



Section 1: What is a State-Wide Collaborative?

A statewide collaborative brings together Healthy Start programs across a state to work toward shared goals. By aligning efforts and strengthening partnerships, collaboratives help improve coordination and expand support for families.



Section 2: How Statewide Collaboratives Work

Statewide collaboratives operate through intentional coordination and shared activities.

Programs come together regularly to plan, learn, and problem-solve, creating a structure that supports both individual programs and statewide impact.

Key components include:

- Regular meetings and communication
- Joint planning and shared strategy
- Collaborative trainings
- Engagement with statewide partners



Section 3: Why Collaboration Matters

Instead of working in isolation, programs that collaborate can extend their reach and strengthen their impact.

Collaboration helps programs:

- Expand reach across communities
- Share expertise and resources
- Strengthen advocacy efforts
- Align messaging across programs
- Build stronger partnerships



Collaboration strengthens Healthy Start programs and helps sustain critical services for families.



Section 4: Strategic Communication & Advocacy

Coordinated communication is a powerful tool for sustainability.

When programs align their messaging and outreach, they can increase visibility, strengthen partnerships, and better engage decision-makers.

Examples of collaborative communication include shared materials, joint outreach, and coordinated engagement with partners and policymakers.



Section 5: Best Practices for Building a Collaborative

Successful collaboratives are built on strong relationships and clear structure.

- Build trust and relationships
- Create consistent communication structures
- Share knowledge and resources
- Coordinate advocacy efforts
- Foster ongoing learning and connection



Section 6: Impact of Collaboration

Working together leads to stronger, more sustainable programs.

Through statewide collaboration, Healthy Start programs can:

- Strengthen partnerships across regions
- Improve coordination of services
- Increase awareness of Healthy Start
- Support long-term sustainability