



NH PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

2019-2024

DECEMBER 9, 2024

NH COUNCIL FOR THRIVING CHILDREN

[http://chhs.unh.edu/early-childhood/
preschool-development-grant](http://chhs.unh.edu/early-childhood/preschool-development-grant)

NH'S PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT



NH PDG sought to support New Hampshire's vision that

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

- Two “planning” grants (2019, 2023), ~\$4 million each
- Three-year (2020-2022), \$27 million implementation grant

Goal: strengthen NH's early childhood system to be

- Effective
- Inclusive
- Responsive
- Efficient
- Evidence-informed



NEW HAMPSHIRE
DHHS
DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES



New Hampshire
**Department
of Education**

STATEWIDE NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

Needs Assessment Focus	Workforce Survey(s)
Comprehensive birth to age 5 (B-5) system <i>Family Survey responses: 1,278</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Childhood Care & Education (ECCE) • Kindergarten (K) Teachers
Families experiencing serious challenges <i>Family Survey responses: 879</i>	Family Resource Centers
Family needs and access to child-/family-serving systems <i>Family Survey responses: 668</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Centered Supports and Services • Community mental health centers
<i>Aggregation/synthesis</i> of existing research: care and education settings for children not yet enrolled in Kindergarten	Survey of preschool offerings in public school settings



INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

- NH's early childhood governance model



- NH's Strategic Plan for Early Childhood
 - alignment among state, regional, and community-based initiatives
- Data interoperability
 - integrated reporting to guide continuous quality improvement



EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEMS BUILDING / REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

14 Community Grantees, 2020-21 \$3 million

- Build regional capacity and infrastructure
- Support community Needs Assessments and Strategic Plans
- Implementation and Expansion Grants funded 12 local programs to address areas of need identified for each community, and informed by and aligned with statewide efforts

7 Regional Partnerships, 2021-23 \$4.5 million

- Support cross-sector collaboration across early childhood care and education, schools, and family support
- Enhance capacity building and infrastructure, and establish bi-directional communication
- Targeted regional specific projects funded 18 programs to address areas of need identified for each region



FAMILY KNOWLEDGE, CHOICE & ENGAGEMENT

Partnered with PIC/NHFV to

- Lead the [B-8 Family and Community Advisory Council](#)
- Encourage authentic, meaningful [family engagement and representation](#) at all levels of NH's early childhood system through [family leadership and voice](#)

Awarded 6 school districts partnerships funds to plan for the [full-service community school](#) model, which

- provides wrap around supports for students
- reduces barriers to learning
- encourages collaboration with families and community partners

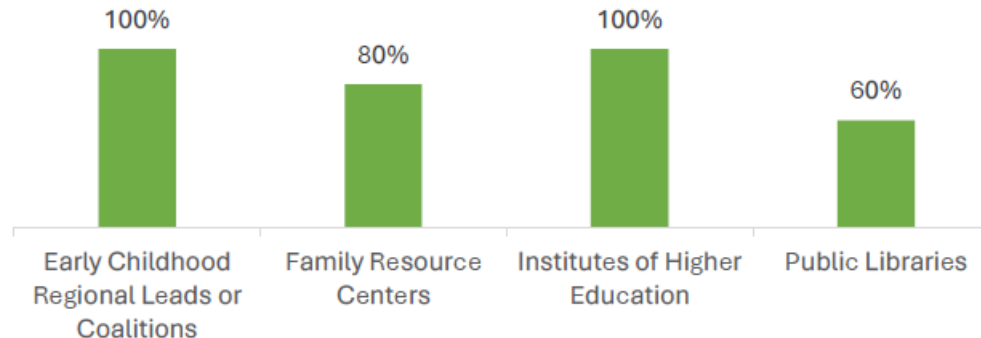


WHAT WAS ACHIEVED

IMPACTS ON FAMILIES

- ✓ Empowered family leaders through the Family-Community Advisors and family voice activities
- ✓ Planning grant awardees implemented initiatives to support students, school employees, and community members
- ✓ Districts/proxy organizations established or maintained nearly 80 partnerships with local organizations serving children and families

Percentage of planning grant awardees who partnered with...



