

## *Help Me Grow* Funding Models: California-OC\*

*Help Me Grow* Orange County (HMG-OC) was developed as a collaborative effort by Children's Hospital of Orange County and the University of California, Irvine Neurodevelopmental Programs, with funding from the Children and Families Commission of Orange County (CFCOC) to adapt the Connecticut model to this locale and create a single point of access to developmental and behavioral services for young children and families living in Orange County.

In July 2005, the CFCOC provided initial funding for *Help Me Grow* OC, and it continues to provide core funding for operational support today. In addition, *Help Me Grow* OC receives federal funds to locate two care coordinators on site for one of the county's Early Head Start grantees. With this combination of county and federal funds, the annual budget is approximately \$950,000.

The budget covers direct operating expenses and supports a program manager, five care coordinators, three child development community liaisons, one Educating Practices in the Community (EPIC) coordinator (for physician outreach), one developmental screening coordinator, and a part-time administrative assistant. *Help Me Grow* OC has attempted to maintain the fidelity of the core components of the Connecticut model by making connections in partnership with the local 2-1-1 service, building a network, promoting developmental surveillance and screening, and identifying gaps in and barriers to receiving services. Efforts focus on the most vulnerable children while being relevant and helpful to all children and all families in Orange County.

Recently, *Help Me Grow* OC has begun to explore ways to increase its pool of discretionary, flexible funds to support specific projects and assess the feasibility of new ideas. Examples include:

- A service agreement with the Orange County Foundation for Medical Care to provide training and technical assistance to pediatricians and family practice physicians on the implementation of developmental screening in their practices
- A service agreement with the Pretend City Children's Museum to manage the scoring and interpretation of the Ages and Stages Questionnaires for families who visit the museum and receive the screening tool for completion
- A grant from the Nicholas Endowment to build a Web-based portal that interfaces with the HMG-OC client tracking system so families and physicians can submit requests for information and connection to services

*Help Me Grow* OC also receives in-kind support from Children's Hospital of Orange County and the University of California, Irvine. These organizations act as fiscal agents and provide essential support in functional areas, including human resources, administration, and financial management. The CHOC/UCI Neurodevelopmental Programs, with CFCOC funding, currently contributes medical director Dr. Joseph H. Donnelly as in-kind to the program.

\*As of 2013. The National Center will update the information shortly.

# *Help Me Grow* Funding Models: Connecticut\*

In 1998, the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving funded the pilot *Help Me Grow* program in Hartford, Connecticut. In 2002, the State of Connecticut, through the Connecticut Children's Trust Fund, provided funding for the program to expand statewide.

The total annual operating budget for *Help Me Grow* Connecticut varies annually; initial funding was \$650,000. This resulted in the expansion of the Child Development Infoline (at the time, serving Connecticut's Birth to Three system only) into a single, integrated access point for help and referrals through multiple programs: *Help Me Grow*, Birth to Three, Preschool Special Education, and the Children with Special Health Care Needs program.

Today, CDI is supported through a combination of administrative and financial resources across departments and agencies:

- The Department of Social Services, Connecticut Children's Trust Fund (*Help Me Grow*)
- The Department of Developmental Services (Birth to Three)
- The Department of Education (Early Childhood Special Education)
- The Department of Public Health (Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs, CYSHCN)
- United Way of Connecticut

The Connecticut Children's Trust Fund contracts with CDI annually to support its operations, providing approximately \$320,000 in fiscal year 2010-2011 to cover key *Help Me Grow* staffing/components, including:

- Two full-time care coordinators (CDI has a total of six care coordinators, including the two that the Connecticut Children's Trust Fund supports)
- A part-time program assistant for the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ)
- A consultant with expertise in maternal and child health
- A portion of the salaries for the CDI Director and CDI Supervisor
- Materials and mailings
- Overhead (i.e. rent, phones, data systems, technology, etc.)

In addition, the remainder of *Help Me Grow's* total annual operating budget is used by the Connecticut Children's Trust Fund to directly support other key elements – salaries for two community development liaisons and one project supervisor and costs associated with data collection and analysis.

By collaborating with the departments and agencies and blending funds, *Help Me Grow* Connecticut is able to leverage shared resources and offer a full cadre of services efficiently and cost effectively.

\*As of 2013. The National Center will update the information shortly.

## *Help Me Grow* Funding Models: South Carolina\*

*Help Me Grow* South Carolina is still early in its development, with its work evolving under PRIDE (Promoting Resources in Developmental Education), located in Greenville County. PRIDE, housed within the Center for Developing Minds at the Children's Hospital of the Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center, is a collaborative effort to provide families, physicians, and child care providers with education and training activities on typical child development and early identification of children who may be at risk for developmental delays. PRIDE will serve as the organizing entity as *Help Me Grow* South Carolina transitions from planning to implementation of a comprehensive, integrated HMG system.

The *Help Me Grow* South Carolina leadership team anticipates that it will need a budget of \$525,000-\$675,000 per year over the first three years to launch its *Help Me Grow* system. These funds will be used to support salaries for a program manager, a clinical liaison to manage physician outreach, a community outreach coordinator, and an administrative coordinator. As the call center launches, funds will be needed for care coordinators, direct program expenses, evaluation, marketing, travel, and overhead. In addition, there are start-up expenses related to organizing the call center, such as computer equipment, furniture, and phones, and developing the HMG-SC data system, which is essential for data collection and analysis.

The United Way of Greenville County has committed funds for 2010-2013 to support PRIDE program activities through the transition, and *Help Me Grow* South Carolina plans to submit proposals to the Duke Endowment and other local/regional foundations. The Greenville Hospital System will continue to serve as the fiscal agent and provide essential in-kind support in functional areas, including human resources, administration, and financial management. In the long term, *Help Me Grow* South Carolina will pursue state support so that the program will be able to rely on a mix of public and private funds over time.

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