

State	COVID Contact Name	Position/Title	COVID Contact Email	Ways in which Help Me Grow has been a part of the community's COVID-19 response	New approaches in outreach to families, child health care providers, and community-based partners
Alabama	Lindsey Hughes DeMarco	Help Me Grow Alabama Director	Idemarco@apcte am.org	We have been active in coordinating resources for the families enrolled including arranging school lunch pick up and identifying other sources of food more at the beginning of the pandemic to navigating the world of telehealth services and ensuring families are receiving services they are entitled to through the school system. We have also received funding from AUCD in partnership with our state's Learn the Signs. Act Early Program to coordinate early identification efforts specific to COVID-19 impact which includes needs assessment work and coming up with strategies along with a workgroup of partners.	We have moved toward doing most outreach to virtual methods including training on developmental screening and HMG, as well as most partner meetings.
Alaska	Elizabeth Schultz	Help Me Grow Alaska Outreach Coordinator	elizabeth@a2p2.	HMG-AK was instrumental in building up an immediate comprehensive resource list to share with the community. This resource list included National, State, and Local resources to assist families during the pandemic. This list is still on our website and Facebook page and is regularly updated. HMG-AK maintained services through the Centralized Access Point to assist families with ongoing and additional needs brought on by COVID-19. We were able to transition easily to working remotely, which we have all done to respond to the need to remain socially distant for safety and compliance with local "hunker down" orders that have come out multiple times through the pandemic.	All HMG-AK Outreach has switched to virtual platforms and/or phone calls. Our Outreach Coordinator has continued to host virtual Provider Connection meetings each week, hosting one service provider at a time to offer a deep dive into the services offered and allow plenty of time for staff questions and interaction. One of our HMG-AK pilot communities hosted a Community Baby Shower in a virtual format, hosting a day-long event on zoom, with numerous break-out room options on a variety of topics relating to prenatal health, life with a newborn, early childhood resources, parent connection, etc. They followed this event with a drive thru opportunity to receive a gift/resource bag to all participants. One of our HMG-AK communities is planning a creative alternative to their community baby shower by creating a program to offer free resource boxes (similar to trendy subscription boxes) to new families at 3-month intervals for this coming year. This is a COVID safe way to share community resources and early childhood educational materials. One of our HMG-AK community liaisons in rural Alaska learned that the local school buses were still going to operate, delivering school supplies to families that were hunkered down



					and schooling at home due to school closures for safety. This Liaison joined the bus route, in COVID safe ways, to deliver additional HMG-AK and early childhood resources to families along the route. Virtual Educational Modules on the topic of Developmental Screening and Surveillance have been offered to medical practices wishing to host staff development meetings in a COVID safe way.
Allegan County, Michigan	Rebecca Huberty	Great Start Collaborative Coordinator	rebecca.huberty 2@alleganaesa.o rg	Our HMG has been a part of our community's COVID-19 response through care coordination work. Providing local resource information to families with children ages 0-8 years old. This includes connecting families to local food pantries/meals, open childcare facilities, virtual educational opportunities, utility assistance, hotspots/technology support, free masks, quarantine kits, etc.	Everything is virtual or hybrid models. Families have been given help with Quarantine kits, PPE/masks, technology/Hot Spot support/Device kits.
Big Bend, Florida	Tori Greer	2-1-1 Big Bend Director of Management	vgreer@211bigb end.org	2-1-1 Big Bend had a 68% increase in calls in April compared to April last fiscal year. The increase in calls was due to COVID-19. School was closed and many families were put under a stay-athome order. Many children received low cost or no cost breakfast and lunches during school. Many callers had young children who were trying to get their basic needs met. The increase in families calling Helpline 211 increased the number of calls screened for HMG. April was the largest percentage of calls screened for HMG using in-reach questions during this reporting period. 48% of hotline calls were screened for HMG in April.	Community outreach events continued to be a way to reach more families, bring awareness to the community and meet new partners. This reporting period, 2-1-1 decreased face-to-face outreach in communities due to COVID-19. The HMG team continued to actively engage community partners by attending meetings via conference call. 2-1-1 was able to focus on distributing HMG material through other avenues that include mailing agencies material and participating in virtual community events.
