Help Me Grow National 2027 Technical Assistance Menu

Support for states and communities implementing the Help Me Grow Model

The Help Me Grow (HMG) National Center helps states and communities turn their vision for early childhood into coordinated systems that support every child's development. Our technical assistance (TA) strengthens developmental promotion, early identification, and connection to the supports families want and need.

This menu describes fee-based support for HMG implementation, strategic planning, system building, and partner engagement. Use it to explore the options, then contact us to discuss your priorities and identify the right support.

Why Work with the National Center

As the sole provider of technical assistance for the HMG Model, the National Center pairs Model expertise with practical implementation support. Founded in 2010, we have supported every replication of HMG and continue to guide its National Affiliate Network.

Our multidisciplinary team brings more than 100 years of combined experience in early childhood system building, cross-sector partnerships, implementation, measurement, and operational leadership. Direct connections with more than 140 HMG systems help us bring learning from the field into our work with you.

Our Approach

- **Tailored to your context.** Support reflects your priorities, local conditions, and starting point.
- **Grounded in research and practice.** We draw on implementation science and experience applying the HMG Model.
- **Focused on connections.** We help strengthen governance, partnerships, data use, financing, and the infrastructure that connects services.
- **Informed by the real-world practice.** Learning from HMG systems across the country helps communities build on one another's experience.

Explore the Menu

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Help Me Grow National Center

Technical Assistance Offerings at a Glance

Compare offerings, scope, and fees below. Detailed descriptions follow, including who each offering is best suited for, activities, and deliverables.

Offering	Focus	What is included
BEMI System Building Collaborative	Assess your system, strengthen HMG implementation infrastructure, and advance an action plan	15 sessions focused on system assessment, implementation strategies, and action planning
Monthly TA Sessions	Individualized support for your system's priorities at any implementation stage	12 sessions over 12 months; typically one hour each
Quarterly TA Sessions	Individualized support for your system's priorities at any implementation stage	4 sessions over 12 months; typically one hour each
Coordinated Intake and Referral System Implementation and Scaling Support	Strengthen coordinated access, referral pathways, and successful linkage; sustain and expand implementation	4 cohort learning sessions annually; access to national implementation experts
Leading and Sustaining State Early Childhood Systems	Strengthen cross-sector leadership, family partnership, statewide alignment, and long-term sustainability	4 cohort learning sessions annually; access to national experts in system building, governance, and sustainability
BEMI plus 3 TA sessions	BEMI with additional individual guidance	Access to the BEMI cohort and tools, plus 3 individual TA sessions
BEMI plus 4 TA sessions	BEMI with additional individual guidance	Access to the BEMI cohort and tools, plus 4 individual TA sessions
BEMI plus 12 TA sessions	BEMI with ongoing individual guidance	Access to the BEMI cohort and tools, plus 12 individual TA sessions
BEMI plus TA and virtual visit	BEMI with ongoing individual guidance and partner engagement	Access to the BEMI cohort and tools, plus 12 individual TA sessions and a one-hour virtual HMG presentation
Building Block 1: Strategic Plan Discovery and Readiness Scan	Understand the landscape and assess readiness for strategic planning	2 planning sessions, a readiness survey, and 3 interviews; a 3–5-page Readiness Summary Memo with a system map and recommendations
Building Block 2: Strategic Plan Stakeholder Engagement and Visioning	Build partner buy-in and establish shared direction	1–2 visioning sessions and a poll or survey; a Vision and Guiding Principles Summary and Theory of Change/Impact.
Building Block 3: Strategic Plan Priority and Goal Setting	Establish 3–5 strategic priorities with measurable goals	2 strategy sessions; a 2–3-page Strategic Priorities Framework with goals, rationale, and first-year focus areas.
Building Block 4: Strategic Plan Action Mapping	Define responsibilities, timelines, and measures of progress	3 planning sessions and a working session to finalize assignments; an Implementation Blueprint with timeline and accountability chart.
System Building Fundamentals — *Aligning People, Processes, and Purpose*	Build a shared understanding of the conditions that influence system change	One-hour virtual workshops and interactive assessments over 2–3 months; a summary document with key strategies and proposed next steps.

