

## 2023 Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap

### Methods and Sources

### Effective Strategies

## COMPREHENSIVE SCREENING AND CONNECTION PROGRAMS

### What are comprehensive screening and connection programs and why are they important?

All references for this section are provided in the Notes and Sources section at the bottom of each webpage. Additionally, search the [Prenatal-to-3 Policy Clearinghouse](#) for an ongoing inventory of rigorous evidence reviews, including more information on comprehensive screening and connection programs.

### What impact do comprehensive screening and connection programs have?

The following studies meet standards of strong causal evidence to demonstrate the impacts of comprehensive screening and connection program for the health and wellbeing of young children and their families:

- A. Dodge, K. A., Goodman, W. B., Murphy, R. A., O'Donnell, K., & Sato, J. (2013). Randomized controlled trial of universal postnatal nurse home visiting: Impact on emergency care. *Pediatrics*, *132*(Supplement 2), S140–S146. <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2013-1021M>
- B. Dodge, K. A., Goodman, W. B., Murphy, R. A., O'Donnell, K., Sato, J., & Guptill, S. (2014). Implementation and randomized controlled trial evaluation of universal postnatal nurse home visiting. *American Journal of Public Health*, *104 Suppl 1*, S136-127. <https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2013.301361>
- C. Goodman, W. B., Dodge, K. A., Bai, Y., O'Donnell, K. J., & Murphy, R. A. (2019). Randomized controlled trial of Family Connects: Effects on child emergency medical care from birth to 24 months. *Development and Psychopathology*, *31*(5), 1863–1872. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0954579419000889>
- D. Goodman, B.W., Dodge, K.A. (Nov. 5, 2016). A Low-Cost RCT of a Universal Postnatal Nurse Home Visiting Program: Durham Connects. Final Report. Prepared for the Laura and John Arnold Foundation. *Duke University Center for Child and Family Policy*. <https://osf.io/3ys4m>
- E. Minkovitz, C. (2001). Early effects of the HealthySteps for Young Children program. *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*, *155*(4), 470-479. <https://doi.org/10.1001/archpedi.155.4.470>
- F. Minkovitz, C. S., Hughart, N., Strobino, D., Scharfstein, D., Grason, H., Hou, W., Miller, T., Bishai, D., Augustyn, M., McLearn, K. T., & Guyer, B. (2003). A practice-based intervention to enhance quality of care in the first 3 years of life: The HealthySteps for Young Children Program. *JAMA*, *290*(23), 3081-3091. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.290.23.3081>
- G. Minkovitz, C. S., Strobino, D., Mistry, K. B., Scharfstein, D. O., Grason, H., Hou, W., Jalongo, N., & Guyer, B. (2007). HealthySteps for Young Children: Sustained results at 5.5 years. *Pediatrics*, *120*(3), e658–e668. <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2006-1205>

- H. Caughy, M. O., Miller, T. L., Genevro, J. L., Huang, K.-Y., & Nautiyal, C. (2003). The effects of HealthySteps on discipline strategies of parents of young children. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology, 24*(5), 517–534. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.appdev.2003.08.004>
- I. Caughy, M. O., Huang, K.-Y., Miller, T., & Genevro, J. L. (2004). The effects of the HealthySteps for Young Children Program: Results from observations of parenting and child development. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly, 19*(4), 611–630. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecresq.2004.10.004>
- J. Sege, R., Preer, G., Morton, S.J., Cabral, H., Morakinyo, O., Lee, V., Abreu, C., De Vos, E., & Kaplan-Sanoff, M. (2015). Medical-legal strategies to improve infant health care: A randomized trial. *Pediatrics, 136*(1), 97-106. <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2014-2955>
- K. Goodman, W.B., Dodge, K.A., Bai, Y., Murphy, R.A., & O'Donnell, K. (2021). Effect of a universal postpartum nurse home visiting program on child maltreatment and emergency medical care at 5 years of age: A randomized clinical trial. *JAMA, 4*(7), e2116024. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.16024>
- L. Dodge, K. A., Goodman, W. B., Bai, Y., Best, D. L., Rehder, P., & Hill, S. (2022). Impact of a universal perinatal home-visiting program on reduction in race disparities in maternal and child health: Two randomised controlled trials and a field quasi-experiment. *The Lancet Regional Health - Americas, 15*, 100356. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lana.2022.100356>
- M. Baziyants, G. A., Dodge, K. A., Bai, Y., Goodman, W. B., O'Donnell, K., & Murphy, R. A. (2023). The effects of a universal short-term home visiting program: Two-year impact on parenting behavior and parent mental health. *Child Abuse & Neglect, 140*, 106140. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106140>

### What are the key policy levers to support comprehensive screening and connection programs?

In the absence of an evidence-based state policy lever to ensure the services effectively provide children and families the support they need, we present several choices that states can make to more effectively implement comprehensive screening and connection programs. We identified three key policy levers that states can implement to increase participation of eligible families. The policy levers include:

- Establish a state goal to implement comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide,
- Use Medicaid funding for the programs, and
- Provide state funding for the evidence-based programs.

