

Help Me Grow National Center - ECCS Community of Practice
Request for Applications

January 22, 2021






OVERVIEW & PARTICIPATION

The Goal of the Community of Practice (CoP) is to support Help Me Grow (HMG) affiliate state leads and their collaborative partners in the creation of compelling state-level applications for the HRSA Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Health Integration Prenatal-to-Three Program funding opportunity (HRSA-21-078), due 3/15/2021.

The HMG National Center is seeking a select cohort of affiliates that will participate in five (5) weekly CoP sessions. Sessions will be hosted by the HMG National Center, and held the weeks preceding the ECCS application deadline of 3/15/2021. Session content will:

- Promote the HMG Model as a builder of state-level maternal and early childhood systems of care that are equitable, sustainable, comprehensive and inclusive of the health system. These systems should also promote early developmental health and family well-being while increasing family-centered access to care and engagement of the prenatal-to-3 (P-3) population.
- Strengthen state-level growth strategies and sustainability for HMG states and affiliates.

TIMELINE AND KEY DATES

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| • January 28, 2021
@ 2:00 PM EST |  | HMG - ECCS Community of Practice Webinar |
| • January 29, 2021 |  | CoP Applications due to HMG National Center |
| • February 1, 2021 |  | Notification of acceptance sent to CoP participants |
| • February 11, 2021
to March 11, 2021 |  | HMG-ECCS CoP Sessions |
| • March 15, 2021 |  | Application due to HRSA |

COP SELECTION CRITERIA

Ideal candidates for the CoP are well-established HMG affiliates currently poised to influence state-level efforts to develop and/or strengthen statewide maternal and early childhood systems of care, with most or all core components/systems of the HMG model at full fidelity. These affiliates will exhibit:

1. Leadership ability to influence and increase coordinated, collaborative interagency and partner contributions at the state and local levels in developing and implementing aligned ECCS and HMG strategic goals;
2. A focus on increasing the percentage of state's families with young children served through the HMG model, with either current statewide implementation of the model or planning in process for statewide scale, spread, and sustainability. This aim aligns with the HMGNC Strategic Growth Plan goal of pursuing threefold growth over the next five years using at least one of the following affiliate-specific strategies:
 - a. Increasing statewide penetration – Growth to families in existing counties (prioritizing reaching racial/ethnic demographics representative of the local population);
 - b. Increasing existing statewide coverage – Growth to new counties in existing HMG states.
3. Strong, documented ties to or partnership with the state Title V MCH agency, Medicaid and/or other major health payer entities;
4. Demonstrated engagement with prenatal and maternal health care, child health care, and human service systems and use of best practices and innovations in these partnerships;
5. Commitment to advancing equity through HMG's targeted universalism strategies with: (a) an approach toward community and family leadership and engagement in planning, decision making, implementation, and evaluation; and (b) improving access to services for underserved P-3 populations;
6. Robust ability and adequate staffing to monitor, evaluate, and improve capacity to use data in supporting statewide strategic planning, advancing project goals, and fostering integrated use of data to achieve measurable improvement, with comprehensive data sharing agreements already in place with maternal and child health care providers;
7. Dedication to identifying and developing policy and financing strategies that support the funding and sustainability of multigenerational, preventive services and systems for the P-3 population which must include the HMG model;
8. Clear and compelling need to advance promotion of early developmental health, family well-being, and increased equity in the state, with demonstrated readiness to apply coordinated, comprehensive strategies and multigenerational approaches to address this need;

9. At a minimum, a state-level council, cabinet, or coalition should be in place that is charged with advancing the integration or synergy between early childhood, state, and local initiatives to ensure a comprehensive, multi-sector maternal and child health system.

COP APPLICATION DETAILS

Please [click here to access the application](#) for this CoP opportunity. Applications must be completed online by Friday, January 29, 2021, 11:59 pm EST. An informational webinar will be offered on **Thursday, January 28, 2021 from 2:00-3:00 pm EST**.

For questions or additional information, please contact:

HMG Implementation Expert Lynn Pullano at lpullano@allgood.pro, or Kimberly Martini-Carvell at KMartini@connecticutchildrens.org