



EARLY CHILDHOOD TASK FORCE

Family Support Committee

Revised Goal Statements and Areas of Focus and Proposed Measures of Success

Desired System Outcome	All Families have the information, services, and support they need to help their children achieve their fullest potential.	
Conditions to be Met	<p>A. Families receive high quality, diverse, and relevant information and education on the importance of the early years, child development, health, and early education in a variety of formats and from a variety of sources.</p> <p>B. Families have easy access to information on the quality and availability of programs and services.</p>	Families have access to a variety of high quality, culturally responsive, and affordable services, supports, and community resources, which promote their child’s development (physical, cognitive, speech and language, and social-emotional) and health.
Priority System Role	Information and Education for Families - Convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for the development and coordinated dissemination of high quality, diverse, and relevant information and education on the importance of the early years, child development, health, early education, and related resources for families, providers, partners, and the public	Supports and Services for Families Convene partners, provide leadership, provide funding, and advocate for development, enhancement, and sustainability of a variety of high quality, culturally responsive, and affordable services, supports, and community resources for young children and their families.
REVISED Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To increase families understanding and use of parenting practices that promote positive child development, health and literacy outcomes for their children. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To increase the availability of and access to high quality family support services for families with young children To continuously improve the quality of family support services To increase coordination of planning, development, funding and delivery of family support services to meet the needs of families and leverage available resources

REVISED Areas of Focus

These focus areas include topics identified through the FS Committee survey and Task Force opportunities

- Increase Parent/Caregiver awareness with fact-based information and resources that are accessed, and universally, available through web-based, social media, mobile platforms and other technology platforms
- Partner and work with community partners to ensure Parents/Caregivers have access to information, activities, and available services
- Coordinate across system partners to disseminate information and connect parent/caregivers to information, resources and services
- Support parents/caregivers to be a resource to one another
- Develop a Communication strategy aimed at family, friend and neighbor providers, informing them of available supports
- Create Universal messages and information for all families and targeted messages for various high risk and target populations.; Focus early childhood messages and information for infants and toddlers
- Provide a continuum of quality family support strategies to meet the needs of families ranging from low intensity and universal reach to all families to high intensity and reach to targeted populations (Goals 1,2 and 3)
 - Expand opportunities for families to reduce isolation and build relationships and social networks to increase resilience
 - Prioritize families and children most in need (high risk and vulnerable populations) rural, tribal, and underserved areas
 - Use a multi-generational approach when providing services
 - Ensure continuum of services is complimentary, not duplicative
 - Consider the use of innovative technology strategies to increase family engagement
 - Expand use of evidence based practice and support innovation with research and evaluation
- Continue to support the strengthening of Arizona’s Home Visitation System (Goals 1, 2 and 3)
 - Support and strengthen coordinated intake and referrals processes at the local level
 - Leverage Medicaid funding for home visitation
 - Continue to support evidence based home visitation focused on reaching high risk and vulnerable target populations and addressing complex needs i.e. mental health and substance use
 - Provide specialized professional training and skill development for providers, including how training is integrated in day-to-day practice
- Provide specialized professional development for family support providers to increase knowledge and skills to serve and meet the needs of families (Goal 2)
 - Consider delivery and approaches for effective professional development

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coordinate with partners and leverage resources to provide professional development ● Continue to coordinate with state agencies and partners to ensure resources are maximized, avoid duplication, and concentrate on complementary services (Goal 3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leverage community partnerships to establish community based service hubs including schools ○ Leverage and coordinate efforts with the hospital ○ Create an infrastructure, policies, programs and resources to support families of children with special needs ○ Strengthen partnerships with the faith-based communities ● Provide support and technical assistance to employers to develop family-friendly organization policies
<p>PROPOSED MEASURES OF SUCCESS <i>Specific, measurable outcomes, determined by existing data or data that could be obtained that FTF will set a benchmark to achieve at the end of the five year strategic plan. Programmatic measures will be identified as part of the action planning and strategy development by FTF.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● % of parents/caregivers who report that they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child’s safety, health, literacy and well-being (Family Caregiver Survey)* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Focus on knowledge of child development and knowledge of/having information about services and supports in their community. ○ Understanding parent/caregiver’s sources of support, informal and formal sources, and how caregivers receive information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● % of parents/caregivers who report that they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child’s safety, health, literacy and well-being (Family Caregiver Survey)** <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Focus on ability to navigate and access supports and services in their community. ○ Focus on language and literacy: Rich home environment; frequency of reading to their child and storytelling or singing to their child.

*This measure of success refers to the % of parents/caregivers that report feeling competent and confident in their ability to support their child’s safety, health, and well-being through knowledge of child development and positive parenting practices.

**This measure of success refers to the % of parents/caregivers that report feeling competent and confident in their ability to navigate and access supports and services in their community to support their child’s safety, health, and well-being.

PRIORITY SYSTEM ROLES FOR CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND PROPOSED MEASURES OF SUCCESS

I. Access to Quality Health Care Coverage & Service

PROPOSED MEASURES OF SUCCESS:

- % of AZ children 0-5 with tooth decay experience (FTF/AZDHS/ITU)
- % of AZ children 0-5 with untreated tooth decay (FTF/AZDHS)
- % of AZ children 0-5 with health coverage (Census)
- % of AZ children who receive comprehensive, ongoing and coordinated care within a medical home (National Children's Health Survey)
- % of children receiving a well child visit in the past year (AHCCCS data/Indian healthcare data)
- % of AZ children Age 19-35 months who are immunized (National Immunization Survey, AZDHS)
- % of parents and caregivers understanding the importance of well child visits to their child's health and development (FTF survey)

II. Early Screening & Intervention

PROPOSED MEASURES OF SUCCESS:

- % of AZ children age 10 months to 5 years who received a standardized screening for developmental or behavioral problems (National Children's Health Survey)
- % of AZ children 0-5 who received a screening for vision (National Children's Health Survey)
- % of AZ children 0-5 who received a screening for hearing (AHCCCS)
- % Adequacy of Prenatal Care received by pregnant women in Arizona (PRAMS)
- #/% children demonstrating school readiness at kindergarten entry in the development domains of social-emotional, language and literacy, cognitive, and motor and physical (KDI)

Cross-Cutting Themes

The following themes emerged across the Children's Health, Early Learning, and Family Support Committees of the Early Childhood Task Force.

- **Outreach:** Increase effective outreach to families to connect them with appropriate information, services, and support. Understanding that there are multiple ways to connect families to information, services and supports, focus on coordination and alignment of this work across the goal areas.
- **Public Awareness:** Strengthen partnerships with effective messengers (for example, pediatric and family practices) to increase parents' awareness of the services and supports available and increase the general public's awareness of the importance of early childhood and the work of FTF.
- **Advocacy:** Strengthen engagement with legislators and public policy-makers on early childhood issues.
- **Professional Development:** Promote a professional development system that is inclusive of efforts to support early childhood professionals from multiple professional backgrounds across early learning, family support, and children's health.
- **Partnerships:** Increase coordination and alignment with partners and leveraging resources.
- **Environmental factors:** Conditions in the environments in which children are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. This includes but is not limited to safe and affordable housing, access to education and healthcare, public safety, availability of healthy foods, local emergency services, health services, and environments free of life-threatening toxins.
- **Data:** Coordination and sharing of data across agencies and sources. Identifying new data sources on health and wellbeing of children.