



COUNCIL FOR THRIVING CHILDREN

GOVERNOR'S EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL
JUNE 8, 2021

Agenda

Time	Topic	Leader(s)
11:30 - 11:35	Welcome	Governor Sununu
11:35 – 11:50	Council Business	Christina Lachance, Dylan Gatta
11:50-12:10	NH Strategic Plan for Early Childhood	Rebecca Woitkowski, Tricia Tilley
12:10-12:30	Department of Education	Christine Brennan
12:30 - 12:50	Department of Heath and Human Services	Christine Santaniello
12:50 - 12:55	Public input	Tricia Tilly, Christine Brennan
12:55-1:00	Closing	Christina Lachance



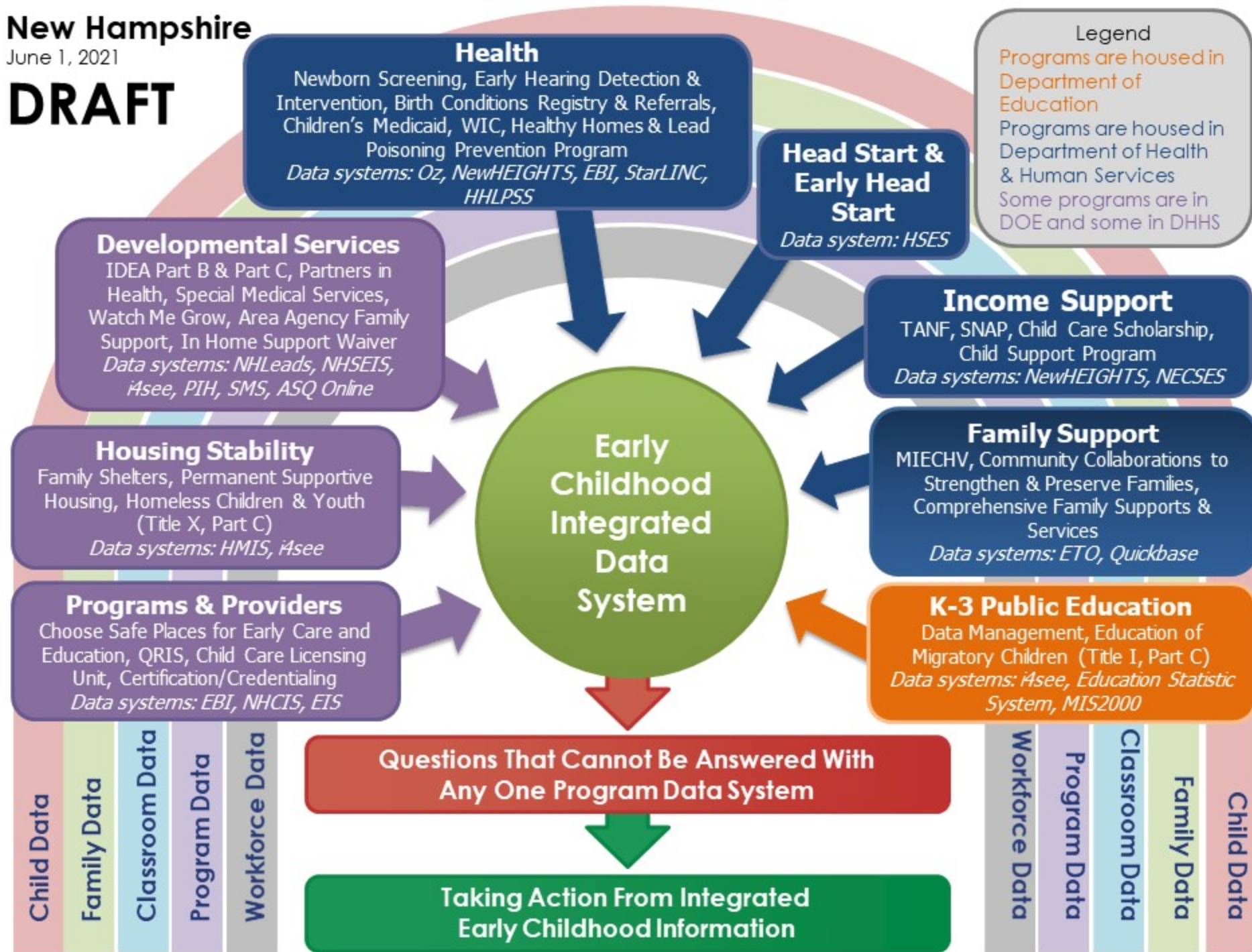
COUNCIL BUSINESS

- 2020 Year-in-Review
- Website launch
- B-8 Advisory Group
- Data Interoperability
- Strategic Plan



What is an ECIDS?

