



Healthy Start Virtual Grantees' Meeting

Federal Activities Complementary to Healthy Start Efforts

Lynlee Tanner Stapleton,
MCHB, Division of Home Visiting
and Early Childhood Systems

Robin Y. McDonald,
Health and Human Services,
Administration for Children and
Families

June 24, 2020



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Serving At-Risk Infants, Toddlers, and their Families through the Courts

Overview of the Infant-Toddler Court Program

June 24, 2020

Lynlee Tanner Stapleton, Ph.D.

Public Health Analyst, Division of Home Visiting and Early Childhood Systems

Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB)

Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People



MCHB - Home Visiting and Early Childhood Systems

- MCHB Mission: To improve the health and well-being of America's mothers, children, and families
- Division of Home Visiting and Early Childhood Systems (DHVECS)
 - Vision: Communities where all families are thriving and children are healthy, nurtured, learning and ready to succeed.
 - Mission: To support improvements in the overall health and well-being of pregnant women and families with young children through evidence-based home visiting and early childhood systems.



Early Childhood Systems (ECS)

- The ECS portfolio aims to bring the science of early development to national, state, and local systems by:
 - Supporting the processes, strategies, policies, partnerships and other infrastructure required to systematically improve the lives of families and communities for generations
 - Moving from program to place, building on existing assets and addressing localized needs
 - Focusing on upstream approaches to accelerate population level impact
 - Building collective impact around early development and supports focused cross-sector coordination and alignment such as between health and early learning



Infant-Toddler Court Program (ITCP) Goals

The overall goal of the ITCP is to improve the health, well-being, and development of infants, toddlers, and families in the child welfare system.

- Improve infants' and toddlers' developmental health
- Promote the implementation of two-generation, trauma-informed, evidence-based early interventions in the court and child welfare systems and across child- and family-serving systems
- Advance the ability to address parents' past trauma and immediate service needs
- Strengthen child welfare practices and early childhood systems to support the parent-child relationship and optimize the well-being of infants and toddlers
- Promote the spread of evidence-based infant-toddler courts to other jurisdictions
- Build the evidence base for infant-toddler courts



Structure & Major Activities

- The National Resource Center for ITCP, at ZERO TO THREE, serves as a central hub of expertise, best practices, resources, and technical assistance activities to support uptake of the Safe Babies Court Team (SBCT) approach and evaluation of infant-toddler courts
- Dual approach of court teams:
 - Direct service level (Family Team)
 - Community/Systems level change (Active Community Team)
- Significant expansion in process to increase state-level capacity (5 states), # families served (6 sites), and capacity/expertise in family engagement, racial equity, or service access (10 sites)



Multiple Levels of Action

- ❖ *Community Level*: Public-private collaborations, championed by judicial and child welfare leaders, that bring together stakeholders to effect change
- ❖ *Direct Service Level* : Cross-sector teams that proactively collaborate to address the urgent needs of infants, toddlers, and their families



Systems- and Capacity-Building Objectives:

- ✓ Strengthen and align systems to optimize young children's well-being, parent protective capacities and well-being, and improve the community's response to child abuse and neglect
- ✓ Promote the use of two-generation, trauma-informed, evidence-based services across child- and family-serving systems
- ✓ Intensive focus on racial equity in child welfare and child and parent health outcomes

A Public Health Approach

- Emphasis on infants and young children to maximize upstream impact
- Engaging underserved or “hard-to-reach” populations, through a focus on:
 - Equity
 - Family-centered care
 - Early identification and access to services
- Explicit attention to social determinants of health & care coordination
- Moving beyond service delivery to change the systems surrounding care
- Forging robust, cross-sector partnerships



Aligned MCH Performance & Outcome Measures

- Engaging priority populations, incl:
 - Child abuse/neglect history
 - Substance use history
 - Low-income
 - Pregnant/parenting youth in CWS care
 - Risk of developmental delay or low achievement
- Screening & referral for
 - Developmental delay or disability
 - Maternal depression
 - Intimate partner violence
 - Child behavior concerns
- Access to medical home
- Well-child visits
- Postpartum and well-woman visits
- Immunizations
- Safe sleep
- Prevention or reduction in child maltreatment and injury



