



Help Me Grow[®]

NATIONAL NETWORK

CONNECTICUT



PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

Connecticut's *HMG* system has been operating for 13 years. The Office of Early Childhood (OEC), in partnership with the United Way of Connecticut (UWC), is administering the state's Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) grant. Efforts focus on coordination of the expansion of developmental screening activities and referrals to appropriate services. Other *HMG* initiatives include:

- Establishing care coordination collaboratives
- A Mid-Level Developmental Assessment (MLDA) pilot project
- Establishing a centralized access point through Child Development Infoline (CDI) for home visiting programs in the city of Norwalk
- Expanding *Help Me Grow* to support children's healthy development beginning in pregnancy
- Enhancement of the CDI website and development of a new data collection system for *Help Me Grow*

OUR *HMG* SYSTEM

Child Development Infoline (CDI) is a specialized call center of the UWC's 2-1-1 system and serves as the call center for *HMG*. Blended funding comes from the OEC (Family Support Services-*HMG* and Birth to Three); Department of Education (Early Childhood Special Education); and the Department of Public Health (Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs). Carefully developed protocols ensure a smooth referral process for families among the various programs. As part of *HMG*, CDI connects families to community-based services and offers a developmental monitoring program called the Ages and Stages (ASQ-3) Child Monitoring Program to families who want to track their child's development.

The Child Health & Development Institute designed the Educating Practices in the Community (EPIC) modules for pediatric practices that support early identification by encouraging ongoing developmental surveillance and the use of *HMG*'s resources. These resources are accessed via the CDI call center. The OEC sponsors more than 70 community-based networking meetings each year designed to increase awareness of CT's *HMG* system, and to train, engage, and support providers. The Center for Social Research at the University of Hartford does the *HMG* annual evaluation and prepares the Results Based Accountability report on *HMG*, which is submitted to the state legislature.

IMPLEMENTATION OF *HMG*

Statewide.

FAST FACTS

AFFILIATE SINCE
2002

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ORGANIZING ENTITY / LEAD AGENCY
Office of Early Childhood

WEBSITE
ct.gov/oec
cdi.211ct.org

HMG CALL CENTER
Child Development Infoline
800-505-7000

FUNDING SOURCES
CT Office of Early Childhood

**The more you know,
the better they grow.**

Dial 2-1-1 or visit
211childcare.org/oec



ADVANCING

Developmental Promotion, Early Detection & Linkage to Services