Brevard, Florida	Kara Bradley	HMG Care Coordinator	helpmegrow@21 1brevard.org	Our CAP was activated in March 2020 to answer emergency calls. HMG has been working to help connect families, in regards to COVID restrictions.	We have taken everything virtual. We scheduled and completed a Lunch & Learn with providers and have also successfully held a virtual BBB every month. Each month we complete contactless deliveries to families that have screened with us of HMG materials and toys or books that we have received through donations.
Delaware	Donna Snyder White	Vice President	dswhite@uwde. org	When Delaware's Governor issued our first stay-at-home orders on March 15, 2020, he did anticipate the surge in requests for information and questions from the community (individuals and families) about the COVID-19 virus, testing, and now vaccine. The	Leveraging online platforms like Zoom to collaborate and support families. Through our ECCS program, Delaware moved from face-to-face Books Balls and Blocks events to virtual BBB using zoom and focused on 3 milestones areas which had proven to be areas where Delaware children were



District of Columbia	Omotunde Sowole-West	Program Manager	Omotunde.Sowol e-West@dc.gov	State reached out to Delaware 211 (DE211) to support. The centralized access point for HMG DE operates within DE211. The long standing Stay at Home orders have negatively impacted many service related industries (e.g. restaurants, retail, small businesses, etc.). More families are struggling to meet life's basic needs (e.g. food, utilities, etc.). HMG's central access point is positioned within DE211. The HMG team has expanded its operating hours to support more families. Operating hours now include evening, weekends and holidays. Also, HMG continues to collaborate with UWDE to help close the digital gap among families by screening and connecting families to targeted early learning representatives for free laptops, tutoring help, school-based meals, etc. HMG was able to successfully move 100% of remote operations within 24-hours. HMG DC is a program within DC Health which is the public health agency of the District of Columbia. HMG DC has been instrumental during the pandemic by making sure District of Columbia residents continue to have access not only to developmental and social and emotional supports, but basic needs which include diapers, cribettes (Pack n' Plays), formula, housing resources, car seats, etc.	HMG DC has increased outreach in various ways. For example, HMG DC collaborated with the Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) and local home visiting programs to work with home visitors and providers to provide support to families who need supplemental mental health support. Additionally, HMG DC has been involved with community partners by participating in community baby showers, attending community task force meetings and connecting with local universities to assist in supporting identified early childhood health and education programs. HMG DC has also partnered with various child and maternal health care providers to spread awareness about the program and services.
Duval, Florida	Danielle DeCastro	Director of Developmental Health & Inclusion	ddecastro@elcd uval.org	Our care coordinator has been in contact with our local Early Steps & Child Find to be able to give up to date information on services, appointments and hours during COVID to our clients.	We have used social media more than we have previously to reach our families. Instead of visiting pediatrician offices and daycare centers we are calling and mailing materials.
Inland Empire California	Ronald Stewart	Program Manager	rostewart@llu.e du	We have offered to offload calls from 211; we have stepped in with school districts to do electronic screening in lieu of person to person paper screening; and, have marketed our services in targeted zip codes where low income families are congregated to	Targeted marketing through social media channels



				let them know we do social determinants of health screening & referrals too.	
lowa	Michelle Holst	State Coordinator, 1st Five Healthy Mental Development Initiative (HMG State Lead)	michelle.holst@i dph.iowa.gov	HMG staff have monitored impacts on primary care practices and community partners. HMG staff have been pulled into direct COVID-19 response on intermittent and varied levels.	Partnership-building interactions with primary care practices and community partners have shifted to mostly virtual interactions.
