



Early Childhood Developmental Health Systems



EVIDENCE TO IMPACT CENTER

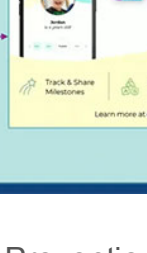
Supporting Health Centers With CDC's "Learn the Signs. Act Early."

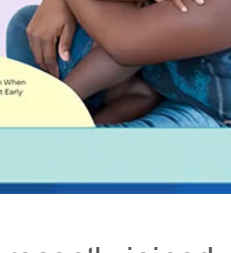
What Can I Do TODAY?

Download and share CDC's Milestone Tracker app with at least one family

Scan to Download







The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently joined us for a webinar focused on their “Learn the Signs. Act Early.” program and how its free resources can help community health centers and other professionals engage families in early childhood development.

Why It Matters: When children and families get the services they need early on, it creates positive health outcomes and lowers long-term costs.

- Health centers are often the first point of contact for families and are uniquely positioned to integrate “Learn the Signs. Act Early.” tools into their routine care.
- Check out our [recording and webinar highlights](#) for more on how to help families **learn the signs** of child development and encourage them to **act early** to access screening and services when they have questions or concerns.

Aligning Developmental Screening Efforts

“We want real engagement where families are engaged ... services are personalized to their own goals and use their lived expertise to help shape improvements in practice, policy and the system of care.”



Melissa Passarelli, MA
Associate Director of Implementation and System-Building, Help Me Grow National Center

In July, we hosted a webinar on partnering with local early childhood developmental screening initiatives.

Why It Matters: Families exist everywhere and interact with a variety of settings, from doctors’ offices to child care spaces and more. Screening also happens in multiple places, and aligning efforts can make screening more universal, equitable and seamless for families.

Presenters shared how to leverage screening opportunities and build stronger communication between the medical home and the broader early childhood system. They also highlighted examples from two screening partnerships in California and Wisconsin.

Watch the Recording

LEARNing Together in Long Beach

We were so excited to join the 2,000+ early childhood professionals who attended ZERO TO THREE’s annual LEARN Conference from July 31- August 1 in Long Beach, CA. 🌟

At our exhibit booth, we connected with people across the country working to improve the lives of babies and toddlers. We shared resources to support [defining early childhood systems](#), [implementing integrated systems](#), [developmental monitoring](#) and more.

In her poster presentation, our Research and Data Analyst Kendall McElroy highlighted findings from a needs assessment survey with community health centers to better understand their early childhood development resources, barriers and technical assistance priorities. Health centers served 2.9 million children ages 5 and under in 2021, and that number is growing ([source](#)). With findings from this needs assessment, we are helping [151 health centers funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration](#) to bolster comprehensive early childhood developmental services.

Interested in attending the LEARN Conference next year? Check out [ZERO TO THREE’s website](#).

Building Collective Impact in Maui

Recently, Center team members traveled to Maui for a site visit with one of our Implementation Sites. We spent a week with our Maui colleagues and representatives from the [Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems program](#) focused on aligning across early childhood initiatives, grounding ourselves in cultural relevancy and action planning to advance sustainable, measurable and family-centered systems.

We also participated in several activities rooted in local culture and celebrating the beauty of the island, including a lei-making workshop.

Stay tuned for more information about the powerful work from the Maui team and the other [Implementation Sites we work with](#) to support the implementation and evaluation of state and local efforts to develop systems of early developmental promotion, screening and connection to services and interventions.

Upcoming and Recent Events

National Academies Report Release on Health Care System Transformation

The National Academies’ Committee on Improving the Health and Wellbeing of Children and Youth through Health Care System Transformation will host a [virtual briefing on Thursday, September 19, 1-2:30 PM EDT](#), to present the findings and recommendations from its report, Launching Lifelong Health by Improving Health Care for Children, Youth and Families.

Well Visit Planner

On September 10, we hosted a webinar focused on the Well Visit Planner, a “through any door” approach to help clinicians, maternal and early childhood professionals and systems leaders engage families. [Watch the recording](#) for insights on building relationships with families, promoting child flourishing and leveraging data to spark state and local partnerships.

Help Me Grow Open House

Our core partners at the Help Me Grow National Center hosted a virtual house on July 24 to provide information about their model, the only evidence-based early childhood system model existing nationwide. [View the recording and slides](#) to see if Help Me Grow is a good fit for your state or community.

Featured Resources

Compassion Fatigue Checklist

Compassion fatigue is a form of emotional burnout that early childhood professionals may experience by absorbing the stress, fear and emotions of the children and families they help. Use [ZERO TO THREE’s checklist](#) to check in with yourself and help address compassion fatigue.

Family Voices En Español Magazine

The [latest issue of Family Voices En Español](#) features articles about inclusion, engaging fathers and more topics focused on families who are making a difference in their communities and transforming care for children and families. This online magazine was developed with family leaders from across the country and is available in Spanish and English.

Social Needs Screening Via Electronic Tablet in Pediatric Primary Care

This [article from the American Academy of Pediatrics](#) concludes that electronic screening was associated with increased health-related social needs and caregiver mental health concerns disclosure rates compared to paper, which led to increased referrals to supports.

Development Is a Journey Conversation Roadmap

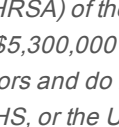
Brazelton Touchpoints Centers, in partnership with Ariadne Labs, created [this roadmap](#) to help pediatric providers, mental health clinicians, home visitors, early care and education providers, early interventionists and other staff facilitate conversations about developmental screening results. The roadmap includes seven short and simple steps to engage parents and caregivers.

Study on Child-Parent Psychotherapy and Cellular Aging

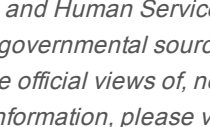
A [new study](#) from the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) found that Child-Parent Psychotherapy offsets the biological risk for children exposed to trauma. Learn more with two infographics ([here](#) and [here](#)) and an [article from UCSF](#).

Early Childhood Buzzwords Explained

ZERO TO THREE subject matter experts break down common terms and topics in the early childhood field through [simple explanations and engaging animated videos](#). Topics include reflective practice, trauma-informed care and more.



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EVIDENCE TO IMPACT CENTER

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 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.

This program was made possible through the support of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$5,300,000 with 0% financed from non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the authors 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.



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