- Early Childhood Integrated Data System
- Integrates data from multiple early childhood programs into one system
- Typical data:
 - Individual child
 - Child's family
 - Classroom
 - Program & Providers
- Answers questions that can't be answered by any one program





PUBLIC COMMENT





Strategic Plan for Early Childhood Annual Update

Presentation to the Council for Thriving Children

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Agenda

- Context Setting
- Strategic Plan Update Team
 - ☐ Catalysts and Challenges
 - ☐ Measuring Progress
 - ☐ Strategic Plan Alignment
- Question/Discussion



Context Setting

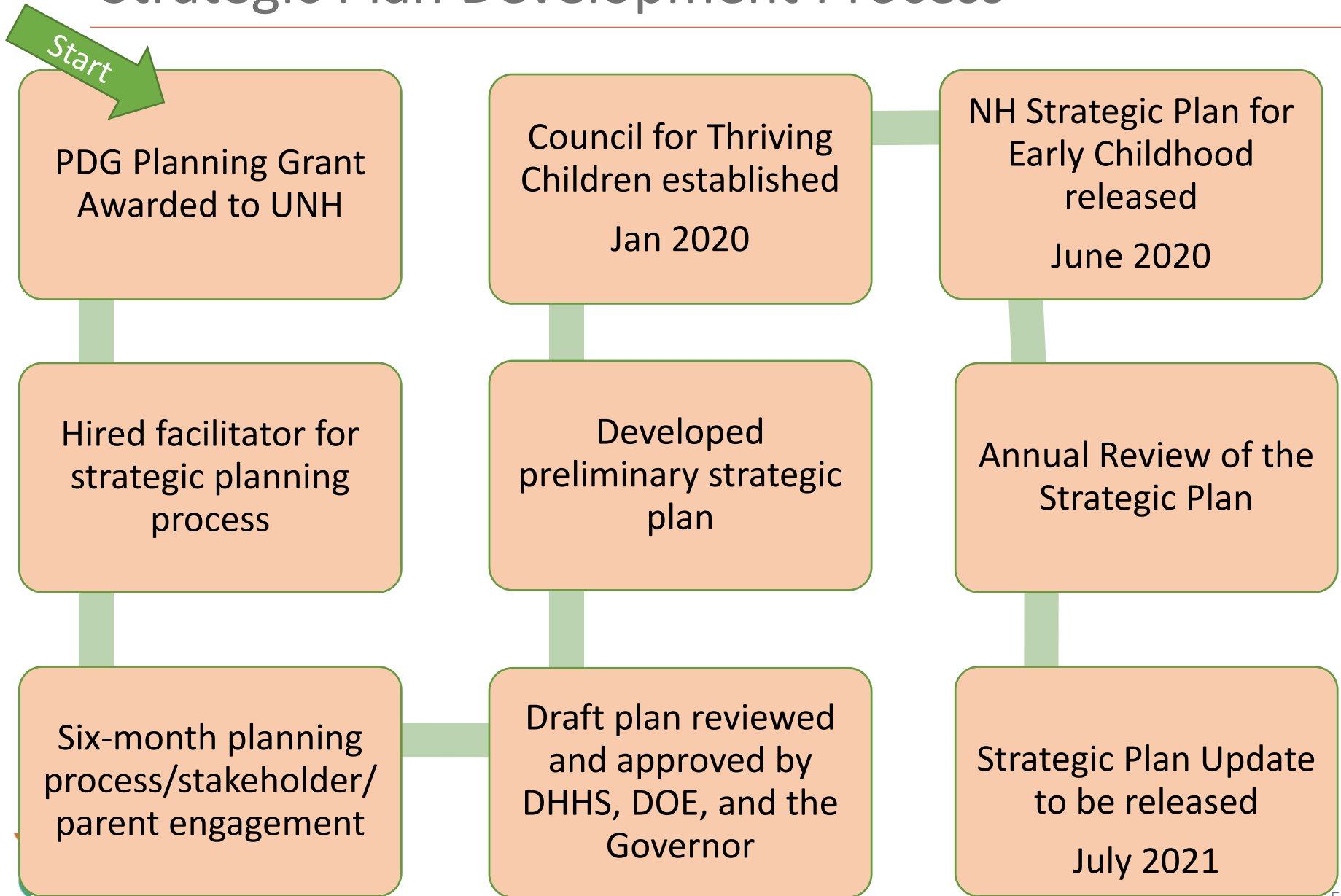


Collective Vision for Children and Families

All families are afforded comprehensive and responsive supports, so they are healthy, learning, and thriving now and in the future.



Strategic Plan Development Process



Strategic Plan Goals

GOAL 1: POSITIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Effective learning opportunities are provided in all settings, including the home, child care, and after school programs, preschools, and elementary schools.

GOAL 2: HEALTHY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Children and families throughout our state have access to the best opportunities for early and life-long health.

GOAL 3: STRONG FAMILIES

Families have the skills, basic resources, and supports to promote their children's development and learning before birth and continuing through age five and beyond.

GOAL 4: STATEWIDE COORDINATION

NH's young children and their families have the benefit of well-coordinated early childhood programs and services that work effectively together on their behalf.



Did we accomplish this?



GOAL 1: POSITIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Expanding Social-Emotional Learning

Many educators are expanding social-emotional learning efforts to help young people develop the self-awareness, self-control, and interpersonal skills needed for school and life success. Educators rely on the Pyramid Model as a tiered approach to promoting their students' social-emotional health and have benefitted from NH's membership in the national Pyramid Model Consortium.