Infant-Toddler Court Program National Network

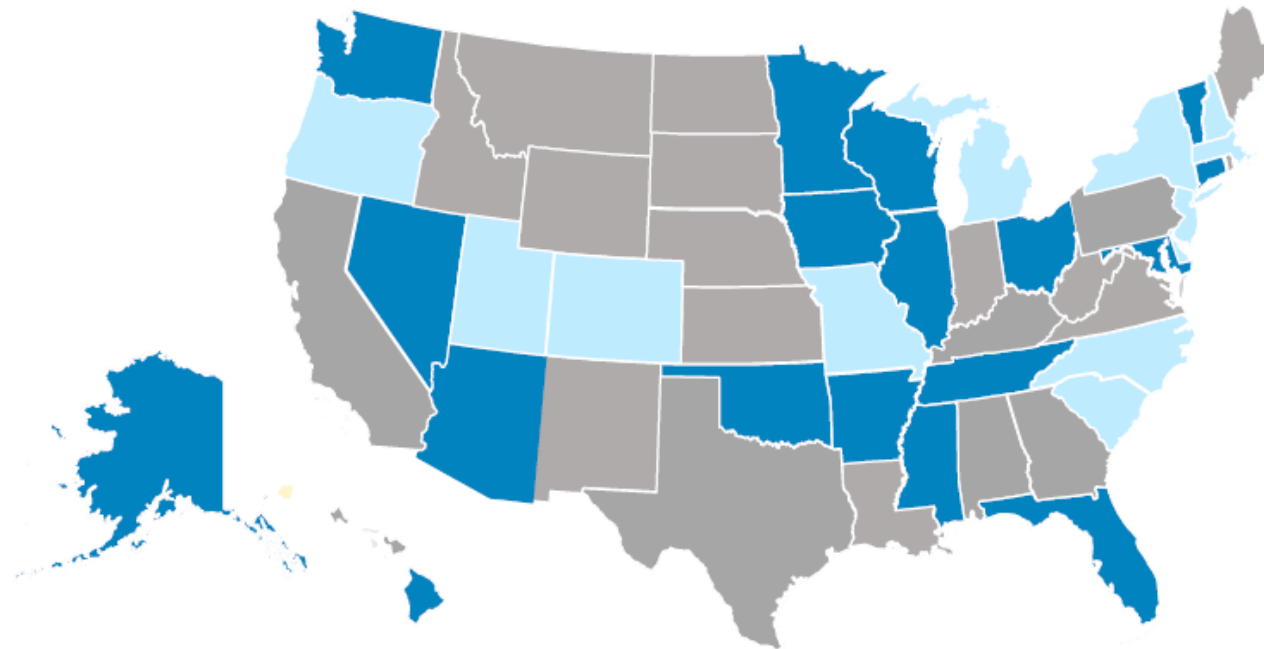


ZERO to THREE
Early connections last a lifetime

100 SITES TOTAL and 29 STATES

**57 Active
Sites**

**2 Statewide:
Tennessee &
Florida**



**43 Outreach
Sites**

**with Statewide
Exploration in 6
States**

Current site list: <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/3115-hrsa-infant-toddler-court-program-sites>

For More Information

- MCHB's Early Childhood Systems website:
<https://mchb.hrsa.gov/earlychildhoodcomprehensivesystems>
- HRSA Federal Project Officer:
Lynlee Tanner Stapleton, Ph.D.
lstapleton@hrsa.gov
- National ITCP website: <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/series/national-infant-toddler-court-program>
- ZERO TO THREE's ITCP Project Director:
Janie Huddleston
jhuddleston@zerotothree.org



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Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood

Office of Family Assistance

HMRF for Healthy Start



About the Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood (HMRF) Programs



- **A Brief History of the OFA HMRF Programs:**
 - Incorporated into US Law at 42 U.S.C. §603(a)(2); originally authorized in 2005; reauthorized in 2010
 - Congress authorized \$150 million for HMRF promotion activities
 - Funding equally divided between HM and RF
 - First three cohorts 2006, 2011, 2015; 5-yr project periods
 - New cohort will be competed summer 2020. This will be the 4th cohort of HMRF funding