SUPPORT FOR THE EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKFORCE

Tuition assistance access beyond the traditional early childhood workforce

- paraprofessionals
- out-of-school time staff
- expanded course offerings

Infrastructure support for family child care providers

- Family Child Care (FCC) pilot program
- statewide, publicly accessible resources
- zoning regulations relevant to FCC providers



WHAT WAS ACHIEVED

EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKFORCE

- ✓ **Tuition assistance** played a significant role in reducing financial barriers for educators who wished to enroll in higher education courses
 - More than **140 paraprofessionals** received tuition support for the first time
 - An average of 20% of all recipients were first-time applicants
- ✓ Activities to support the **family child care workforce** included
 - Engaged **225 aspiring and established** FCC businesses
 - More than 60% of child care providers received **direct services to build their business resiliency**
 - Analysis of all **zoning regulations that govern home-based child care** in every community across the state



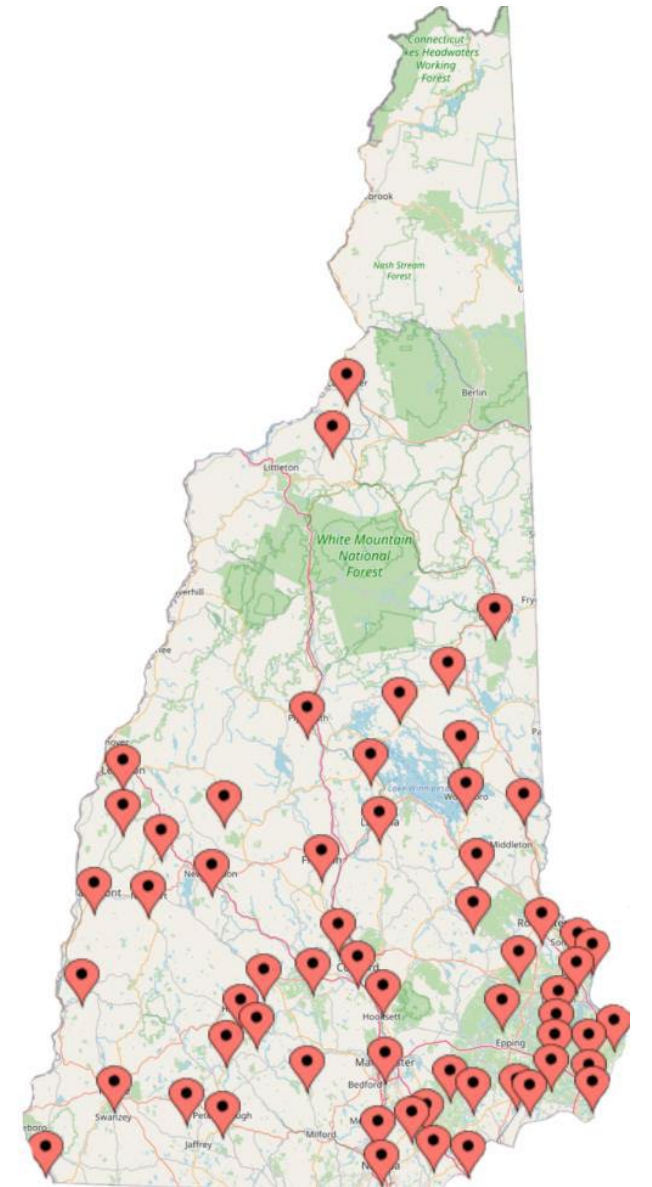
PLAY-BASED LEARNING

Resources for educators in the early childhood care and education field and national presentations on NH's work

Workshops providing professional development, region-level opportunities for collaboration

Community partnerships with NH State Library and the Children's Museum of NH

Embedded coaching to help teachers translate knowledge of guided play into classroom practices



WHAT WAS ACHIEVED

PLAY-BASED LEARNING

NH PDG's Early Learning Coaching Team supported early childhood providers across the state to effectively **implement Play Based Learning practices** in their classrooms. Kindergarten teachers' experiences participating in the coaching intervention were **positive**.

- ✓ Coaching with 120 teachers across more than 30 NH school districts
- ✓ Hands-on workshops with teachers from more than 75% of NH's districts as well as three other states
- ✓ Community partnerships: NH Children's Museum, local libraries, Family Resource Centers, etc.
- ✓ Presentations at national conferences (e.g., National Association for the Education of Young Children)



To learn more about our work

<https://chhs.unh.edu/early-childhood>

meredith.oshea@unh.edu
eileen.murphy@unh.edu
kimberly.nesbitt@unh.edu



**University of
New Hampshire**

