



# Early Childhood Developmental Health Systems (ECDHS): Evidence to Impact Center

October 2022



In communities across the country, families are striving to give their children a good start in life. They share a common desire for their babies to be healthy, happy, and secure. Yet, far too many families face considerable obstacles in raising their children, including health concerns, safety issues, and racial and economic inequities. This reality underpins the critical need for new and effective approaches that address these complex challenges and create a well-coordinated continuum of care that babies and toddlers need to thrive.

The **Early Childhood Developmental Health Systems (ECDHS): Evidence to Impact Center** has been established to support states across the nation in building equity- and family-centered early childhood systems that improve the health and well-being of our nation's babies and toddlers. The ECDHS Center is also working to expand the integration of high-quality early childhood services into pediatric settings to address the holistic needs of children and families.

## The goals of the Center are to:

- **Strengthen the evidence base of state ECD systems** by developing and advancing a learning agenda, including the development of a comprehensive model for ECD systems-building.
- **Accelerate ECD systems development** by providing intensive technical assistance (TA) and in-depth implementation and evaluation support to at least three states and disseminating resources/tools that are easy to use and adapt nationwide.
- **Increase the number of early childhood and health system leaders** in at least 25 states by providing universal and targeted TA to build capacity to implement and evaluate statewide ECD systems.
- **Advance the delivery of high-quality ECD promotion and support services in pediatric settings** by providing national leadership, TA, and coordination in support of the Transforming Pediatrics for Early Childhood (TPEC) program.

## Who we serve:

- Children prenatal-to-3 and their families in communities with a high percentage of Medicaid and CHIP patients
- Children and families who experience inequities and structural barriers
- Providers across multiple systems that serve young children and their families.

The ECDHS Center is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. ZERO TO THREE is leading this transformational work in partnership with several of the nation's top early childhood and health system organizations — Academy of Pediatrics, Center for the Study of Social Policy, Family Voices, Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development, Help Me Grow National Center, and the Institute for Child Success.



*This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Division of Home Visiting and Early Childhood Systems in the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Award Number - 1 UK2MC46349-01-00. 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.*