



## **2015 CHILD HEALTH, EDUCATION AND CARE SUMMIT**

**Systems Integration that Actually Works:  
Help Me Grow**

**February 11, 2015**

# THE NEED FOR A SYSTEM LIKE HELP ME GROW

## **Early Childhood Adversity Can Influence a Range of Lifelong Outcomes**

- Research on the biology of stress and child trauma helps explain some of the underlying causal mechanisms for differences in learning, behavior, and physical and mental health

# TOXIC STRESS = TRAUMA RESPONSE

- Strong, prolonged activation of the body's stress response systems in the absence of the buffering protection of adult support
- Can damage developing brain architecture and create a short fuse for the body's stress response systems, leading to lifelong problems in learning, behavior, and both physical and mental health

# ACES AND TOXIC STRESS

Three Core Concepts in Early Development

3 Toxic Stress Derails  
Healthy Development

NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL ON THE DEVELOPING CHILD  
Center on the Developing Child  HARVARD UNIVERSITY

# ACES AND TOXIC STRESS



## LINKAGES TO SERVICES

- Basic medical care, screening, and quality early care and education to facilitate **early detection of problems in all young children**
- Targeted interventions for young children experiencing toxic stress to reduce disruptions of the developing nervous and immune systems that lead to later problems in learning, behavior, and both physical and mental health

-Adapted from Jack Shonkoff M.D.