In 2020, [NH Preschool Development Grant](#) funding enabled the Preschool Technical Assistance Network (PTAN) to facilitate the NH State Leadership Team in implementing the Pyramid Model. The NH Department of Education's iSOCIAL (improving Social-emotional Outcomes through Complementary Infrastructure and Leadership) initiative also supported the Pyramid Model framework in early childhood settings. In 2020, NH supported a Master Cadre of coaches to train early childhood educators to use the Pyramid Model in their classrooms. To evaluate this effort's impact, NH anticipates embedding the Pyramid Model metrics into NH's data system.

In NH, educators have also been utilizing [Choose Love](#), a groundbreaking next-generation social and emotional learning program. The curriculum teaches educators and their students how to choose love in any circumstance through simple yet powerful themes and practices. Through Choose Love, NH classrooms have evolved into cultures where students feel safe, nurtured, connected, and empowered. Choose Love has been applied beyond the classroom, and in 2020 was implemented in infant/toddler programs, homes, and community organizations.



NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL FOR THRIVING CHILDREN

THE 2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

8



PEARASSOCIATES.COM

Strategic Plan Update Team



Role of Strategic Plan Update Team

Oversee the annual update to the plan

- ☐ Identify catalysts for change
- ☐ Uncover challenges to progress
- ☐ Measure progress
- ☐ Ensure alignment with all early childhood initiatives



Catalysts for Change and Challenges to Progress

Catalysts

- COVID-19
- Social and Political Shifts
- Funding
- New Early Childhood Governance Structure

Challenges

- COVID-19



Catalysts for Change and Challenges to Progress

Catalysts

- COVID-19
- Social and Political Shifts
- Funding
- New Early Childhood Governance Structure

Challenges

- COVID-19



**Did we capture all the
catalysts and challenges?**

How do we know NH made a difference?