Governance Infrastructure and Coordination Design	Clarify leadership, partner roles, and decision-making	2–3 design sessions; a draft charter or MOU framework and a Governance and Coordination Framework.
Sustainability Funding and Continuous Improvement	Strengthen financing, sustainability, and ongoing improvement	2–3 strategy sessions; a Sustainability and CQI Plan with strategies and improvement recommendations.
Help Me Grow Early Childhood Network Mapping Tool	Understand partner relationships and identify opportunities to strengthen collaboration	Guidance on survey participation, a customized PARTNER survey, and HMG National analysis; a report with network maps and metrics.
Virtual Leadership Presentation	Engage stakeholders, build awareness, or support HMG launch promotion	A one-hour virtual presentation from National Center leadership, with 2 planning meetings as needed.
Site Visit — In Person	Convene partners to begin HMG planning or support an operational launch	One day of meetings and one presentation, including a community convening; one HMG leadership team member.
Custom Technical Assistance	Address a specific implementation topic or project	Tailored support in areas such as data, strategic planning, messaging, stakeholder engagement, or sustainability. Duration and scope determined together.

Core TA Offerings

Build the capacity to implement and strengthen the HMG Model through a structured collaborative or individualized guidance. These options provide different formats and levels of engagement.

BEMI System Building Collaborative

Building Expertise in HMG Model Implementation (BEMI) provides structured support for launching and sustaining the system building work of the HMG Model.

Best suited for: Teams seeking a guided process to assess their system, understand and strengthen HMG implementation infrastructure, and advance an action plan.

What is included: 15 sessions focused on applying system thinking, developing implementation strategies, and learning through action.

- Analyze local conditions, partners, strengths, and gaps to identify opportunities for system building and improvement.
- Develop strategies for shared cross-sector ownership, coordinated access, data systems, and meaningful family and community partnership.
- Create, implement, and refine an action plan through coaching, reflection, continuous improvement, and attention to measurable implementation outcomes.

What you work toward: An action plan and stronger infrastructure for HMG Model implementation.

Duration: Annual enrollment. Launches in January 2027.

Coordinated Intake and Referral System (CIRS) Implementation and Scaling Support

Strengthen and scale the coordinated access infrastructure at the heart of HMG. This Community of Practice helps affiliates improve referral pathways, successful linkage to services, and implementation quality while building the capacity to sustain and expand coordinated intake and referral across communities.

Best suited for: HMG states and communities establishing, strengthening, or expanding coordinated intake and referral systems.

What is included:

- Four cohort learning sessions annually and access to national implementation experts.
- Support for coordinated access infrastructure, referral pathways, systems navigation, and care coordination using HMG's Centralized Access Point approach.
- Guidance on workforce capacity, implementation consistency, provider participation, and statewide expansion.

What you receive: Peer learning and expert guidance to support local implementation. Resources may include customized implementation tools, training materials and manuals, referral pathway guidance, and workforce training strategies.

What you work toward: Stronger referral and linkage systems, improved implementation quality, and greater capacity to sustain coordinated access and expand its reach.

Duration: Annual enrollment. Communities of Practice will follow the ECCS project year (September 30–September 29), with 2026–2027 offerings beginning by December 2026.

Leading and Sustaining State Early Childhood Systems

Strengthen the leadership and infrastructure needed to coordinate and sustain an early childhood system. This Community of Practice helps affiliates strengthen cross-sector governance, engage families as system partners, align state and local efforts, and develop financing and policy approaches that support HMG and the broader early childhood system.

Best suited for: HMG state leaders responsible for cross-sector coordination, governance, system building, family engagement, and long-term sustainability planning.