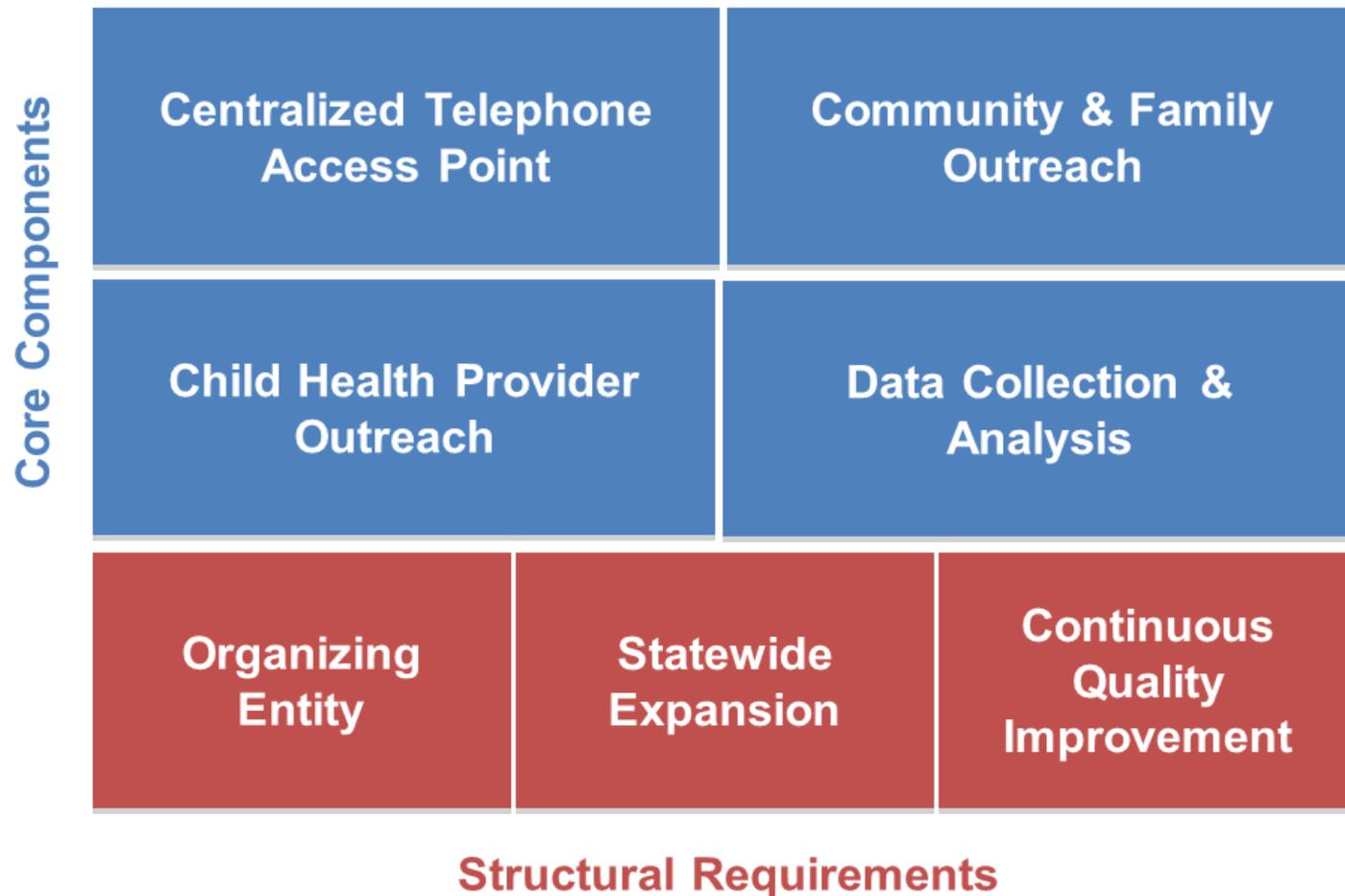
# THE HELP ME GROW SYSTEM

Model is designed to:

- Support providers and families to promote early detection
- Provide a central access point for child development information and referrals
- Develop a system that facilitates greater access and collaboration

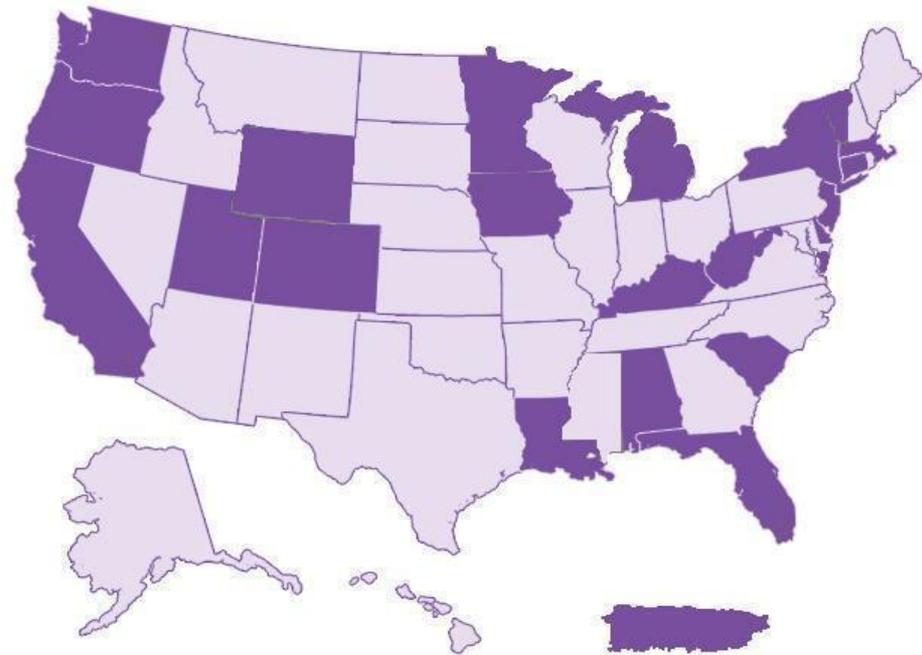
*Help Me Grow National Video*

# STRUCTURAL REQUIREMENTS & CORE COMPONENTS



# HELP ME GROW NATIONAL CENTER & STATE AFFILIATES

- Alabama
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Iowa
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- New Jersey
- New York
- Oregon
- Puerto Rico
- South Carolina
- Utah
- Vermont
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wyoming



# CALIFORNIA COUNTY AFFILIATES & LEARNING COMMUNITY MEMBERS

- - Affiliate
- - Learning Community



# CHILD HEALTH PROVIDER OUTREACH

- Designed to support early detection and intervention and to foster their use of Help Me Grow as a referral source
- Child health providers, who have nearly universal access to young children, are in a unique position to identify children who are at risk for developmental delay

## *Solano County*

- Identified **key champions** in key medical groups to conduct developmental screening and work with Help Me Grow
- **Provided ASQ screening materials** and initial training on the use of the tools
- Facilitated **lunch time gatherings** to help strengthen partnerships

## COMMUNITY & FAMILY OUTREACH

Promotes the use of Help Me Grow and provides networking opportunities among families and service providers

### *Alameda County*

- **Community liaison** conducts provider outreach to promote the use of the HMG and learn about available programs and services; hosts every other month “**Connection Cafés**” and a 2x per month “listserve” announcing services and community events to a large network
- **Family Advisory Committee** helps ensures outreach to families is relevant, friendly and culturally appropriate