Lee, Hendry & Glades Counties, Florida	Melanie Black Amato	Associate Executive Director	melanie@health ystartswfl.com	We provide COVID-19 testing site information on our Facebook page. We have taken calls and referred to local health dept. We have distributed thousands of masks to our community and community partners to distribute. We share COVID-19 safety tips in our social media and partner agencies. Our agency has held drive through Baby Showers, Teamed up with drive through events Example: food banks, Held virtual screening events on social media, volunteered with 211 to Prepare PPE supplies, Have been a resource for our community in providing diapers to clients and agencies who need the supplies, HMG care coordinator continues to provide screens and refer to children Early Interventions.	We have implemented virtual meetings and events. Limited contact with providers (keeping social distancing). Families are receiving information through the mail and drop off sites.
Long Island New York	Melissa Passarelli	Director	melissa@docsfor tots.org	Helping connect families with young children to basic needs.	Using Bright By Text to reach families with important information about local resources.
Marion, FL	Elizabeth Deola	Chief Program Officer	edeola@elc- marion.org	We have put together virtual Books, Balls & Blocks programs and acquired additional funds to provide participating parents with Parenting Kits to go along with the virtual programming. We conduct contact-less delivery of the items or parents come pick them up with minimal face-to-face interaction. We have distributed cleaning supplies and other education materials to child care providers to assist them in remaining open to serve our Help Me Grow Families who need child care services in order to work. We have waived parent co-pays for child care services and offered other financial supports to child care providers to continue to serve families at minimal cost to the family during the pandemic. We provided First Responder and Essential Medical Personnel with reduced rate (and in some cases, free) child care services.	We have used a contact-less approach to providing materials to clients who need it by making arrangements with the drop off and pick up in secure manners. We have moved to virtual platforms for Community Events and Presentations and utilize video chat and email more frequently to communicate safely. Face-to-Face interactions are done wearing face-masks and social distanced.



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Missouri	April	Early Childhood Sr.	raverta@health.	Like most organizations, ParentLink has been impacted by the	ParentLink's WarmLine provided more support connecting families to basic
	Anderson	Coordinator & Family	<u>missouri.edu</u>	pandemic of COVID, however, we acted swiftly last April 2020, in	needs and resources compared to last year before Covid. In addition we
	Ravert	Support Specialist		many ways to adapt and to partner with community agencies	see the need to try to be more involved in supporting people as they work
				throughout the state, to continue to serve families during this past	to access these resources.
				year (please see attached document for a more detailed	
				description).	Our on-site monthly support group for kinship caregivers at ParentLink's
					HQ office went virtual in April of 2020, offering weekly informational
					support groups across the state of Missouri. These hour-long meetings
					include a brief presentation on a timely topic, sharing of resources for
					kinship families, and support from trusted professionals. To more fully
					support kinship caregivers across Missouri, ParentLink added a monthly
					peer support group meeting that focuses on self-care and connection with
					each other.
					During the pandemic, ParentLink has continued to offer three Facebook
					groups to parents, caregivers, and providers. These Facebook groups allow
					those who join to learn about statewide and community announcements,
					events, and resource as well as connect with ParentLink staff and others to
					discuss topics of interest.
					ParentLink Navigators are continuing to serve clients in both Central and
					Southeast Missouri. Although meeting with families in person is limited,
					Navigators are still able to assist families with completing and submitting
					applications for Medicaid, Temporary Assistance, and SNAP along with
					other needed resources.
					Partnership to Distribute Essential Items to Kinship FamiliesFunding from
					the MO Department of Social Services, Kinship Navigator Program
					purchased and distributed essential items for kinship caregivers. Included
					were diapers, household and personal hygiene items, and PPE. We
					partnered with The Central Missouri Foster Care & Adoption Association,
					and local health departments and other community partners in Southeast
					Missouri to distribute these essential items, following physical distancing
					guidelines and minimizing direct contact for safety of all involved.
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Monterey, California	Beth Reeves- Fortney	Director of Programs, First 5 Monterey County	beth@first5mont erey.org	Collaborative and First 5 Monterey County staff participate in collective action meetings/teams for procurement and distribution of essential supplies for families and child care providers. F5MC also providing regular virtual reflective supervision small groups for a variety of on-site child care providers (up to 150 participating)	All outreach is conducted virtually and by phone, etc.