What is included:

- Four cohort learning sessions annually and access to national experts in system building, governance, and sustainability.
- Support for state-level systems leadership, cross-sector collaboration, and family and caregiver engagement in decision-making.
- Guidance on policy alignment, sustainable financing, and coordination across state and local partners.

What you receive: Peer learning and expert guidance to strengthen leadership infrastructure. Resources may include governance and leadership tools, family partnership resources, sustainability planning support, and cross-sector coordination strategies.

What you work toward: Stronger cross-sector leadership, meaningful family partnership, clearer sustainability and financing approaches, and improved statewide coordination.

Duration: Annual enrollment. Communities of Practice will follow the ECCS project year (September 30–September 29), with 2026–2027 offerings beginning by December 2026.

Monthly or Quarterly TA Sessions

Receive individualized guidance tailored to your system's priorities at any stage of HMG implementation—from exploring the Model and building stakeholder buy-in to strengthening, innovating, and optimizing a fully implemented system.

Over a 12-month engagement, participating systems work with National Center staff and HMG Implementation Experts to address the topics, challenges, and opportunities most relevant to their work.

Best suited for: HMG systems at any stage seeking flexible, individualized support to address current priorities, navigate challenges, and advance their implementation goals.

What is included: Sessions are typically one hour. This offering is intended for one HMG system, either the system in a single-system affiliate state or one local system within a multi-system state.

Priorities and participation: The participating system identifies session priorities and determines who attends. Participants may include system leads, core team members, and implementation partners. Attendance may vary across sessions to reflect the topics being addressed.

The National Center determines the combination of staff and Implementation Experts best suited to support those priorities, considering relevant expertise and availability.

Preparation and between-session support: The participating system is responsible for communicating priorities in advance, providing relevant materials as requested, and carrying forward locally agreed-

upon next steps. National Center staff coordinate session planning and provide guidance aligned with the engagement's priorities.

Reasonable preparation, review of materials, and limited follow-up between sessions may be included, as determined by the National Center based on the nature and scope of the request. Work requiring substantial additional analysis, product development, or staff time may require a separate scope and fee.

About HMG Implementation Experts
HMG Implementation Experts are consultants engaged by the National Center to extend the team's capacity with deep, practical experience in specific areas of HMG implementation. Their expertise includes evaluation and measurement, child health care provider outreach, equity and engagement of populations that systems have difficulty reaching, and funding and sustainability.

What you work toward: Clearer implementation decisions and practical next steps for your system.

BEMI Plus Packages

Combine the BEMI System Building Collaborative with individualized technical assistance tailored to your system's implementation priorities. These packages provide dedicated support to apply BEMI learning, work through local challenges, and advance your system's goals.

Best suited for: Teams seeking the structured BEMI experience alongside individualized guidance responsive to their local context and implementation needs.

Package structure: Each package combines access to the BEMI collaborative and tools with the individual TA sessions listed below. Individual sessions are typically one hour and must be used within a 12-month period. Each package serves one HMG system, either the system in a single-system affiliate state or one local system within a multi-system state.

Package	Additional support	Fee
Package 1 BEMI plus 3 TA sessions	Access to the BEMI collaborative and tools, plus 3 individual TA sessions	$11,500
Package 2 BEMI plus 4 TA sessions	Access to the BEMI collaborative and tools, plus 4 individual TA sessions	$12,000
Package 3 BEMI plus 12 TA sessions	Access to the BEMI collaborative and tools, plus 12 individual TA sessions	$18,000

Package	Additional support	Fee
Package 4 BEMI plus TA and virtual visit	Access to the BEMI collaborative and tools, plus 12 individual TA sessions and a one-hour virtual HMG presentation	$20,000

Session priorities and participation: Your system identifies the priorities for individual TA sessions and determines who participates. Sessions may include system leads, core team members, and implementation partners, with attendance varying according to the topics being addressed.