Measures Review

- Reviewed measures identified in original plan
- Identified new measures from data already being collected
- Researched identified data sources
- Compiling comprehensive grid

Measures Grid in Development – SAMPLE

Goal 3: Strong Families

Objective	Measure	Definition	Source	Limitations of the data
3.2 Connect families and caregivers, starting prenatally, with the supports they need to promote their child's optimal development	# of babies with Plan of Safe Care	Resident births with POSC = # of births for mothers with NH residency regardless of in which state she gives birth (i.e. NH mother goes to Boston because of high-risk birth)	DHHS, Public Health Services, Maternal and Child Health, Vital Records	This will include babies born at hospitals outside of NH; will not include non-NH residents who deliver in NH

Aligning the Strategic Plan

- Ensure alignment among all early childhood strategic plans
- Alignment at state and local level
- Value in shared ownership, goals, and metrics
- Creates opportunities for shared planning



Aligning the Strategic Plan

- Ensure alignment among all early childhood strategic plans
- Alignment at state and local level
- Value in shared ownership, goals, and metrics
- Creates opportunities for shared planning



What other strategic plans are you aware of that align with the statewide plan?

Questions/Discussion



Discussion Questions

- What excites you about what you heard today?
- How does this work position the Council for its next strategic planning process?





603 Bright Futures Survey

The DOE is proud to announce the **603 Bright Futures Survey**, giving parents, educators and community members a chance to share their perspectives on the response by New Hampshire schools to the COVID-19 pandemic this past year and how the experience should influence instruction as plans are made for fall learning. In the spring of 2020, a Department survey of remote instruction and the return to school generated more than 56,000 responses, helping to shape the state's [K-12 Back to School Guidance](#) released in March, 2021.

Survey Links open from June 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021:

- ❖ Families in K-12, Preschool, and Private Schools: bit.ly/nhdoefamily
- ❖ Staff in Public and Private Schools: bit.ly/nhdoestaff
- ❖ Community Members: bit.ly/nhdoecommunity



New Hampshire Department of Education

reKINDling CURIOSITY

Every New Hampshire kid
goes to camp!



New Hampshire

Department of Education

Learn More at: RekindlingCuriosityEducation.nh.gov/



NH Students Deserve a Great Summer

Eligible youth opportunities include licensed recreation camps, residence camps and seasonal and year-round day camps

What's Covered

- Attendance at the program, including necessary supplies and materials
- Provision of meals and snacks while attending the program

Camp Fee Eligibility

Eligible students and corresponding youth recreation camp fees include:

- \$650 eligible: Students with a disability are eligible for a \$650 camp fee
- \$500 eligible: Students from families at or below 250% federal poverty level are eligible for a \$500 camp fee
- \$350 eligible: Students from families at or below 400% federal poverty level are eligible for a \$350 camp fee

Recovering Bright Futures

Learning Pods

An “empowered learner” sets goals, holds themselves accountable, persists in the face of obstacles, collaborates with others, and develops their unique gifts as they make their dent in the universe!



Recapture your student's bright future!

What are Learning Pods and who is eligible?

The Department of Education, in partnership with participating NH public school districts, communities and Prenda, has developed Learning Pods to address learning loss due to the pandemic

- ❖ Small (5-10 students), in person, multi-age groupings (K-2, 3-5 or 6-8)
- ❖ Anxiety-sensitive environment allows children to stabilize, rekindle curiosity and accelerate learning
- ❖ Learning system aligned to New Hampshire academic standards
- ❖ Focus on empowering learners through mastery and project-based learning modes: Conquer, Collaborate and Create

Students and families

- ❖ All parents and caregivers can access tuition-free Learning Pods for their students as space allows. In partnership with school districts and communities, Prenda will utilize grant funds on a per-pupil basis to serve Learning Pod enrolled students. During this time, the student will remain enrolled at their district school for purposes of adequacy determination.

District Learning Pod

- ❖ Any New Hampshire public school district (LEA) serving students in grades K-8 is eligible to apply for participation. Districts may also join together to offer Learning Pods that would include students across multiple districts.

Community Learning Pod

- ❖ Communities may also apply to serve eligible students, particularly if the eligible students served do not have access to a District Learning Pod.





