VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

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Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap 2025

COMPREHENSIVE SCREENING AND CONNECTION PROGRAMS

What progress have states made in the last year to increase access to comprehensive screening and connection programs?

State	State Context and Policy Progress
Alabama	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No
	Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No
	Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No
	State Context and Policy Update Families in Alabama do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.
	In the last year, Alabama did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.
Alaska	Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No
	Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No
	Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No
	State Context and Policy Update Families in Alaska do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.
	In the last year, Alaska did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Arizona

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in Arizona uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

In 2024, Arizona was one of 22 states in which families could access HealthySteps. HealthySteps served nearly 8,700 families, or 2.7% of children through age 3, across 13 sites.

In the last year, Arizona did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Arkansas

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in Arkansas uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Arkansas have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2024, Arkansas was one of 19 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 160 families, or 0.5% of births, at the state's lone site. Family Connects in Arkansas is supported by local philanthropy.

In 2024, Arkansas was also one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served nearly 8,400 families, or 5.9% of children through age 3, across five sites.

In the last year, Arkansas did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

California

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE and HealthySteps programs in California use Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE and HealthySteps programs in California use state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

Families in California have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs, as well as the state's own alternative model. In 2024, California was one of six states in which families could access DULCE. DULCE served 367 families, or 0.1% of births, across four sites.

In 2024, California was also one of 22 states in which families could access HealthySteps. HealthySteps served nearly 37,700 families, or 2.3% of children through age 3, across 21 sites.

California's alternative comprehensive screening and connection program, Welcome Baby, has been implemented in 12 Los Angeles County hospitals. The program offers universal prenatal and postpartum home visits, as well as one hospital visit immediately following the birth, to facilitate support and service connection to all families. The program, however, has not yet been rigorously evaluated. Families in California also have access to Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, California did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Colorado

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? Yes. Colorado used American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for initial start-up costs of the Family Connects programs in four counties. In the last year, the state appropriated funding to expand and maintain services in 11 total counties.

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in Colorado uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program and HealthySteps program in Colorado use state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Colorado have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2024, Colorado was one of 19 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 770 families, or 1.2% of births, across four sites.

In 2024, Colorado was also one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 41,500 families, or 16.7% of children through age 3, across 27 sites.

In the last year, legislators enacted S.B. 206, a budget bill that appropriates \$2.5 million in general funds to continue the expansion of Family Connects across 11 counties. The program had previously been piloted with ARPA funds in Boulder, Denver, Eagle, and Jefferson counties. In 2024, state funds were appropriated to launch expansion into Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Garfield, Mesa, Pitkin, and Weld counties over the ensuing five years. Funding appropriated in 2025 will continue this expansion.

Connecticut

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? Yes. In 2021, legislators allocated \$8 million of the state's American Rescue Plan Act funds to start a statewide Family Connects program, and the state opened its first site in 2024. Connecticut is exploring sustainable financing to support its statewide expansion of Family Connects beyond 2026.

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Connecticut have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2024, Connecticut was one of 19 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served nearly 240 families, or 0.7% of births, at the state's lone site in 2024 and expanded to an additional location in 2025. Family Connects in Connecticut is supported by federal funding.

In 2024, Connecticut was also one of 22 states in which families could access HealthySteps. HealthySteps served nearly 550 families, or 0.4% of children through age 3, at the state's lone site. HealthySteps in Connecticut is supported by federal funding.

Families in Connecticut also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, legislators enacted S.B. 6, which will require the Office of Early Childhood's Child Development Infoline to include information about the Help Me Grow program, effective July 2025.

Delaware

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Delaware do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Previously, families had access to HealthySteps, but according to HealthySteps data, there are no longer any sites in the state. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Delaware did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

District of Columbia

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in the District of Columbia uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

In 2024, the District of Columbia was one of 22 states in which families could access HealthySteps. HealthySteps served nearly 3,900 families, or 12.2% of children through age 3, across eight sites.

Families in the District of Columbia also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, the District of Columbia did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Florida

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in Florida uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE and HealthySteps programs in Florida use state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Florida have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2024, Florida was one of six states in which families could access DULCE. DULCE served over 60 families, or just 0.03% of births at the state's lone site.

In 2024, Florida was also one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 11,600 families, or 1.3% of children through age 3, across 17 sites.

Families in Florida also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Florida did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Georgia Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Georgia do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Georgia did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings. Hawaii Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Hawaii do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Healthy Start, provided by the Hawaii Department of Health, Maternal and Child Health Branch. Healthy Start supports at-risk families with newborns through home visits and connects those families with necessary community resources. To date, the program has not been rigorously evaluated. In the last year, Hawaii did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings. Idaho Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Idaho do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs, nor a state alternative model. In the last year, Idaho did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Illinois

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps programs in Illinois use Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in Illinois uses state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Illinois have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2024, Illinois was one of 19 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 3,800 families, or 3.1% of births, across eight sites.

In 2024, Illinois was also one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served nearly 18,900 families, or 3.6% of children through age 3, across six sites.

In the last year, Illinois did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Indiana

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Indiana do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Indiana did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Iowa

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in Iowa uses state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

In 2024, Iowa was one of 19 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served nearly 740 families, or 2.0% of births, at the state's lone site.

Families in Iowa also have access to an alternative connection program, 1st Five Iowa. The program is a partnership between the Iowa Department of Public Health and primary care providers across 88 Iowa counties. Primary care providers universally screen children ages birth to 5 during well-child visits and then refer identified children to a 1st Five Developmental Support Specialist who links the child to appropriate services and follows up with the family on a regular basis. The program, however, has not yet been rigorously evaluated.

