

EARLY CHILDHOOD

GOAL #1: To enhance the cognitive, physical and social/emotional development of children prenatal through age five.

What is the Problem or Need related to this goal? (no more than 2)	What is the data or evidence that this is a problem/need?	What are strengths we can build on related to this need/problem?	Strategies for Change/Funding Priorities
<p>1) Kids coming to school not ‘ready to learn’</p> <p>2) Lack of opportunities for parents to learn how to teach kids S/E skills</p>	<p>1) Teacher report; results of achievement testing</p> <p>2) limited parenting class offerings; challenges to provide class due to funding, transportation, poverty</p>	<p>1) strong early childhood programs;</p> <p>2) models in place that can help parents learn; staff and agency resources</p>	<p>1) Make parenting classes readily available for parents <i>(For 2018: Prioritize up to \$15,000 for Incredible Years curriculum and materials)</i></p> <p>2) Support early childhood screening to parents through school districts, Head Start, Public Health and other child-serving organizations.</p> <p>3) Support and provide educational opportunities in current ‘best practices’ to reach all agencies and services working with the early childhood population, including Social Services (Child Protection/Child Welfare), Court Services, Education, Mental Health and community decision makers.</p>

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GOAL #2: To support all early childhood agencies and programs to work together to meet the needs of our youngest children and families.

What is the Problem or Need related to this goal? (no more than 2)	What is the data or evidence that this is a problem/need?	What are strengths we can build on related to this need/problem?	Strategies for Change/Funding Priorities
1) services not coordinated locally, regionally, or state wide	1) overlapping, duplicated services or lack of services in areas	1) Help Me Grow, Follow along, Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health, Race to the Top, Parent Aware and other initiatives are in place	1) attendance by EC Committee members at local and regional meetings of these and similar networks; information shared with EC Committee 2) Create opportunities for networking and informing one another of resources and ways to improve coordination of resources

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GOAL #3: To identify gaps in the early childhood system of care/services and inform community providers, local decision makers and the 5 County Children’s LAC to support increased programming and innovative solutions to identified needs.

What is the Problem or Need related to this goal? (no more than 2)	What is the data or evidence that this is a problem/need?	What are strengths we can build on related to this need/problem?	Strategies for Change/Funding Priorities
<p>1) no central place where service gaps across our five counties are identified and summarized; issues are identified locally or county wide only</p>	<p>1) gaps in services; key decision makers unaware of EC issues and concerns</p> <p>-type of data that is gathered is not consistent or able to be easily combined to create a broader picture of need.</p>	<p>1) county public health and school districts are gathering local data;</p> <p>- there is interest in making use of data for more effective planning and data collection taking place within agencies</p>	<p>1) Provide an annual summary of the strengths and gaps in early childhood services through combining current needs assessments completed by early childhood providers and bring to appropriate decision-makers and the 5 County Children’s LAC.</p> <p>2) Explore ways to collect similar data from all early childhood providers that can be compiled and used for local, county-wide and collaborative-wide reporting purposes.</p>