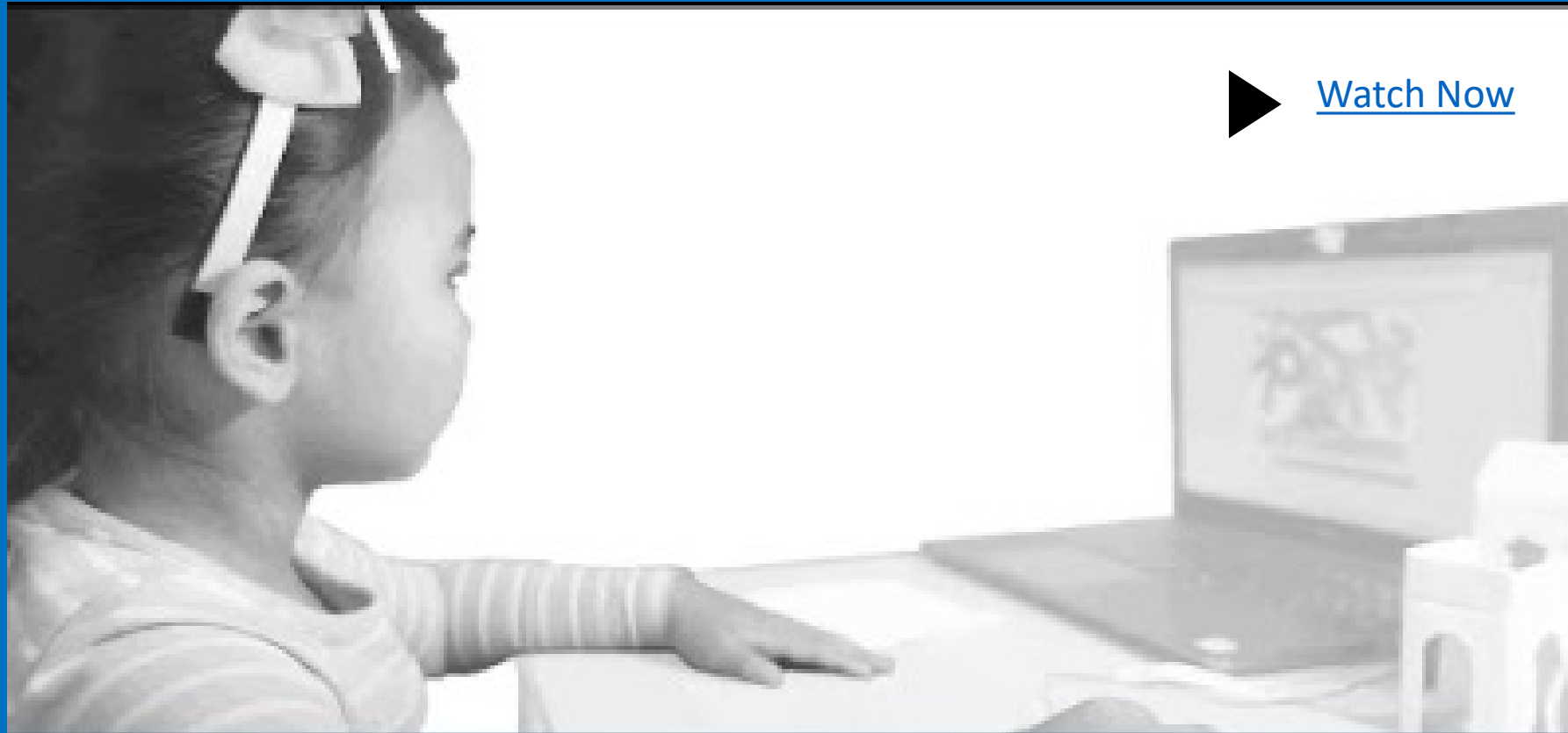
Waterford | **UPSTART**

Kindergarten Readiness at Home

June 8, 2021

New Hampshire Council for Thriving Children





**WATERFORD
CHAMPIONS**

THE LOU WANG FAMILY



Waterford

UPSTART

Equity and Access

- Culturally responsive curriculum
- Support materials fully available in English and Spanish; translator and interpreter services provided to support in additional languages
- Free devices to those who need them



