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Help Me Grow

Wisconsin's State Affiliative- First 5 Fox Valley

October 17, 2023





- **First 5 Fox Valley** is implementing the nationally recognized evidenced-based Help Me Grow model in **Outagamie, Calumet, and Winnebago, Green Lake, Marquette, Waupaca, Waushara, Shawano counties in Wisconsin**
- The **community partnership model** builds on existing resources and strengthen relationships between local early childhood agencies.
- First 5 Fox Valley is the organizing entity and the **Wisconsin state affiliate** of Help Me Grow National and powers the Help Me Grow Wisconsin system.



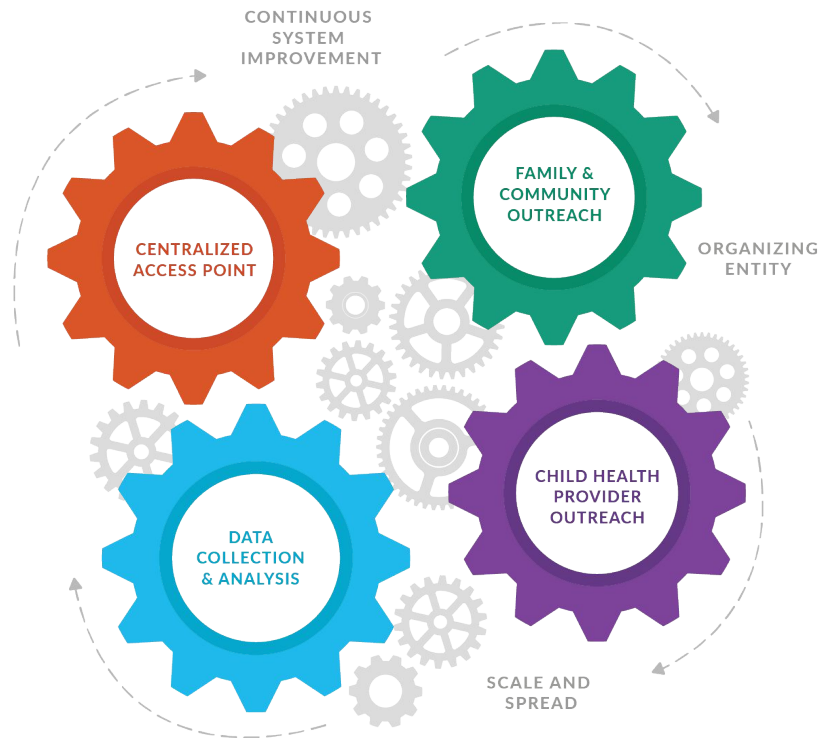
Help Me Grow
WISCONSIN

Help Me Grow System Model

WE BELIEVE THAT ALL CHILDREN SHOULD BE ABLE TO GROW, DEVELOP, AND THRIVE TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.

Help Me Grow is a model that works to promote collaboration across child-serving sectors in order to build a more efficient and effective system that promotes the optimal healthy development of young children. When all of the organizations working on behalf of young children work together, we can:

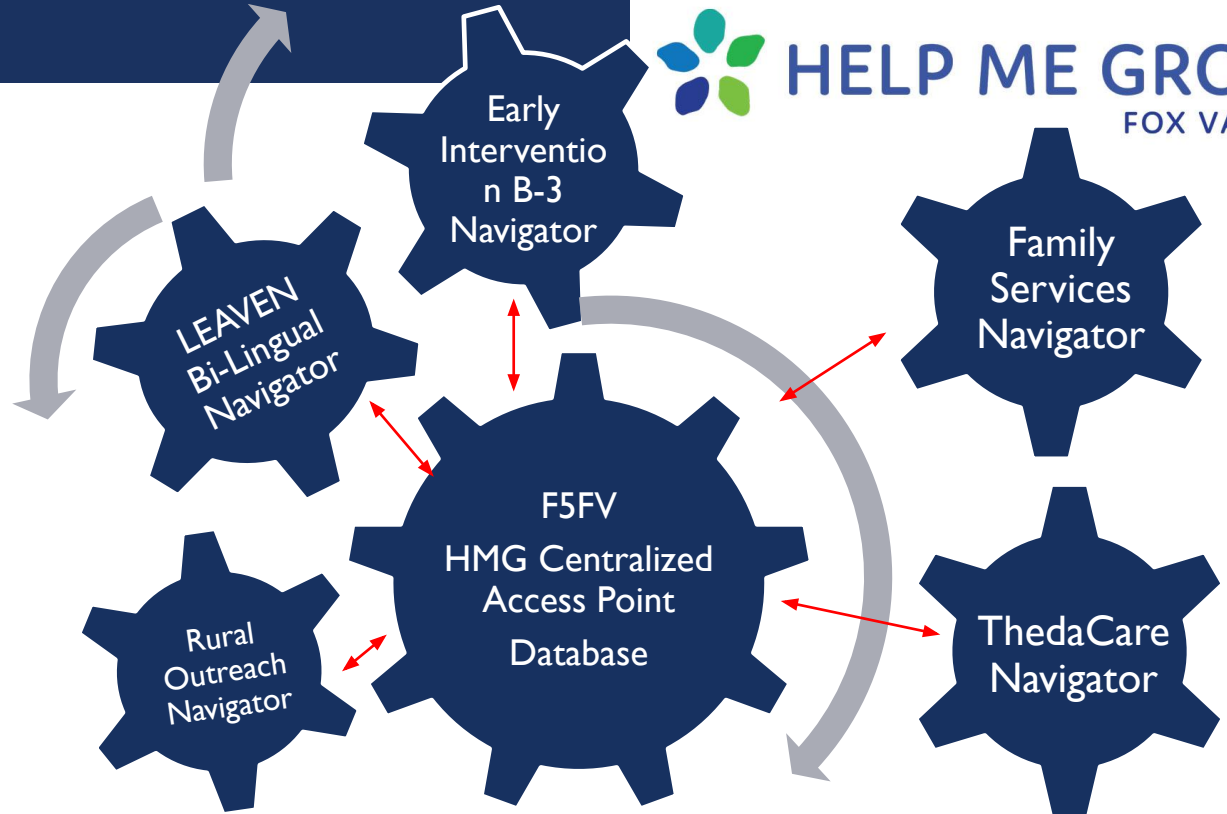
- better prevent or reduce the impact that stress or adversity may have on children and families **and**
- increase protective factors that can maximize the well being of children and families



