

Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems IMPACT Program Overview

The first years of life build the foundation for lifelong health and wellness, educational achievement and economic security. The services and supports for children and families in the earliest years are often fragmented and inequitable. The Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Program (ECCS) program, funded by HRSA's MCHB since 2003, provides support for leadership, coordination and improvements in early childhood systems so that children can reach their optimal potential. In 2016, HRSA awarded \$5.2M per year to 12 States and \$1.1M per year to the National Institute of Child Health Quality to serve as the ECCS Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network (CoIIN) Coordinating Center for a 5-year period.



States, in partnership with 1-5 place based communities have taken on the challenge of participating in an ECCS CoIIN working towards an aim of improving 3 year old developmental skills; and overall population level early child development and family well-being through early childhood systems improvements. Together the states through the ECCS CoIIN are:

- Building collective impact in early childhood at the state and community level
- Integrating early developmental promotion services, messages and interventions within and across sectors and communities, including reaching families through formal partners such as health and early learning settings as well as non-traditional platforms such as barber-shops and homeless shelters
- Strengthening community and state capacity for developmental screening, referral and care-coordination
- Addressing social risks and needs such as food and diaper-need alongside with developmental needs
- Engaging in quality improvement processes to measure and improve impact
- Testing innovative early childhood systems change ideas and developing spread strategies for interventions such as parent support and resiliency groups, early literacy and connection corners, dissemination of bundles of education materials and resources
- Adopting new early childhood policies for supporting and sustaining services and infrastructure
- Ensuring that family engagement and equity are at the foundation and center of this work
- Identifying and addressing barriers to service access
- Connecting with other states and national leaders to accelerate their success

Funded States include : Alaska, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma and Utah

For more information contact: Sandy Sheehy: Ssheehy@hrsa.gov