Family Empowerment

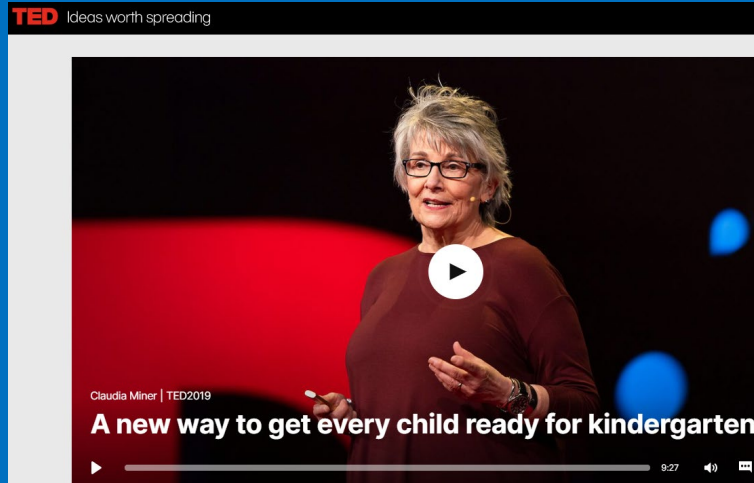
- Family and caregiver training
- Online and offline coaching support, including status updates during weekly calls and available online and on our app



Universal Literacy

- Individualized instruction in reading (and optional in math and science)
- Standards aligned, developmentally appropriate, endorsed for special education





Audacious Project

- 200 families
- Computers and internet to those who need
- Statewide: 86 municipalities across all 10 counties

Preschool Development Grant

- 75 families
- Computers for all
- Greater Nashua: Amherst, Brookline, Hollis, Hudson, Litchfield, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, Nashua, Pelham, and Wilton

