

New Hampshire's **Strategic** Plan for Early Childhood

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

Priority Outcomes

- Increase families' partnership in, knowledge of, and choices for their child's development
- Increase families' access to integrated quality early childhood opportunities and services
- Increase comprehensive wellness of young children
- Ensure children achieve early childhood developmental and educational goals
- Increase providers' and educators' knowledge and access to resources for quality programs and services

Strategic Theme 1

Themes

Quality, consistent, equitable

access to opportunities and services for all NH families

Strategic Theme 2

Early childhood workforce capacity and quality

Strategic Theme 3

Investment in early childhood programs and services

Strategic Theme 4

Systems integration

Strategic Theme 5 Office of Early Childhood

Objectives

- 1. Increase early intervention and primary prevention
- 2. Increase accessible childcare and early learning options
- 3. Increase family awareness, voice, influence, engagement and knowledge
- 4. Enhance quality of early childhood programs and services
- 1. Increase workforce
- 2. Increase workforce knowledge regarding early childhood development
- 1. Leverage and sustain new and existing funding
- 2. Increase business and community support for early childhood programs and services
- level collaboration and program integration

1. Increase state, regional, and local

- 2. Enhance family navigation of integrated programs and services
- 3. Increase community voice and influence in design of programs and services
- 1. Ensure a cohesive and collaborative approach to a mixed-delivery, early childhood system
- 2. Expand public understanding of the importance of quality early childhood experiences for all children

Initiatives

- 1a. Normalize utilization of early intervention and primary prevention services among all families
- 1b. Increase provider awareness of and collaboration with all available primary prevention and early intervention services
- 2a. Expand eligibility for childcare assistance costs, increase the amount of assistance for each family, and increase awareness and utilization of NH Child Care scholarship assistance
- 2b. Expand options for and access to childcare and early learning statewide, particularly in areas where options are limited
- 3a. Establish a Statewide Family Engagement Framework including feedback loops
- 3b. Expand universal home visiting to every baby in New Hampshire
- 3c. Expand NH parent/caregiver access to family support/Family Resource Centers (FRCs)
- 4a. Increase participation in NH QRIS
- 4b. Increase family awareness of quality care and early learning options
- 1a. Promote early childhood careers and career path
- 1b. Promote the availability of workforce incentives and tax credits and expand them beyond early childhood education to include family support
- 2a. Equip the early childhood workforce with knowledge of child development and evidence-based practices to meet the needs of children and families
- 1a. Create and implement a comprehensive early childhood system funding plan including federal, state, local, and private sources
- 1b. Develop and implement a comprehensive study of compensation, benefits, and incentives across the various roles within the early childhood
- 2a. Create and implement a plan to increase businesses' financial investment in the early childhood system
- 2b. Create and implement a plan to increase community awareness of and engagement in building the capacity of the early childhood system
- 1a. Affirm and institutionalize the early childhood regions and networks, ensure ongoing support, and foster collaboration with families and local communities
- 1b. Formalize, strengthen and broaden local early childhood coalitions that integrate with regional and state structures
- 1c. Establish a shared, compatible early childhood data system to inform decision-making
- 2a. Establish and promote a comprehensive and inclusive system leveraging existing tools for families to navigate and access
- 2b. Increase individualized support for families in navigating the system
- 2c. Build cultural and linguistic competence of the early childhood system and professionals to better support families
- 3a. Create approaches to specifically engage under-represented groups to influence decisions about programs and services that affect them
- 1a. Establish a collaborative process to define the role of the Office of Early Childhood, including authority, functions, structure, and resources
- 2a. Coordinate messaging across key early childhood champions to ensure a diverse set of voices that will expand public understanding of the importance of early childhood experiences for all children and families
- 2b. Clarify and communicate roles and responsibilities of the early childhood system to include early childhood agencies, families, policy makers, and service providers