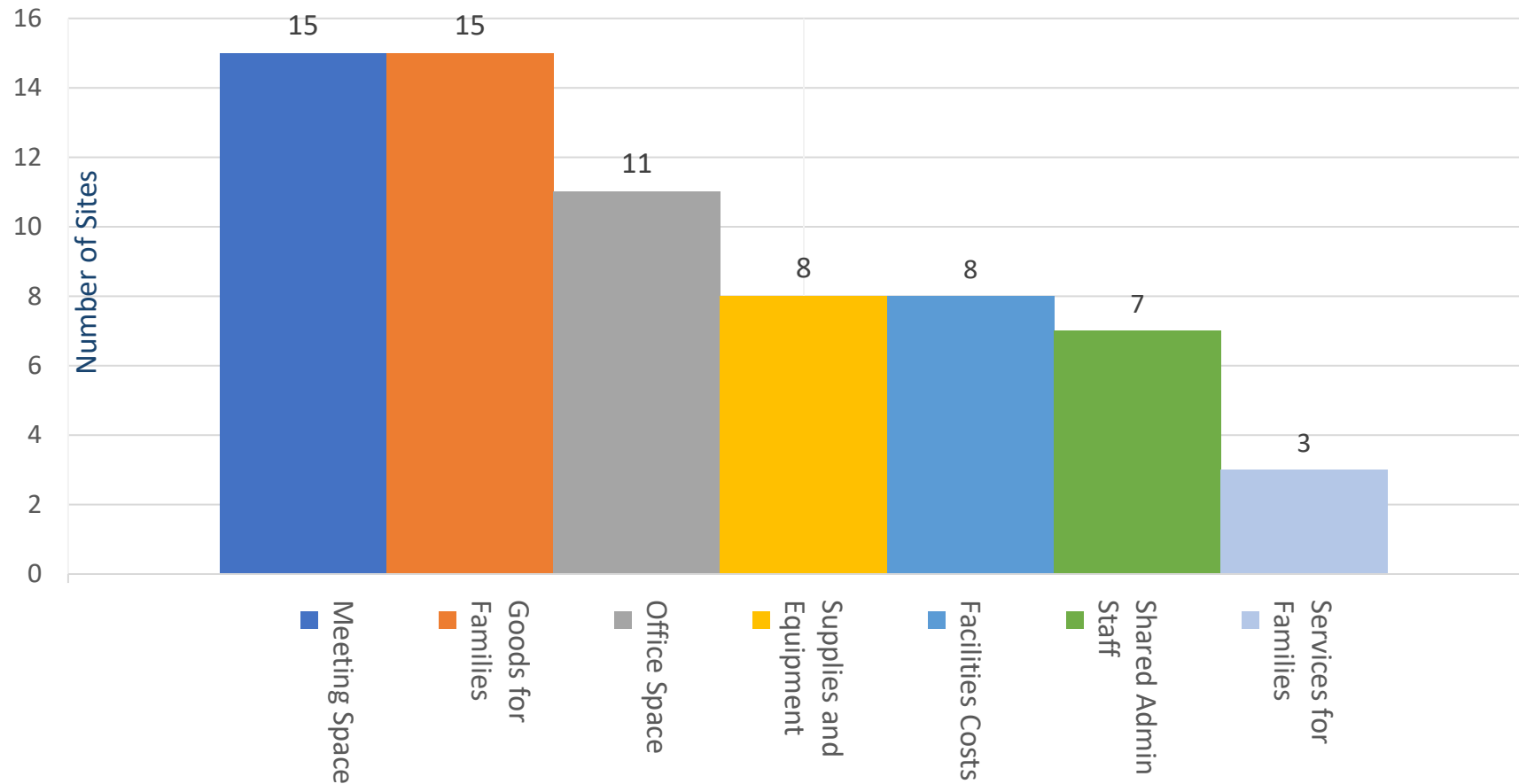
Infant-Toddler Court Teams Use A Mix Of Funding Types



**Sites may report more than one funding source.*

Findings are based on a 2020 survey of SBCT sites. 35 SBCT sites responded, 10 of which are HRSA-funded evaluation sites.