We collected information on the types of federal, state, and local funding sources used by each program model to implement the comprehensive screening and connection program in each state they have a presence. Although the most effective way for states to implement and support comprehensive screening and connection programs is unclear from the evidence base, we relied on the expertise and experience of the three evidence-based program models to provide information on states who had provided substantial support to the implementation of the program, as well as a general history of implementation of the program in each state.

We also identified states in which alternative comprehensive screening and connection programs operate. These programs are similar in design, implementation, and goals to the three evidence-based models included in the Roadmap, however, they have not yet been rigorously evaluated. We drew upon our relationships with state implementers and researchers to identify states where an alternative model is implemented. We also used program websites to determine what states known programs operate. To determine if a state-based program

model meets our criteria to be considered an alternative comprehensive screening and connection model, we used program model materials available online such as program recruitment flyers and program annual summary reports to determine the activities offered, eligibility criteria, implementation status, and goals of the program model. When online materials were unclear, we supplemented our online research with targeted outreach to program models themselves.

We also performed an electronic search using Quorum State between September 15, 2022 and August 15, 2023 to assess legislative progress pertaining to comprehensive screening and connection programs, which are commonly referred to in legislation as “universal home visiting” programs. The main search strategy used combinations of keywords for proposed bills related to comprehensive screening and connection programs (“family connects” OR “healthy steps” OR comprehensive screening OR comprehensive referrals OR screening & referral OR "Durham Connects" OR “help me grow” OR “Project DULCE” or postpartum WITHIN 5 OF "home visit" OR "universal postpartum home visit" OR "universal postpartum visit" OR "universal home visiting" OR "universal home visit"). Research staff conducted searches, analyzed results for relevant state legislation, and summarized state’s efforts around comprehensive screening and connection programs at the state level.

This section also contains the sources for the information presented in the individual state Roadmaps.

**Measure 1: Statewide comprehensive screening and connection program**

**Definition:**

Yes/No the state implements a statewide comprehensive screening and connection program.

**Note:**

1. Statewide program data are as of August 1, 2023.

**Sources:**

State	Source
All States	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>DULCE:</b> P. Hampton, Center for the Study of Social Policy, personal communication, September 8, 2023.</li> <li>2. <b>Family Connects:</b> K. Friedman, Family Connects International, personal communication, March 30, 2023.</li> <li>3. <b>HealthySteps:</b> R. Briggs, ZEROTOTHREE, personal communication, July 13, 2022 and L. Ptucha, ZEROTOTHREE, personal communication, June 26, 2023.</li> <li>4. <b>Help Me Grow:</b> Help Me Grow. (n.d.). Affiliates – Help me grow national center. Retrieved on July 15, 2023, from <a href="https://helpmegrownational.org/affiliates/list/">https://helpmegrownational.org/affiliates/list/</a>.</li> </ol>
Alabama	(no additional sources)
Alaska	(no additional sources)
Arizona	(no additional sources)
Arkansas	(no additional sources)
California	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. First 5 LA. (n.d.) Strengthening Network: Welcome Baby and Home Visiting. Retrieved on July 15, 2023, from. <a href="http://welcomebaby.labestbabies.org/about-welcome-baby-and-home-visiting/">http://welcomebaby.labestbabies.org/about-welcome-baby-and-home-visiting/</a></li> </ol>