An HMG National Center Associate Director guides the engagement and coordinates involvement from other National Center staff and HMG Implementation Experts as appropriate to the system's priorities and available expertise.

Preparation and between-session support: Participating systems communicate session priorities in advance, provide relevant materials as requested, and carry forward locally agreed-upon next steps. National Center staff coordinate session planning and provide guidance aligned with those priorities.

Reasonable preparation, review of materials, and limited between-session follow-up may be included, as determined by the National Center based on the nature and scope of the request. Substantial additional analysis, product development, or staff time may require a separate scope and fee.

Help Me Grow Strategic Planning Support

Develop a strategic plan that reflects your HMG system's context, engages the partners who contribute to its success, and translates shared priorities into action.

Our strategic planning building blocks are designed to build on one another, helping your system move from understanding its starting point to establishing shared direction, setting priorities, and planning for implementation. Systems can purchase individual building blocks or combine them, depending on the planning work already in place and the next steps ahead.

The National Center works with you to identify which building blocks best fit your current needs and which may be useful later. Together, we consider existing planning work, partner engagement, and readiness to establish an appropriate starting point.

Format and participation: Support is delivered virtually. Planning sessions and interviews are typically one hour; session length and scheduling may be adjusted by mutual agreement to meet the engagement's goals.

Your system determines who participates, with guidance from the National Center on involving the leaders, implementation partners, and other stakeholders whose perspectives are relevant to the work.

Deliverables and review: Each building block combines facilitated work, analysis, and a structured deliverable that organizes findings, recommendations, and actionable next steps, as described below.

Building Block 1: Strategic Plan Discovery and Readiness Scan

Purpose: Understand the current landscape and assess readiness for HMG strategic planning.

Best suited for: Systems preparing to begin strategic planning and seeking a clearer understanding of their starting point.

What is included: Two planning sessions; custom readiness survey design and distribution; three key informant interviews with early childhood leaders; and analysis of readiness findings.

What you receive: A Strategic Planning Readiness Summary Memo of 3–5 pages, including an existing system map, key insights, and recommendations.

Building Block 2: Strategic Plan Stakeholder Engagement and Visioning

Purpose: Build partner buy-in and establish a shared vision and purpose for the HMG strategic plan.

Best suited for: Systems that need partners to align around a common direction before setting strategic priorities.

What is included: One or two visioning sessions with the HMG Leadership Team or cross-sector partners; a pre-session poll or discovery survey; guidance to draft shared mission, vision, and guiding principles; and alignment with the HMG Model.

What you receive: A Vision and Guiding Principles Summary, presented as a visual one-page document or slide deck, and a Theory of Change/Impact for the strategic plan.

Building Block 3: Strategic Plan Priority and Goal Setting

Purpose: Translate the vision into 3–5 high-impact strategic priorities with measurable goals.

Best suited for: Systems with an established direction that need to choose priorities and define progress.

What is included: Two facilitated strategy sessions to identify and refine priorities; support developing measurable objectives; and identification of early wins and quick-start activities.

What you receive: A Strategic Priorities Framework of 2–3 pages outlining goals, rationale, and first-year focus areas.

Building Block 4: Strategic Plan Action Mapping

Purpose: Develop an action plan that defines who does what and by when.

Best suited for: Systems ready to turn strategic priorities into assigned tasks, timelines, and early measures of progress.

What is included: Three planning sessions with the HMG Leadership Team and/or Work Groups; development of an action matrix with tasks, timelines, and roles; identification of indicators and early benchmarks; and a working session to finalize assignments.

What you receive: A Strategic Plan Implementation Blueprint of 5–7 pages, with a detailed timeline and accountability chart.

Choosing Your Starting Point

Your system may already have a vision, priorities, or an existing plan. Discuss these materials and your current needs with HMG National to identify which planning support would be most useful.

System Building and Network Mapping

Understand the conditions and relationships shaping your early childhood system and identify practical opportunities to strengthen how it works.

