



News from *Help Me Grow* National

Help Me Grow Affiliate News

Findings from the 2014 Evaluation of the Help Me Grow Orange County List Serve

Help Me Grow-Orange County, CA has released a report on the evaluation of its List Serve. This report provides helpful information and recommendations on this outreach method for informing providers about community resources and referral to *Help Me Grow*. [Read more.](#)

News and Resources

The 2014 Prevention Resource Guide

The 2014 Prevention Resource Guide: Making Meaningful Connections from the Administration for Children and Families was created primarily to support community-based child abuse prevention professionals who work to prevent child maltreatment and promote well-being. [Read more.](#)

Heckman Presentation on Improving Health Outcomes with Early Childhood Development

New research from economist James Heckman and colleagues shows that quality early childhood programs that incorporate health and nutrition help prevent chronic disease. Findings reveal substantially better health in the mid-30s with a lower prevalence of risk factors for cardiovascular and metabolic diseases, such as stroke and diabetes. Use this slide presentation to communicate these findings. [Read more](#)

New Website on Poverty Reduction Resources

The [Half in Ten Education Fund](#) has launched [TalkPoverty.org](#), a new online hub where you can find the information you need to get involved in the fight against poverty at the local, state, and federal level.

New National Standards for Improving Quality Systems of Care for CYSHCN

The Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs has released a set of standards and companion background white paper designed to help communities, states, and the nation build and improve systems of care for children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN). [Read more](#).

Latest Early Childhood Data Systems Survey

The [Early Childhood Data Collaborative](#) released the findings from its 2013 Early Childhood Data Systems Survey. This report highlights how well states are managing data systems and sharing information related to young children's ability to succeed when they enter school and beyond. In particular, it focuses on how well states are following the 10 Fundamentals of Coordinated State ECE Data Systems. [Read more](#).

New App for Caregivers of Babies and Toddlers

ZERO TO THREE's new **Let's Play** app provides parents and grandparents with fun ideas for keeping babies and toddlers entertained and learning, especially during daily routines like commuting time, chores, bedtime and bathtime, mealtime, shopping. There are also "boredom busters" for any time. Parents can search activities by age (0-18 months, 18-36 months, and 3-5 years), tag favorites, and share activities via social media. All of the activities reflect children's typical skills at each age and are designed to support development in the context of play and family routines. Available on [iTunes](#) and [Google Play](#).

Improving Care for Children through Trauma Screening

The [Child Health and Development Institute](#) reports that trauma screening improves early identification of children who are suffering from exposure to trauma, including violence, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and the loss of a loved one. Knowledge about trauma exposure and distress gleaned from screening can contextualize a child's behavior and functioning through a trauma-informed lens and inform decisions about service planning. Trauma screening can also improve early identification of children who are suffering from exposure to trauma and will ultimately connect more children in need with effective treatment. See [Issue Brief 31](#) for more on best practices in trauma screening and treatment.

The Impact of Family Involvement on Early Education

More children attend preschool and all-day kindergarten than ever before. Federal and state programs are urging educators to use evidence-based approaches to improve their work to support families' involvement with their children and the school. [This review](#) sheds light on the impact of well-designed interventions to boost family involvement and finds they may be a critical support for children's early learning in reading and math. [Read more.](#)