State	Source
Colorado	1. Illuminate Colorado. (2022). Family Connects Colorado to Offer Free Home Visiting to All Families Starting Late 2022. <a href="https://www.illuminatecolorado.org/family-connects-colorado-to-offer-free-home-visiting-to-all-families-starting-late-2022/">https://www.illuminatecolorado.org/family-connects-colorado-to-offer-free-home-visiting-to-all-families-starting-late-2022/</a>
Connecticut	1. S.B. 986, 2023 Leg., Reg. Sess., (Conn., 2023).
Delaware	(no additional sources)
District of Columbia	(no additional sources)
Florida	1. S.B. 2500, 125 <sup>th</sup> Leg., Reg. Sess., (Fla. 2023).
Georgia	(no additional sources)
Hawaii	1. State of Hawaii, Department of Health. (n.d.) Healthy Start Program. Retrieved on July 15, 2023, from <a href="https://health.hawaii.gov/mchb/home/healthy-start-program/">https://health.hawaii.gov/mchb/home/healthy-start-program/</a>
Idaho	(no additional sources)
Illinois	1. S.B. 250, 103 <sup>rd</sup> Leg., Reg. Sess., (Ill. 2023).
Indiana	(no additional sources)
Iowa	1. Iowa Department of Public Health. (n.d.). Welcome to 1 <sup>st</sup> Five. Retrieved July 15, 2023, from <a href="https://idph.iowa.gov/1stfive">https://idph.iowa.gov/1stfive</a>
Kansas	(no additional sources)
Kentucky	(no additional sources)
Louisiana	(no additional sources)
Maine	1. L.D. 545, 131 <sup>st</sup> Leg., Reg. Sess., (Me. 2023).
Maryland	1. The Office of Governor Larry Hogan. (2021). <i>Governor Hogan announces launch of \$72 million maternal and child health care initiative</i> . <a href="https://governor.maryland.gov/2021/07/06/governor-hogan-announces-launch-of-72-million-maternal-and-child-health-care-initiative/">https://governor.maryland.gov/2021/07/06/governor-hogan-announces-launch-of-72-million-maternal-and-child-health-care-initiative/</a>
Massachusetts	1. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Health. (n.d.). Welcome Family. Retrieved on July 15, 2023 from <a href="https://www.mass.gov/welcome-family">https://www.mass.gov/welcome-family</a> 2. S. 672, 193 <sup>rd</sup> Leg., Reg. Sess., (Mass. 2023). 3. H. 985, 193 <sup>rd</sup> Leg., Reg. Sess., (Mass. 2023).
Michigan	(no additional sources)
Minnesota	1. First Born. (n.d.) Welcome to the First Born Program. Retrieved on July 15, 2023, from <a href="https://firstbornprogram.org/">https://firstbornprogram.org/</a>
Mississippi	(no additional sources)
Missouri	1. H.B. 3005, 2023 Leg., Reg. Sess., (Mo. 2023).
Montana	(no additional sources)
Nebraska	(no additional sources)
Nevada	(no additional sources)
New Hampshire	(no additional sources)
New Jersey	1. S. 690, 219 <sup>th</sup> Leg., Reg. Sess., (N.J. 2021). 2. S. 2024, 220 <sup>th</sup> Leg., Reg. Sess., (N.J. 2023).
New Mexico	1. First Born. (n.d.) Welcome to the First Born Program. Retrieved on July 15, 2023, from <a href="https://firstbornprogram.org/">https://firstbornprogram.org/</a>
New York	(no additional sources)
North Carolina	1. H. 885, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (N.C. 2023).
North Dakota	(no additional sources)
Ohio	(no additional sources)
Oklahoma	1. K. Friedman, Family Connects International, personal communication, July 22, 2021.

State	Source
Oregon	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. S.B. 526, 80th Leg., Reg. Sess., (Or. 2019).</li> <li>2. C. Wilcox, Family Connects International, personal communication, August 12, 2022.</li> <li>3. H.B. 3444, 82<sup>nd</sup> Leg., Reg. Sess., (Or. 2023).</li> <li>4. Children’s Institute. (2023). <i>Oregon Legislative Update 2023</i>. <a href="https://childinst.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/2023-Oregon-Legislative-Update_3-pager-1.pdf">https://childinst.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/2023-Oregon-Legislative-Update_3-pager-1.pdf</a></li> </ol>
Pennsylvania	(no additional sources)
Rhode Island	(no additional sources)
South Carolina	(no additional sources)
South Dakota	(no additional sources)
Tennessee	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tennessee Department of Health. (n.d.). <i>Welcome Baby</i>. Retrieved on July 15, 2023, from. <a href="https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/fhw/early-childhood-program/welcome-baby.html">https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/fhw/early-childhood-program/welcome-baby.html</a></li> </ol>
Texas	(no additional sources)
Utah	(no additional sources)
Vermont	(no additional sources)
Virginia	(no additional sources)
Washington	(no additional sources)
West Virginia	(no additional sources)
Wisconsin	(no additional sources)
Wyoming	(no additional sources)

## Measure 2: Medicaid funding for comprehensive screening and connection programs

### Definition:

Yes/No the state uses Medicaid funding to support comprehensive screening and connection programs.