New Jersey	Ericka Dickerson	ECCS Impact/Help Me Grow Manager	ericka.dickerson @dcf.nj.gov	Our HMG system has continued to be a critical resource for families during this pandemic. As the entire statewide system in all 21 counties transitioned to working from home. We have continued to be there for families and work to get them connected to the resources they needed. Several of the HMG programs in the 21 counties in New Jersey were able to get needed tangible resources into family's hands during this time. Some of the items that have been distributed safely in the counties were PPE supplies, diapers, wipes, blankets, food, books, etc In getting hard to find items for families such as specialty formula, our programs worked with other programs to help families get what they needed.	Our HMG system has used several new approaches in reaching families through social media: Facebook, YouTube, Texting, etc Facebook pages to engage families with different themes each day including- Motivational Monday, Tip Tuesday, Wonder Wednesday, Reminiscent Thursday and Fun Friday YouTube channel is being used to get information to families. Topics such as parenting, how to keep families safe, Ready Set ASQ, promotion of the CAP, Importance of Reading to your children, etc Texting has been used to get information out to families about developmental health - Resource lists were created, updated, posted on websites and forwarded to families. Some of the key resources were Food banks that were delivering, School lunches that were being delivered, Rental Assistance, Unemployment, WIC, diapers, COVID-19 Testing sites, etc. During our statewide meetings we focused on making sure community programs that were reaching families knew the changes in key programs throughout the state. Such as WIC, SNAP, Unemployment, Domestic Violence Resources, Childcare, etc
North Texas	Stephanie Norton	Regional Director	stephanie.norton @mhmrtc.org	As a new affiliate, we launched our CAP 4 months early on April 1, 2020 in response to the Covid crisis so that we could be a helpful resource and support to parents and providers. We also have Covid specific resources in our database for emergency and health related assistance.	Yes, moved all stakeholder, coalition, subcommittee and leadership meetings virtually out of safety and to efficiently cover our large geographic area. We have also implemented several drive-through resource and information fairs in 3 counties.
Onondaga, New York	Summer Merrick	Program Director	helpmegrowono ndaga2@gmail.c om	Help Me Grow, in partnership with 211, has been providing care coordination to families that contact 211 looking for basic needs. We have found during the pandemic that there has been a steady need for diapers, formula and food. We are fortunate to have a very robust diaper bank in our community and so Help Me Grow has stepped in over the past 9 months to respond to formula need. In that time period, we have also been doing advocacy around	Throughout the Summer and Fall 2020, HMG continued to find innovative ways to do virtual Books, Balls and Blocks - partnering with libraries and other providers. This was a very effective way of reaching families. We also held a two-part HMG virtual training, introducing front-line family workers to developmental milestones and developmental screening. Finally, we held a virtual Pediatric Learning Community with our three largest practices - as a relatively new Help Me Grow we partnered together



				formula need and partnering with the Diaper Bank to expand their mission to include formula distribution for families in crisis. Early on during the pandemic, our County authorized HMG to use funding to provide rapid response to families who need formula and other essentials and HMG staff have purchased supplies and dropped supplies off at families' homes throughout COVID-19.	on developing effective processes for referring families to HMG from the pediatric practices.
Rochester, New York	Kim Avery	Get Ready to GROW Senior Project Coordinator	kavery@children sinstitute.net	We have supported child care centers to screen children who demonstrate developmental concerns. Our agency submitted a grant to address the digital divide in our community. We were able to provide 150 families with tablets to stay connected with child care centers and schools.	Our screenings have changed to virtual in partnership with health care providers, families and child care providers.
San Diego, California	Dulce Cahue- Aguilar	Data and Evaluation Manager First 5 San Diego.	Dulce.cahue- aguilar@sdcount y.ca.gov	We were able to provide early intervention services (development and behavior assessments and treatment) when the local schools closed and could not schedule evaluations for children. We have continued to be a resource for pediatric medical providers who identify children with developmental and behavioral concerns whose families are not comfortable with in-person services.	We modified our outreach materials to notify families and community partners that services are available via Zoom. Articles were written and included in the local American Academy of Pediatrics' newsletter that is distributed to all of their physician members.