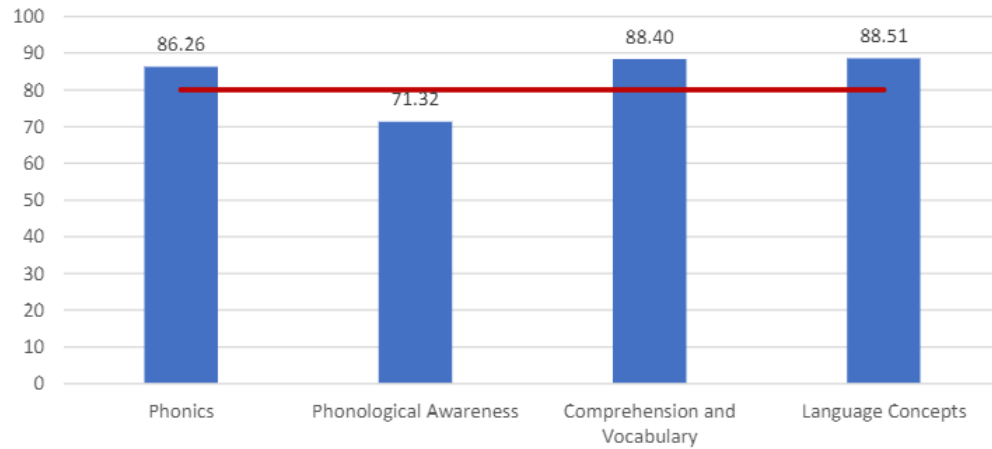


New Hampshire's
Preschool Development Grant



Audacious Interim Results

Figure 3: New Hampshire (AUD) Avg. Strand Scores Early Reading Program



GNUW Interim Results

Figure 3: New Hampshire (GNUW) Avg. Strand Scores Early Reading Program

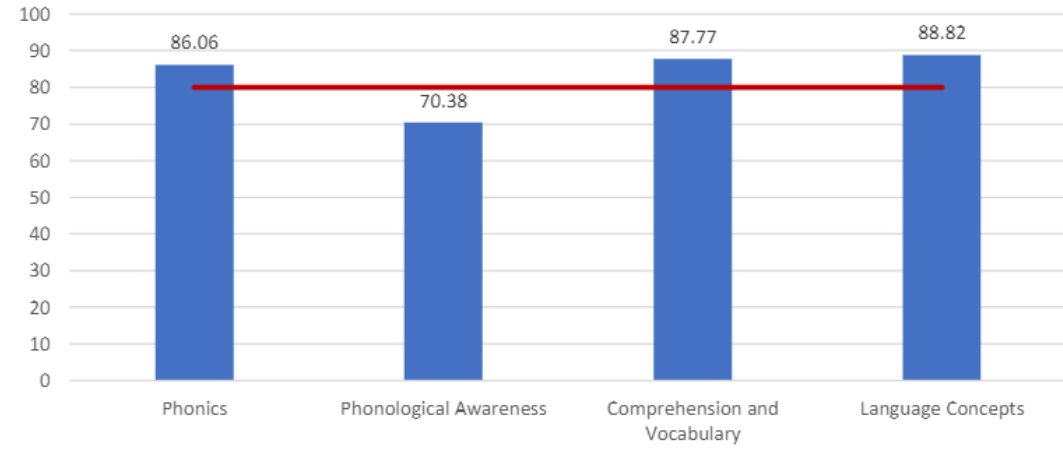


Figure 4: New Hampshire (AUD) Avg. Strand Scores Early Math and Science Program

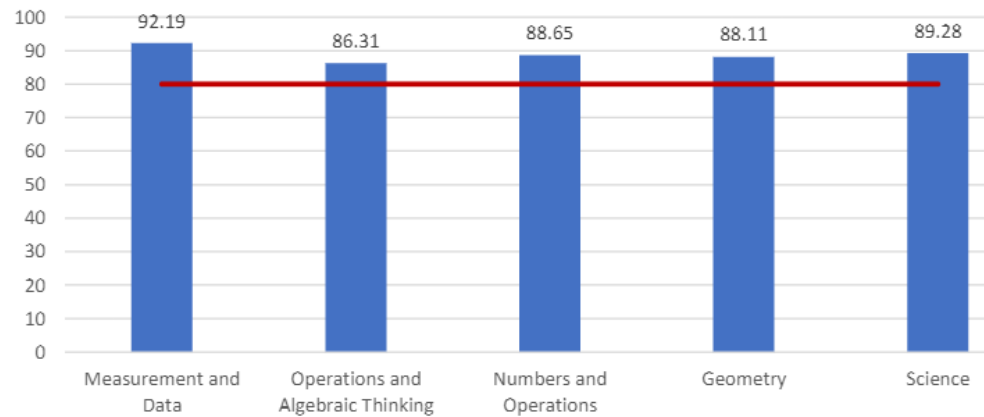
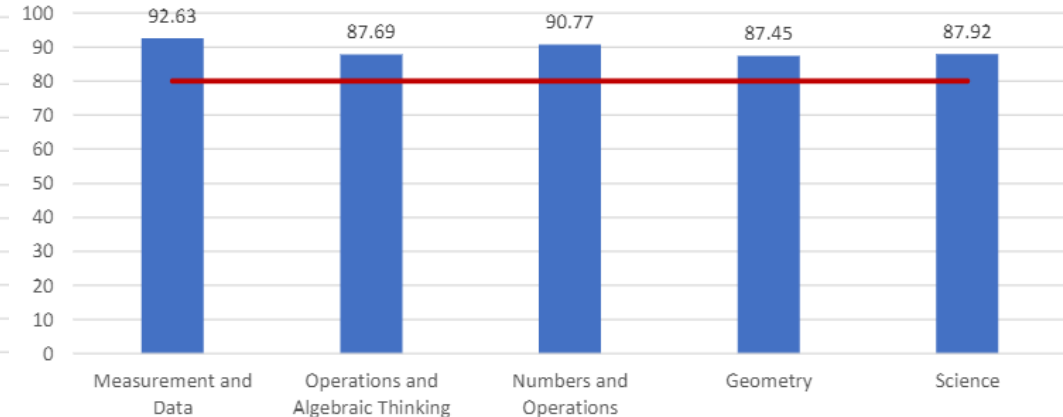


Figure 4: New Hampshire (GNUW) Avg. Strand Scores Early Math and Science Program



Questions?