# COMMUNITY & FAMILY OUTREACH

## *Alameda County*

Alameda **KIDS**.org

- Website for parents and providers about child development and local resources
- Use of communications and social marketing to raise public awareness
- Participation in community events



## CENTRALIZED TELEPHONE ACCESS POINT

Place to call for parents, caregivers, health care providers & other professionals if there is concern or issue regarding development, behavior or learning and for linkage to services

### *Orange County*

- Launched in partnership with 2-1-1 Orange County in January 2007
- Staffed by two Child Development Care Coordinators
- Utilize a shared countywide resource database
- Conduct intake, referrals and follow-up care coordination to ensure connection to programs & services
- Weekly case conferences to ensure fidelity & quality referrals
- Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) conducted by 2-1-1 Orange

# DATA COLLECTION & ANALYSIS

To understand all aspects of the HMG system, including identification of gaps and barriers

- Enable our state (and counties) to:
  - build their data systems with similar indicators
  - more efficiently pull data to share with key stakeholders for system change
  - contribute to the national dialogue on promoting early detection and intervention and the role of the HMG systems in doing to
  - see how our system data is similar to/ different from aggregate national data
- Enable the National Center to advocate on behalf of the national network
- Position the National Center and states as leaders in the child development field

# DATA COLLECTION & ANALYSIS - NATIONAL COMMON INDICATORS

## **Demographics**

- Number of children served
- Who contacted HMG on behalf of the child
- Age of child at referral
- Ethnicity of child
- How caller learned about Help Me Grow
- Child's state of residence

## **Nature of presenting issues**

- Number by type of presenting issues/concerns
- Number of children referred for linkage to services as a result of developmental screening

# DATA COLLECTION & ANALYSIS - NATIONAL COMMON INDICATORS

## Referrals by HMG to Services/Programs

- Top five types of services to which referrals were made
- Top five service/program gaps
- Top five barriers that keep children from receiving a service/program

## HMG Outcomes

- Total number of children successfully connected to at least one service
- Total number of children referred for services and are pending the start date

## LESSONS LEARNED

- It takes time to implement well
- Early implementation – getting buy in from partners – territoriality issues
- Value add of HMG in the community; why create an additional referral pathway
- Promoting the idea of reaching “at-risk” children
- Perceptions about screening and the availability of services
- Funding streams

# BUILDING COLLABORATION ACROSS SECTORS

- HMG as a system builds collaboration across sectors
  - Facilitates communication between the medical home and service providers
  - Coordinates services across multiple providers
  - Convenes direct service providers to promote collaboration
- Other local examples:
  - Orange County Care Coordination Collaborative for Kids
  - Alameda County Cross-Sector Steering Committee & Strategic Planning Process
  - Solano County Collective Impact Initiative

## BUILDING COLLABORATION ACROSS STATE INITIATIVES

- Highlighted as a best practice for early identification and referral in state plans for Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program and Race-to-the-Top Early Learning Challenge
- Being used as a vehicle for system change in Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) grant
- Gaps and barriers identified used for collaborative policy planning

# FUNDING SUPPORT

## Current funding sources

- County First 5 Commissions
- Federal Medicaid sources such as MAA, FFP and CHDP
- Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention funds
- Local Foundations and/or United Way

## Challenges

- First 5 is a diminishing revenue source
- Medicaid useful for some components but restrictive in nature
- Limited funding makes it difficult to go to scale to meet the need of all families

- Help Me Grow is a **growing movement** at the national, state and county levels
- There are many **different players supporting the statewide spread** of Help Me Grow and addressing policy issues of importance to Help Me Grow
- **Partners** include Children NOW, First 5 California, First 5 Association and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation

# FAMILY STORY - WASHINGTON



## CONTACT INFORMATION

### **Debbi Davis**

Children's Nurturing Project  
Help Me Grow Solano  
[ddavis@cnpkids.org](mailto:ddavis@cnpkids.org)  
[helpmegrowsolano.org](http://helpmegrowsolano.org)

### **Patsy Hampton**

First 5 Association of California  
[patsy@first5association.org](mailto:patsy@first5association.org)

### **Loren Farrar**

First 5 Alameda County  
Help Me Grow Alameda County  
[Loren.farrar@first5alameda.org](mailto:Loren.farrar@first5alameda.org)  
[first5alameda.org/help-me-grow](http://first5alameda.org/help-me-grow)

### **Rebecca Hernandez**

Help Me Grow Orange County  
[rhernan2@uci.edu](mailto:rhernan2@uci.edu)  
[helpmegrowoc.org](http://helpmegrowoc.org)