San Luis Obispo County, California	Jamie McGillis	Program Coordinator	imcgillis@capslo. org	We've provided emergency clothing via a clothing closet, processed emergency funding requests to help with rent, utilities, etc.; regularly share and educate through social media about mental health and wellness and we have expanded our resource network/sharing	We've expanded our online presence and zoom outreach. We've partnered with other agencies to support in virtual ASQ and Developmental education; we facilitated socially distant parent groups to explore ways to better our covid conscious services
Santa Clara County, California	Kelsey Pennington	Director of Community Health and Wellness	Kelsey@FIRST5KI DS.ORG	Developmental and Behavioral Health providers within the Help Me Grow/KidConnections network have increased their capacity (shift in focus) to provide more case management services in order to meet the basic needs (i.e. food, clothing, shelter) of children and families. In addition to effectively serving families during COVID-19, the Centralized Access Point staff have access to the COVID-19 Community Resource Guide which is used to navigate families to essential services based on their current needs. Pediatricians, Home Visiting Help Me Grow/KidConnections providers, Early Learning providers, and Superior Court and Child Welfare partners	All outreach to child health care providers and community-based partners are being provided virtually. However, many of our child health care providers are focused on providing COVID-19 emergency response, which has created a barrier to engage them in timely outreach. FIRST 5 Santa Clara County continues to work in collaboration with community-based partners to reach out to families and direct them to services. An enhancement to reaching families is through our partnership with Healthier Kids Foundation, in which families are receiving text messages of appointment reminders with connection to Family Resource Centers for essential supplies. The Family Resource Centers are providing services and



				are connecting families to Family Resource Centers for distribution of essential supplies, diaper kits and Calming Kits.	outreach to families remotely. These services include, but is not limited to, parenting workshops, podcasts, family resource center engagement and cultural events, and behavioral and developmental health screenings with connection to early intervention services. In addition, families are being referred and connected to ongoing emergency distribution of essential supplies such as family calming kits and diaper kits.
Shasta County, California	April Matthews	Care Coordinator.	amatthews@sha stacoe.org	We have been working with families and child care providers to make sure to provide them any resources and support they need during this time.	Coming up with different way to market HMG and families completing the ASQs with children. Also making sure to talk to parents about the importance of communicating with their young children learning to talk and finding way to have social interaction safely.
Siskiyou, California	Karen Pautz	Executive Director	karenpautz@first 5siskiyou.org	From the first week, the locally based "in person 211 centers" also known as Family Resource Centers were positioned to provide concrete support in time of need to families. Children continued receiving books through our partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in addition ASQ on line family portal was promoted and more families accessed and received follow up resources and support	We have found that a virtual platform has been a successful new approach.
South Carolina	Jane Witowski	Director, HMG SC State Office	iwitowski@scimh a.org	We did change some of our care coordination procedures by asking families how they were managing with COVID and providing learning activities they could do with their young children. We also started making more connections to basic needs resources such as food banks Information to many families.	Our affiliate enhanced an existing digital media campaign to provide information to families on developmental and behavioral health, screening, and monitoring. Our website saw a significant increase in traffic as a result.
Sutter County, Califronia	Michele Blake	Sutter County Children & Families Commission Executive Director	mblake@co.sutt er.ca.us	Sutter County Children & Families Commission established a COVID-19 EMERGENCY FUND to directly support families experiencing severe hardship due to COVID-19. Sutter County Children & Families Commission coordinates the Sutter County HMG program and continues to work with organizations, agencies and non-profits that recognize a family in need or in recovery because of this crisis (family needs may include, but are not limited to: food, diapers, cleaning supplies, housing support, mental health care). Lastly, all HMG services have shifted to virtual assistance	Sutter County HMG shifted services to virtual (e.g. Social Media, text messaging, telehealth) with approach to outreaching families, physicians and community-based partners. Additional outreach efforts consisted of porch drops and many community distributions of services since March 2020



Utah	Kali Ottesen	Director	kalio@unitedway	Since United Way of Utah County is our back bone organization,	We have definitely had to change our strategy! We have done many
			uc.org	HMG has been quickly made aware of many of the community	presentations to partners virtually, participated in virtual resource fairs,
				needs. We have helped connect families and individuals connect to	moved our networking events to a virtual format, given webinars to health
				resources needed as a result of the pandemic. We have close	care providers, hosted virtual family support groups, sent out
				community partnerships so we have also been able to stay up to	"developmental activity kits" to parents with the help of partners, and
				date on the resources available specifically in relation to COVID.	increased our social media/digital marketing.
