



Fourth Annual *Help Me Grow* National Forum

Public Policy Key Concepts/Talking Points for Use with Federal, State Officials and Agencies Friday, April 12, 2013

- The **framing** of *HMG* as a **systems change strategy** focused on promoting **all** children's optimal healthy development
- The value of **system building** from the perspective of a **framework** that integrates **child health, early care and education, and family support services**
- The imperative of focusing on **children at-risk for adverse developmental and behavioral outcomes**, as opposed to an exclusive focus on children with delays and disorders
- The role of the integrated **process of developmental surveillance and screening** in the early detection of children at-risk
- *HMG* as a vehicle to strengthen the effectiveness of child health practices as **medical homes**
- The imperative that **early detection lead to assessment and intervention**
- The benefits of a **single portal of entry** to programs and services, including cost efficiencies through **blending** of administrative and financial resources of departments and agencies
- The benefits of **linking to community-based programs and services**, including the opportunity to enhance such interventions as **home visiting** through such linkages
- The central importance of **care coordination** in accessing services within and across sectors
- The critical importance of **data collection** in documenting **gaps and capacity issues** to inform advocacy, and to emphasize the need to strengthen capacity in **care coordination** and **mid-level assessment**
- The need to demonstrate the **efficacy** of interventions and the opportunity to embrace the **Protective Factors Framework** of Strengthening Families as evidence of promoting children's healthy development
- The expectation that **cost savings** be both short- and longer-term, and the opportunity to employ **"demedicalization"** and linkage to community-based programs and services to demonstrate real-time cost-effectiveness
- The value and power of a **common data set** and linking of affiliates to share data systems for establishing a resource and referral database, client tracking system, and an aggregate data system for monitoring outcomes/results