Statutory HMRF Activities

Healthy Marriage

- Public Advertising Campaigns
- Education in High Schools
- Marriage and Relationship Education/Skills (MRES)
- Pre-Marital Education
- Marriage Enhancement
- Divorce Reduction
- Marriage Mentoring
- Reduction of Disincentives to Marriage

Responsible Fatherhood

- Promote or Sustain Marriage
- Responsible Parenting
- Economic Stability

Grantee Organization Types, Distribution, Service Provision Settings

- Organization Types
 - Community-based non-profits (including faith-based)
 - Colleges and universities
 - States, local governments, Tribes, Tribal organizations
- Distribution
 - 27 states
 - 1 territory (Guam)
- Service Provision and Settings
 - 50% community-based (community action organizations, non-profits)
 - 30% high schools (HM)
 - 12% faith-based
 - 8% residential facilities (e.g., recovery or correctional facilities)

Healthy Start Organizations that receive HMRF Grants

Responsible Fatherhood



- *Northeast Florida Healthy Start Coalition, Inc. (Jacksonville, FL)*
 - **Target populations:** fathers who are incarcerated or returning to families and communities; low-income, unemployed or underemployed fathers from 5 NE Florida counties
 - **Services provided:** curriculum- and group-based responsible parenting, economic stability, and healthy relationship education workshops
 - **Supportive services:** case management, peer mentorship, job readiness training

Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education



- *Pee Dee Healthy Start, Inc. (Florence, SC)*
 - **Target populations:** At-risk youth, families with young children, high-school students, incarcerated or ex-prisoners, low-income rural populations, and couples
 - **Services provided:** parenting, relationship and pre-marital education skills, financial management, conflict resolution, job and career advancement, and marriage enhancement skills
 - **Supportive Services:** case management

HMRF Grantee Partnership with a Local Healthy Start Program

- Pathways' Inc. (Toledo, OH) – Current RF grantee
 - **Program:** *Brothers United*
 - **Target population:** low-income fathers ages 16+; incarcerated and ex-prisoners
 - **Services provided:** curriculum-based parenting education, relationship skills, employment training, and case management
 - **Healthy Start Partnership:** Brothers United partners with the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department to:
 - *Provide Healthy Start participants with information about fatherhood program and services*
 - *Additionally, partnership efforts include support to a local Family First Coalition's programming, work to determine the level of program impact in the community, and helping to identify problems, barriers, and solutions for participating families*



National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families



- HealthyMarriageandFamilies.Org
- **Information Repository:** tools, tips, and training for practitioners, individuals and couples, researchers and other stakeholders on a variety of topics (communication, conflict resolution, dating, DV and IPV)
- **Technical Assistance:** TA to states interested in integrating healthy marriage and relationship education into targeted safety-net systems (e.g., TANF, Child Support, Child Welfare)

National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse

- Fatherhood.gov
- Participated in national Healthy Start Association conferences
- National Media Campaign
 - Strong Partnerships
 - Ad Council
 - Pro Sports: WWE, NBA, NFL, ESPN, NASCAR
 - Social Media, Motion Picture, and TV Industries
 - “Take Time To Be A Dad Today”
 - #MakeAMoment
 - #DanceLikeADad



New Cohort of HMRF Competitive Grants (Summer 2020)



Administration for Children and Families Funding Opportunity Announcements

CLOSING DATE: JULY 1, 2020

- [Fatherhood FIRE](#) (Adult Fathers) HHS-2020-ACF-OFA-ZJ-1846
- [FRAMEWorks](#) (Adult Couples/Indvd'ls) HHS-2020-ACF-OFA-ZB-1817
- [READY4Life](#) (Youth) HHS-2020-ACF-OFA-ZD-1838
 - In high school (grades 9-12)
 - High-school aged (ages 14-17); and/or
 - Late adolescence/Early adulthood (ages 18-24)
- Successful applicants may be coming to a community near you!

Contact Information

Robin Y. McDonald
Division Director
Office of Family Assistance
HHS Administration for Children and Families
Robin.McDonald@acf.hhs.gov

Up Next



Day 1 Wrap-up