Vermont	Lauren Smith	HMG Coordinator	<u>Lauren.Smith@v</u>	Our HMG VT centralized resource hub saw a surge in calls (more	Yes - virtual trainings on ASQ online platform and virtual forums for
			<u>ermont.gov</u>	than doubled) at the outset of the pandemic. HMG staff connected	families and providers (see above).
				to callers to many basic needs resources during this time, including	
				food resources and emergency food drop offs sites and school	
				sites. During the first three months of the COVID-19 pandemic,	
				HMG saw a 91% increase in requests for food resources (when	
				compared to the same timeframe in 2019). Some families had	
				already accessed all the food resources in their area but were still	
				worried they would run out of food. Overall during 2020, Help Me	
				Grow provided 407 food-related referrals, a 19% increase from the	
				year before. HMG staff screen all callers for food insecurity using	
				the Hunger Vital Sign screener. Of the 367 callers who were	
				screened in 2020 using the Hunger Vital Sign, Help Me Grow staff	
				identified 172 people/families who sometimes or often worried	
				they would run out of food (47% of the callers). And 22% percent	
				(81 callers) indicated they sometimes or often ran out of food.	
				Use of HMG VT's ASQ online screening system increased	
				substantially due to the need for virtual home visits, telehealth,	
				and need for virtual access to screening tools. The number of	
				screens in this system increased from just a few hundred to over	
				1300 this year. Nurse home visiting programs, Children's Integrated	
				Services teams (early intervention and family support home	
				visitors), ten pediatric practices, a Head Start program, and several	
				early childhood education programs are now using this system.	
				Our HMG Family and Community outreach quickly pivoted to offer	
				virtual forums for families and providers (play groups, webinars,	
				trainings and a COVID resource website page with national/state	
				resources on supporting children's social/emotional health, etc).	
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Washington	Lark Kesterke	Senior Manager of	larkk@withinrea	Our Coordinated Access Point has seen a significant increase in	Outreach to families, child health care providers, and community-based
		Systems	chwa.org	callers and requests for assistance through our online portal. We	partners has been extremely limited. We continue to provide our
				have also launched a "COVID Cares" project with the Washington State Department of Health, Crisis Connections, and community-based organizations in Yakima. This project will provide care coordinators for self-isolating families in Yakima to ensure they are connected to supports to help them isolate successfully. WithinReach has also reviewed our call data during this time to create a marketing and outreach campaign that aims to connect families with both short- and long-term food support.	newsletter to partners and families but have not yet found a way to connect to new families and partners. We have, and continue to gain experience, for using Zoom for virtual gatherings. We were able to hold out Statewide Action Team Kick Off virtually in November and had great success in this virtual platform with a lot of learnings around interpretation services offered through Zoom. Our "new" approach has been to rely on word of mouth and develop processes that reduces barriers for families, providers, and partners to better connect to our services.
West Virginia	Nia Jackson	Help Me Grow Coordinator	Nia.R.Jackson@ wv.gov	Our Initial response was to inform HMG participants on CDC guidance and materials, distribute COVID-19 books to our families to inform their children, and provided testing information. As time has passed we have distributed lists and provided information on resources and services available.	West Virginia State Government has been on a Statewide travel ban. Our approach to continue outreach to families included mailing HMG materials to sites for events, contacting housing authorities to include Help Me Grow in Newsletters, and have regular zoom meetings with our community partners. We have also participated in Childcare Inclusion training as expert panelist for early childhood services to promote Help Me Grow.