### Notes:

1. Medicaid funding data for Family Connects are as of August 1, 2023.
2. We were unable to update funding information for DULCE and HealthySteps for Roadmap 2023. Previously collected data from Roadmap 2021 is provided.

## Measure 3: State funding for comprehensive screening and connection programs

### Definition:

Yes/No the state uses direct state funding to support comprehensive screening and connection programs.

### Notes:

1. State funding data for Family Connects are as of August 1, 2023.
2. We were unable to update funding information for DULCE and HealthySteps for Roadmap 2023. Previously collected data from Roadmap 2021 is provided.

## Sources for Measures 2 and 3:

1. DULCE: P. Hampton, Center for the Study of Social Policy, personal communication, June 16, 2021.
2. Family Connects: K. Friedman, Family Connects International, personal communication, March 30, 2023.
3. HealthySteps: J. Tracey, ZEROTOTHREE, personal communication, August 5, 2021

### How does access to comprehensive screening and connection programs vary across states?

Data were collected for two different measures to assess how states vary in their implementation of comprehensive screening and connection programs. We performed outreach to each of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection program models — DULCE, Family Connects, and HealthySteps — to collect which states the programs operate in, how many sites in each state, and the number of families served in each state by the program model. To assess the share of families served in a state, we calculated the percentage of families served using service data from the three program models, total births data from the CDC Vital Statistics, and population estimates for the number of children under age 4 from the Census Bureau. Additional details on the calculation of this measure can be found below (see Measure 6). The datasets, calculations, and sources referenced for each state are listed below.

#### Measure 4: Number of program sites

##### Definition:

The number of program model sites serving families in each state

##### Notes:

Data were provided by DULCE for sites as of 2022, by Family Connects for sites as of 2022, and by HealthySteps for sites as of 2022.

##### Sources:

1. **DULCE:** P. Hampton, Center for the Study of Social Policy, personal communication, September 8, 2023.
2. **Family Connects:** K. Friedman, Family Connects International, personal communication, March 30, 2023.
3. **HealthySteps:** R. Briggs, ZEROTOTHREE, personal communication, July 13, 2022 and L. Ptucha, ZEROTOTHREE, personal communication, June 26, 2023.

#### Measure 5: Percentage of children/families served

##### Definition:

The percentage of children/families served in one of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs out of all children/families in the state, by program model

##### Notes:

1. **Numerator:** The number of children or families served by the evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection program
2. **Denominator:** The total number of births/children through age 3 in each state in which the evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs operates.
3. Number served data were provided by DULCE, Family Connects, and HealthySteps as of 2022.

4. The percentage of families served by DULCE is calculated by dividing the number of participants in DULCE in the state in 2021 by the number of all births in the state in 2022. The total number of births in a state in 2022 is determined from CDC Vital Statistics provisional birth data.
5. The percentage of families served by Family Connects is calculated by dividing the number of participants in Family Connects in the state in 2022 by the number of all births in the state in 2022. The total number of births in a state in 2022 is determined from CDC Vital Statistics provisional birth data.
6. The percentage of children served by HealthySteps is calculated by dividing the number of participants in HealthySteps in the state in 2022 by the number of children under age 4 in the state in 2022. The total number of children in a state in 2022 is determined from Census Bureau's Population Estimates dataset (2022 vintage). In 2021, HealthySteps asked sites, "Approximately how many children birth – 3 are seen at this practice annually?" Children up to age 4 can be included in this count, so we included children up to age 4 in the denominator of this measure.<sup>1</sup>

**Sources:**

1. **DULCE** P. Hampton, Center for the Study of Social Policy, personal communication, September 8, 2023.
2. **Family Connects**: K. Friedman, Family Connects International, personal communication, March 30, 2023.
3. **HealthySteps**: R. Briggs, ZEROTOTHREE, personal communication, July 13, 2022 and L. Ptucha, ZEROTOTHREE, personal communication, June 26, 2023..
4. **Children through age 3**: Census Bureau, Population Division. (2023). *Annual state resident population estimates for 6 race groups (5 race alone groups and two or more races) by age, sex, and Hispanic origin: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022 – sc-est2022-alldata6.csv* [Data Set]. Retrieved June 23, 2023 from <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/2020s-state-detail.html>.
5. **Number of Births**: Hamilton, Brady E., Martin, Joyce A., & Osterman, Michelle J.K. (June 2022). Births: Provisional data for 2022. Vital Statistics Rapid Release Report Number 28. National Center for Health Statistics, Hyattsville, MD. <https://dx.doi.org/10.15620/cdc:127052>

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<sup>1</sup> R. Briggs, ZEROTOTHREE, personal communication, August 24, 2022.