System Building Fundamentals: Aligning People, Processes, and Purpose

This learning series helps participants examine the conditions that influence system change in their local context. It is grounded in the Waters of Systems Change Framework, which considers policies, practices, resource flows, relationships, power dynamics, and mental models.

Best suited for: Teams seeking a shared understanding of system change and a practical foundation for strengthening system capacity and collaboration.

What is included: One-hour virtual workshop sessions with the HMG National team and interactive assessments exploring the internal and external conditions of your HMG infrastructure.

Participation: Your system determines who participates. The National Center can help identify the team members and partners whose involvement would best support the series' goals.

What you receive: A summary document with key strategies and proposed next steps.

Duration: Delivered over a 2-3 month period.

Governance Infrastructure and Coordination Design

Purpose: Strengthen or establish the organizational backbone and cross-sector coordination structure for HMG.

Best suited for: Systems that need clearer leadership arrangements, partner roles, and decision-making processes.

What is included: Two or three facilitated design sessions focused on governance, roles, and decision-making; clarification of backbone or HMG Organizing Entity functions; definition of communication and coordination mechanisms; and a draft charter or memorandum of understanding framework.

What you receive: A Governance and Coordination Framework outlining the leadership structure, partner roles, and decision flow.

Sustainability Funding and Continuous Improvement

Purpose: Build a foundation for long-term sustainability and system evolution.

Best suited for: Systems seeking a coordinated approach to financing, policy opportunities, and ongoing improvement.

What is included: Two or three facilitated strategy sessions; guidance on funding stream alignment and policy opportunities; development of a sustainability roadmap and continuous quality improvement (CQI) cycle; and establishment of metrics and feedback loops.

What you receive: A Sustainability and CQI Plan of 5–7 pages, including resource strategies and improvement processes.

Help Me Grow Early Childhood Network Mapping Tool

Understand how organizations across your early childhood system work together and where stronger connections could advance shared goals. HMG National uses an early childhood adaptation of the PARTNER tool, which applies social network analysis to measure and map relationships among organizations. An online survey gathers information about existing partnerships.

Best suited for: Systems seeking to understand existing partnerships, establish a baseline for collaboration, or examine changes in their network through repeat assessments.

What is included:

- Guidance on identifying the organizations and survey respondents to include.
- Data collection through the customized online PARTNER survey.
- Analysis by HMG National of relationships and collaboration across the participating network.

What is explored: How organizations connect and collaborate, the frequency and nature of their relationships, the quality of existing partnerships, and opportunities to strengthen coordination around shared goals.

Participation: Your system designates a project coordinator and works collaboratively to engage early childhood network partners. Broad participation strengthens the findings.

What you receive: A report including network maps and metrics describing organizational relationships and collaborative activity to inform planning, improvement, and communication with partners and funders.

Duration: Determined by your system's needs and the project scope.

Site Visit Offerings and Custom TA

Engage partners, build understanding of HMG, and support planning or launch through a virtual presentation or an in-person visit from National Center leadership.

Virtual Leadership Presentation

Best suited for: Systems seeking leadership support for stakeholder engagement, awareness, education, or HMG launch promotion.

What is included: A one-hour virtual HMG presentation from National Center leadership, with two planning meetings as needed.

Site Visit (In Person)

Best suited for: Systems convening partners to begin HMG planning or support an operational launch.

What is included: One day of meetings and one presentation, including a broad community convening to orient stakeholders to HMG.

Customize Your Own TA

Work with National Center staff and HMG Implementation Experts on a specific topic or project. Custom support can address data collection and analysis, alignment with fidelity and other measures, strategic planning, messaging, stakeholder engagement, marketing and branding, or funding and sustainability.

Discuss Your Needs

Contact info@helpmegrownational.org to discuss your goals, explore these options, or request a tailored quote.

When you reach out, tell us about your state or community, your current HMG work, the support you are seeking, and any timing considerations.

Prices are effective January 2027 and are subject to change.