

Pediatrics Supporting Parents

Requests for Letters of Intent

Overview

The [Help Me Grow National Center](#) is soliciting Letters of Intent (LOI) from early childhood innovators and tool developers for participation in a Pediatrics Supporting Parents (PSP) project to develop and pilot test a novel, Integrated Pediatric Support Platform (IPSP) to support developmental promotion, early detection, referral, and linkage to services. Such a platform, to our knowledge, would be the first to offer child health providers the opportunity to adopt an integrated, customizable platform that is: designed for effectiveness at the level of the child, parent, and provider; offer medical integration and the capacity to interface with electronic medical records (EMR); and include intentional parameters to address issues related to intellectual property and cost. It will also, given its exclusive focus on pediatrics, be designed to maximize parent engagement with the child health provider and promote children's optimal health, development, and well-being.

[Patient Tools, Inc.](#) is providing technical advisement and support to the project. Patient Tools is a leader at automating processes and inserting logic into screening processes, enabling a more effective and cost-effective system. This project is supported by PSP, a donor advised fund operated through Silicon Valley Community Foundation. More information about the exploratory work that preceded this project is available in the attached executive summary.

Project Objectives

This project has two primary objectives. First, with input from an external Advisory Group, tool developers and other leading national stakeholders in child health services transformation, we will **design customizations** for an integrated, modular platform to be deployed in the well-child setting. These customizations are intended to strengthen provider capacity to increase parents' knowledge of child development and understanding of the social and emotional competence of children while maximizing parent engagement. Second, a **prototype of the integrated, modular platform will be pilot tested** in a Help Me Grow community, providing actionable input from end users (child health services providers, practice staff, and early childhood system leaders) on the utility, benefits, challenges, and opportunities to strengthen the platform.

Timeline and Key Activities

This is an 8-month project, running from February 2020 through September 2021. Innovators selected to participate in the project will be asked to contribute to two key project activities:

- **Build the prototype:** under the direction of and with the expertise of Patient Tools, this scope of work will rely on direct engagement with identified tool developers, as well as input from the external Advisory Group. The prototype will include: 1) **Prescreening:** this will be used to support a more tailored, customized screening battery for families in the well-child setting, reducing the number of questions required and expanding the breadth of information that can be gathered. The prescreening coupled with related pre-visit guidance and engagement of families, affords an opportunity to shift the balance of the well-child visit encounter to be more aligned with family-driven priorities for the visit, rather than a more unilateral agenda driven by

the provider/ well-visit clinical guidelines. 2) Reporting: in an effort to ensure that both parents and providers have access to screening results, present such information in a clinically useful and feasible way and produce results directed toward engagement of parents and family. 3) Compatibility with EMR: given the permeability of the EMR across pediatric primary care, a dedicated component of the prototype build will consider how to best integrate results into the practice-based EMR.

- Engage community-based partners for prototype testing: critical to the scaling of an integrated, modular platform is the capacity for such a platform to meaningfully and feasibly connect to other child-serving sectors in the community. The Help Me Grow National Center supports a robust network of more than 30 states across the country in their design and implementation of systems that support developmental promotion, early detection, referral, and linkage. As a result, Help Me Grow systems in many states take on a number of roles synergistic with the proposed integration effort, including: 1) the collection of data, including results of developmental surveillance and screening, maternal depression screening, screening for social determinants of health, etc., on families of young children across the community; 2) making direct referrals and performing longitudinal follow-up for needed services and supports, including early intervention, parent support, legal services, WIC, housing, and home visiting; and 3) engaging in bidirectional outreach to and communication with pediatric practices in their community regarding child and families for whom there are concerns, service needs, etc. For these reasons, the prototype will be tested with a to-be-identified Help Me Grow community from within the Help Me Grow network.

Innovator Contributions

Over the course of this project, selected innovators and tool developers will work with Patient Tools, Inc., the Help Me Grow National Center, and the project Advisory Group to:

- Develop and design customizations for an integrated platform to be deployed in the well-child setting. Supporting activities could include: 1) explain the form and function of their tool; 2) create a composite model of their tool; and 3) possibly, make needed updates or modifications to their tool to support integration.
- Explore and test solutions for issues related to intellectual property, cost, reimbursement, and other potential barriers.
- Build a prototype of an integrated platform that can be disseminated as part of a national pilot. Supporting activities could include: 1) using the design customizations identified in collaboration with project partners identified above, to build out a draft specification of the tool; 2) develop a pre-screen 3) seek input on the initial draft and generate further refinements; and 4) determine whether one prototype will suffice or if multiple prototypes may be needed to address varied practice structures or preferences.
- Conduct a pilot of the prototype in one community (2-3 pediatric practices) to inform steps for dissemination. Supporting activities could include: 1) reviewing applications from Help Me Grow communities; 2) working with Help Me Grow to identify a recruitment strategy for pediatric practices in the state or region; and 3) develop assessment instruments that can capture baseline information about each practice and practice feedback about the prototype during and following implementation.

Resources

A stipend will be available to those that require additional resources in order to support participation in this project (maximum \$40,000). If a stipend is required, please provide a budget and associated justification describing how funding will be leveraged within the Letter of Intent. Decisions about the distribution of resources and the final amount of each stipend will be determined by the Advisory Group and communicated by the Help Me Grow National Center.

Letter of Intent

Those interested in participating in the project should submit a Letter of Intent by **DATE**. The Letter of Intent should include the following information, and upon completion, should be submitted via email to Jacquelyn Rose of the Childhood Prosperity Lab (jrose01@connecticutchildrens.org).

Requirements: No more than 5 pages *with attached budget/justification*; no more than 3 pages *without attached budget/justification*. Please use Calibri or Arial font, single-spaced. Please include the name and contact information for a primary lead.

- Identify which option best describes the purpose of the tool.
 - Developmental promotion
 - Early detection and screening
 - Referral and/or linkage
- Describe the current structure and content of the tool (e.g. question fields, how it is designed to be completed [i.e. before, during, or after the well-child encounter]).
- Describe the existing evidence base
- Describe current psychometric properties (if known)
- Explain previous and/or current efforts to support integration (whether with other tools, practice-based electronic health records, CHADIS, etc.)
- Describe limitations of/opportunities to strengthen the tool
- Describe how the tool supports parent engagement, i.e. sharing of screening results directly with parents. If the tool does not support parent engagement, please identify and describe how parent engagement strategies can be integrated into the tool.
- Describe the extent to which the tool aligns with recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics, Bright Futures, The National Survey of Children's Health Metrics, Title V Performance Metrics, and the like.
- Attestation regarding interest and capacity to participate in exploration of further integration potential and to meeting project milestones/meeting requirements
- Attestation regarding ownership of intellectual property (IP) and ability to negotiate a master license that will enable the integrated pediatric platform to be distributed independent of the IP owner, centralizing access and licensing for the end-user
- A budget and proposed plan to allocate funding, if applicable
- Other resources being leveraged to support the development and growth of the tool (i.e. in-kind, philanthropic, fee-for-service, revenue, etc.)

- Note: the IPSP will require a non-exclusive license and we anticipate no downside to taking part in the project.

The project Advisory Group will review letters of intent to determine which tools will be asked to participate in the prototype build and pilot. Invitations to participate will be extended by a representative from the Help Me Grow National Center. Decisions will be communicated by **DATE**.

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