HELP ME GROW- FOX VALLEY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SYSTEM MODEL



HELP ME GROW
FOX VALLEY



Navigators in local Early Childhood Programs- meeting families where they are.

Working together to support families

We know families are existing in a variety of environments such as child care, home visiting, doctor visits, etc and they may be accessing a variety of supports in the community

When agencies work together to support a family, we create something like the image you see here.



Priscilla Peterka, Welcome Baby Navigator



Priscilla graduated in Psychology at UNIFIL University Center Philadelphia. She earned her post graduation clinical psychology credentials participating in internships working with children in private sessions and school system programs. She understands that what happens in childhood doesn't stay in childhood, it will follow them for the rest of that person's life, which is why she is so passionate about child development. Knowing that we can make a difference and contribute to the future of our society is fascinating.



513

Prime Births in 2 Hospitals

Year 3 – June 2022-2023

509

**Pre & Post Natal Assessments
99% of all Prime Births in 2 hospitals**



71%

of all documented prime births reached
Significant increase over pilot study
baseline of 52%



Year 2

79%

Year 3

98%

129

Families Eligible for Home Visiting

42

Enrolled in short term follow ups

26

Enrolled in long-term HV

THE ROLE OF THE WELCOME BABY HOSPITAL VISITS

Year 3

Hospital Assessors visiting 2 hospitals

20 hr HMG navigator/ Hospital assessor that connects with families 2 months after birth/ enrollment and is the assigned navigator for Welcome Baby families.

Families get a Welcome Baby box.

Kiwanis grant application would provide Welcome Baby boxes for families who have traumatic births when babies go to NICU.



Carolyn Nelson, HMG Healthcare Navigator

Carolyn is the HMG Navigator placed within the Healthcare System. She has a Masters in Child Development from The Erikson Institute in Chicago, IL
She has been working in the early childhood field for ten years



ThedaCare[™]
Regional Medical Center
Appleton



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Regional Medical Center
Neenah

ThedaCare Help Me Grow Navigator Role

Embedding a Navigator in the Health Care System has allowed us to create a bridge (warm hand off) to community resources where information can move back and forth across. This helps to create a closed feedback loop for providers on the status of a family's access to resources/ referrals/ supports after leaving the Provider's office.

And the family has a real person that follows up with them over time depending on their needs.



Rural Community Partnership System Model



HELP ME GROW

A community initiative of **First5**
FOX VALLEY

Navigators in local Early Childhood Programs—meeting families where they are.



Amy Wilson, Early Intervention Navigator

Amy Wilson has worked for First 5 Fox Valley/Help Me Grow since 2021. She is a Help Me Grow Family Resource Navigator and an Early Intervention Team Leader. Through Help Me Grow, Amy supports Early Intervention Programs in 3 counties by connecting with families who have exited the program to ensure they have the developmental information and community resources they are interested in. She also offers developmental screening and follow up, using the Ages & Stages Questionnaire. She has worked in the field of early childhood for over 25 years. Amy has a B.S. in Early Childhood Special Education from UW-Eau Claire.

Early Intervention Program (Birth to 3)

- ❖ The Early Intervention Program **provides** resources, supports and services to children under the age of three who have special needs and their families.
- ❖ The **mission** of our program is to help children develop the skills they need to participate in typical activities in their homes and communities.
- ❖ Our **focus** is on supporting parents, building their confidence and competence, so that they are the ones promoting their child's development.



Early Intervention Program
Outagamie & Winnebago Counties

"Supporting Families to Help Their Children Learn and Grow"

How EIP Connects with Help Me Grow

Help Me Grow Navigator within Early Intervention connects with families whose child:

1. Was screened out by Early Intervention
2. Was evaluated and found “not eligible”
3. Was found eligible but parents declined support
4. Received EIP services and are exiting

How HMG Supports Parents/Caregivers

- ❖ Connections to ongoing screenings using ASQ:3 and ASQ:SE-2
- ❖ Referrals to local community programs and supports
- ❖ Reaching into the family and meeting them where they are rather than requiring the parent to take the lead in reaching out – ongoing check ins every 3-6 months

Questions for you to Ponder

- 1. What barriers/successes have you found in developing your own collaborative partnerships with agencies?**
- 2. How does HMG care coordination blend with the work of partnering agencies and not supplant or take away from their own mission and work with families?**
- 3. How do you build more equitable access for families to HMG follow-up and resources?**

For more information

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