Claudia Miner

Co-Founder and Executive Director, Waterford Upstart

claudiaminer@waterford.org

GRACIAS DZIĘKI CẢM ƠN
СПАСИБО GRAZIE
TAK **THANK YOU** MERCI
DÊKUJI ありがとうございました
謝謝 OBRIGADO TACK DANKE
HVALA TACK TEŞEKKÜRLER



Child Care

Continuing to Support Families and the Industry

Chris Santaniello, Director
Division of Economic &
Housing Stability



A Multi-Phase Approach to Child Care Program Recovery, Stabilization and Sustainability

2

Phase 1:
Emergency Response
(03/17/20 – 06/15/20)

Phase 2:
Recovery & Stabilization
(06/15/20 – 12/30/20)

Phase 3:
Long-term
Stabilization,
Sustainability &
Capacity Building
(01/01/21 – TBD)



Investments In Child Care During Covid-19

3

To date, over \$65 million has been invested to support NH's child care industry;

- Child Care Scholarship Program Disaster Days
- Family Cost-Share
- Staff Incentives
- Health and Safety Supplies
- Infrastructure & Capacity Building
- Targeted employer child care support
- Absentee billing related to COVID-19
- Full-time rate for school-age care for hours children would have been in school but for COVID-19



Sources of Funds for COVID Response:

4

- ✓ Traditional Child Care Development Funds (CCDF)
- ✓ Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) CARES Act
- ✓ Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery
- ✓ Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- ✓ American Rescue Plan
- ✓ Philanthropic Partners
- ✓ Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Coronavirus Response and
Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA)

***This investment continues to support 768 programs to offer 45,788
licensed or allowable child care/out-of-school enrollment
Opportunities across the state.***



Coronavirus Response And Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA)

5

- State of NH received \$19, 867,552
- Applications were made live on March 1st
- 569 Programs received assistance
- \$14,014,560 has been distributed to date



American Rescue Plan – Real Opportunity to Strengthen the System

6

- State of NH received \$77M
- One-time money to the state.
- Two distinct programs:
 - Stabilization - \$47M
 - Committed by September 30, 2022, spent by September 30, 2023.
 - Discretionary - \$29M
 - Committed by September 30, 2023, spent by September 30, 2024.



Stabilization

- Requires Lead Agencies, the Department of Health and Human Services, to release 90% of the funds in direct grants to child care providers.
- Applications must be on a rolling basis.
- Grant awards must be based on actual operating expense.
- Support the stability of the child care sector during and after the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.
- Cannot be used for direct service.
- 50% of the funds must be committed by December 11, 2021.
- Required to use the funds to maintain and support operating expenses for the provider:
 - Workforce – wages and benefits;
 - Rent and Utilities
 - Cleaning and sanitization supplies and services
 - Other goods and services to maintain or resume child care services



- Does not have to be tied to a COVID need.
- Intended to build the system back stronger.
- Outcome based focus with the intent to:
 - build capacity,
 - strengthen the workforce,
 - create dependability for parents,
 - Match supply and demand
 - Improve quality



Cliff Effect Recommendations

9

Expand funding for CCDF program

Adjust CCDF step options- more intervals with smaller increments

Raise State payment rates for non-traditional hours

Enrollment based billing

Included licensed exempt providers in Market Rate Survey's

Implement state-wide pre-K

Expand Head Start and Early Head Start

Continue to fund full-day kindergarten

Encourage employer support of child care



Child Care following the pandemic – Council Input and Ideas needed!

- Child Care is critical for New Hampshire's economic recovery.
- As parents return to work/children return to in-person school at an increasing rate, what will child care need to look like?
- Child care was fragile pre-pandemic and supply/demand data did not always coincide. What do we need to explore?
- Where do we invest and test new models for the provision of child care that takes into account family needs, staffing needs, and business and community needs?



Next Steps: American Rescue Plan

11

- Receive full guidance;
- Continue to seek and receive input for best use of the funds;
- Develop a plan that:
 - ✓ Continues to offer stabilization
 - ✓ Builds child care back stronger, aligned with the needs of families, business, community
 - ✓ Improves access
 - ✓ Strengthens quality
 - ✓ Improves partnerships and collaboration
 - ✓ Sustainable