Infant-Toddler Court Teams Leverage Many In-Kind and Donated Services and Supports





ZERO TO THREE

Potential Federal Funding Sources for ITCs

ACF	HRSA	CMS	DOE	SAMHSA
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Title IV-B• Title IV-E• Social Services Block Grant (SSBG- Title XX)• CAPTA/CBCAP• Child Care and Development Block Grant• Early Head Start/Head Start• MIECHV• Court Improvement Program• Preschool Development Grant – Birth to Five	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Infant-Toddler Court Program• Healthy Start• MIECHV	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medicaid• CHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IDEA – Parts B & C	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mental Health Block Grant• Substance Abuse Block Grant• System of Care Grants

Source: [ZTT Federal Funding Guide](#)



Infant-Toddler Court Teams Access A Variety Of Federal Funding

Competitive Grant Programs

- Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) – Infant-Toddler Court Program
- Children’s Justice Act (Department of Justice/Administration for Children and Families)
- Opioid Affected Youth Initiative (Department of Justice)
- System of Care (SOC) Expansion and Sustainability Grants (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)

Block Grants to States

- Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Infant-Toddler Set-Aside
- Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)

Other

- Title IV-B of the Social Security Act
- Court Improvement Program (CIP)



Infant-Toddler Court Teams Access State and Local Funding

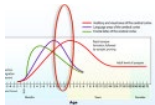
- State budget dollars (e.g. general revenue, state dollars as matching funds for a federal funding stream)
- Local county funds (e.g. local general funds, local funds from special taxing, pass through dollars from the state)
- Private philanthropic funding



ZERO to THREE

Early connections last a lifetime

Florida's Pathway to ITC Sustainability



0-5: A Critical Time for Services



Florida's 6th Judicial Circuit, Judge Lynn Tepper

ECC Initiative 2012-2015

— Local Pilots in Pensacola & Dade City Florida



IN THE BEGINNING



FDCIS

FLORIDA STATE COURTS

FLORIDA DEPENDENCY COURT INFORMATION SYSTEM





BUILDING A NETWORK



FLORIDA'S EARLY CHILDHOOD COURT

Target group: abused and neglected children who enter the dependency court system before age three

STATEWIDE PARTNERS

- ❖ Office of the State Courts Administrator
- ❖ Department of Children and Families
- ❖ Florida Guardian ad Litem Program
- ❖ Center for Prevention and Early Intervention Policy, Florida State University
- ❖ Florida Institute for Child Welfare
- ❖ Florida State Foster Adoptive Parent Association
- ❖ Florida Association for Infant Mental Health
- ❖ Other universities and child-serving agencies

LOCAL PARTNERS

COURT TEAM*

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| ❖ Judge | ❖ Early intervention providers |
| ❖ Community coordinator | ❖ Infant mental health providers |
| ❖ Caseworker | ❖ Child-serving agencies |
| ❖ Guardian ad Litem | ❖ Parent service providers |
| ❖ Attorneys | ❖ Department of Children and Families leadership |
| ❖ Clinician | ❖ Child advocates |
| ❖ Parents | ❖ Health and dental providers |
| ❖ Caregivers | ❖ Funders |
| ❖ Parent supports | ❖ And more |

*The judge led court team is comprised of key community stakeholders who are committed to restructuring the way the community responds to the needs of infants and toddlers in child welfare. Members of the court team who are directly involved with a family's case (including the parents but excluding the judge) have monthly Family Team Meetings to support the family and address specific needs.

STATEWIDE ACTIVITIES

Best practice standard and certification

Statewide training events

Trauma responsive education

Technical assistance for local programs

Treatment and service provider capacity-building

Resource materials

Legislative activities

Statewide data collection

Maintenance of statewide data system

Evaluation

Continuous quality improvement

Funding and Sustainability

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Judicial leadership

Monthly case review court hearings

Monthly family team meetings

Early childhood services

Co-parenting

Evidence-based treatment

Frequently family contact

Concurrent planning from day 1

Continuous quality improvement

INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES

Heals trauma and promotes parenting capacity

Builds attachment

Tracks progress

Ensures developmental and family supports

Placement stability

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

Decreases time to a permanent home

Reduces recurrence of maltreatment

Improves child well-being

Increases cost savings for taxpayers

Breaks the intergenerational cycle of child abuse

Enhances public confidence and satisfaction with the child welfare system



THE SECRET INGREDIENT?

RELATIONSHIPS

[Strengthening Families with Infants and Toddlers: A Policy Framework for States](#)

[Supporting Sustainability For Infant-Toddler Court Teams: A Federal Funding Guide](#)

[Florida Early Childhood Courts](#)

