



News from *Help Me Grow* National

National Center News

New Post from the *Help Me Grow* Blog by Paul Dworkin, M.D.

Moving toward Cultural Competence

“How do we ensure that the resources offered by *Help Me Grow* to families are culturally appropriate and sensitive?” A mother asked this question of Dr. Dworkin at a *Help Me Grow* Minnesota Community Meeting. In this blog, he considers the importance of cultural competence and offers three strategies to achieve it in our work. [Read more.](#)

First 5 Alameda Annual Report: Renewed Focus on Early Childhood

The funding body of *Help Me Grow* California-Alameda County has released their 2012-2013 Annual Report. The report reflects the wide variety of programs, services and supports managed, funded and assisted by First 5 Alameda County, and includes news on the continued expansion of *HMG* Alameda. [Read the report.](#)

Vermont Legislature Introduces Bill to Screen for ACEs in Health Care

In the 2014 legislative session, Vermont lawmakers introduced a first-in-the-nation bill to call for health care providers to screen for Adverse Childhood Experiences. Though the State Senate tabled the bill for 2014, it received broad support in the House. Physician and legislator George Till brought the bill forward after learning about the CDC's [Adverse Childhood Experiences Study](#). We look forward to the bill's progress in 2015! [Read more](#).

[Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships](#)

As part of President Obama's Early Education Plan, ACF will support states and communities in expanding high quality early learning to infants and toddlers through the Early Head Start - Child Care Partnerships. Through these partnerships, Early Head Start grantees will partner with center-based and family child care providers who agree to meet Early Head Start Program Performance Standards and provide comprehensive, full-day, full year high-quality services to infants and toddlers from low-income families. [Read more](#).

[New Resource for Parents of Toddlers and Preschoolers](#)

Designed for parents of 2 to 4 year olds, [Essentials for Parenting](#) from the CDC addresses common parenting challenges, like tantrums and whining. Positive parenting skills and techniques can reduce parenting stress and provide parents with ways to handle their child's misbehavior. Skills focus on encouraging good behavior and decreasing misbehavior using proven strategies like positive communication, structure and rules, clear directions, and consistent discipline and consequences. The site includes articles, videos, and print resources. [Read more](#).

[New NASHP Map on Medicaid Children's Benefit](#)

NASHP has launched a new resource map to collect state-by-state information about the Medicaid benefit for children and adolescents, identified in statute as the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit. The map provides state policymakers and other interested parties with resources about state strategies for delivering this benefit, including information about medical necessity definitions, initiatives to improve access and care coordination, data collection strategies, and behavioral and oral health service delivery. [Read more](#).

[New Report: Child Health USA 2013](#)

Now in its 23rd year, [Child Health USA](#) provides a centralized resource for data on the health and well-being of America's mothers and children for policy makers, program managers, and maternal and child health professionals. While previous editions of *Child Health USA* focused broadly on health status and health care indicators for the maternal and child population, this year's edition provides an in-depth look at perinatal health and health care access. [Read more](#).

[Analysis of 2015 Federal Budget Impact on Infants, Toddlers, & Families](#)

[ZERO TO THREE](#)'s analysis examines the FY 2015 budget across the federal agencies that administer programs and services impacting infants, toddlers, and their families. The analysis shows the details of how federal programs and services would be funded if Congress adopted the President's budget proposal. [Read more](#).