In the last year, Iowa did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Kansas

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Kansas do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Kansas did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Kentucky Does the state have a connection programs s

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Kentucky do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Previously, families had access to DULCE, but according to DULCE data, there are no longer any sites in the state, and therefore, there is no Medicaid or state funding being used to support comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Kentucky did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Louisiana

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

In 2024, Louisiana was one of 19 states in which families could access Family Connects. Family Connects served over 570 families, or 1.1% of births, at the state's lone site. Family Connects in Louisiana is supported by local public health funding.

In the last year, Louisiana did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Maine

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Maine do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Maine did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Maryland

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in Maryland uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in Maryland uses state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Maryland have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2024, Maryland was one of 19 states in which families could access Family Connects. Family Connects served nearly 1,800 families, or 2.7% of births, across three sites.

In 2024, Maryland was also one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served nearly 3,400 families, or 1.2% of children through age 3, across five sites.

In the last year, legislators enacted H.B. 334 and S.B. 156, which will establish the Workgroup on Newborn Home Visiting Services, charged with identifying service gaps, potential funding sources, and workforce needs. The workgroup must include one representative from each site in the state that is implementing an evidence-based universal nurse home visiting model, which includes both Family Connects and HealthySteps sites. The workgroup must submit a report to the legislature by the end of 2025.

Massachusetts

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in Massachusetts uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No.

State Context and Policy Update

In 2024, Massachusetts was one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served nearly 14,600 families, or 5.2% of children through age 3, across eight sites.

Families in Massachusetts also have access to an alternative connection program, Welcome Family, which was launched in 2013. Welcome Family offers one free, universal postpartum home visit with an experienced nurse, as well as one follow-up call, to facilitate support and service connection. Welcome Family is funded by the federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program funds and state support. The program, however, has not yet been rigorously evaluated.

In the last year, Massachusetts did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Michigan

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Michigan do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Michigan did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Minnesota

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects and HealthySteps programs in Minnesota use Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in Minnesota uses state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Minnesota have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2024, Minnesota was one of 19 states in which families could access Family Connects. Family Connects served over 600 families, or 1% of births, at the state's lone site.

In 2024, Minnesota was also one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 8,700 families, or 3.4% of children through age 3, across two sites.

Families in Minnesota also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Minnesota did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Mississippi

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in Mississippi uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in Mississippi uses state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

In 2024, Mississippi was one of six states in which families could access DULCE. DULCE served over 70 families, or 0.2% of births, at the state's lone site.

Families in Mississippi also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Mississippi did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Missouri

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program, which launched its first site in Missouri in 2024, now uses state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Missouri have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2024, Missouri was one of 19 states in which families could access Family Connects. Family Connects served nearly 420 families, or 0.6% of births, at the state's lone site which launched in May 2024.

In 2024, Missouri was also one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served 2,460 families, or 0.9% of children through age 3, at the state's lone site. HealthySteps in Missouri is supported by local public health funding.

Families in Missouri also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Missouri did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Montana

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

In 2024, Montana was one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served 600 families, or 1.3% of children through age 3, at the state's lone site.

In the last year, Montana did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Nebraska Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in Nebraska uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update In 2024, Nebraska was one of 19 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served nearly 800 families, or 3.2% of births, at the state's lone site. Families in Nebraska also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Nebraska did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings. Nevada Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No **State Context and Policy Update** Families in Nevada do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs, nor a state alternative model. In the last year, Nevada did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

New Hampshire

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

Families in New Hampshire do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, New Hampshire did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

New Jersey

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? Yes. In January 2024, Family Connects launched sites in Essex, Middlesex, Mercer, Gloucester, and Cumberland counties, and expanded to new sites in Bergen, Hudson, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, and Sussex counties in early 2025.

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in New Jersey uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in New Jersey uses state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

Families in New Jersey have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2024, New Jersey was one of 19 states in which families could access Family Connects. Family Connects served more than 1,740 families, or 1.7% of births, across four sites.

In 2024, New Jersey was also one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 3,000 families, or 0.7% of children through age 3, across five sites.

Families in New Jersey also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, New Jersey did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

New Mexico

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program, which launched its first site in New Mexico in late 2024, uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program, which launched its first site in New Mexico in late 2024, uses state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

Families in New Mexico have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2024, New Mexico was one of six states in which families could access DULCE. DULCE served 3 families at the state's lone site that opened in the final months of 2024.

In 2024, New Mexico was also one of 19 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 410 families, or 2.0% of births, at the state's lone site. Family Connects in New Mexico is supported by local public health funds.

Families also have access to an alternative connection program, First Born. First Born is a universal home visiting program that offers prenatal and postpartum visits for first-time parents with children up to age 5. The state-supported program began in Grant County, New Mexico in 1997 and has since expanded to nine counties. Although First Born may include up to 40 home visits, the model also screens and provides families with resources and connections to services. The program, however, has not yet been rigorously evaluated.

In the last year, legislators appropriated \$450,900 in state general funds for Fiscal Year 2026 to support the First Born program.

New York

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in New York uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in New York uses state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

In 2024, New York was one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 112,500 families, or 13.5% of children through age 3, across 72 sites.

Families in New York also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, legislators introduced A.B. 1963 and S.B. 6469, which would have required the development of a statewide program to provide universal newborn home visiting. The bill would have also required health insurers to cover services provided through the program. These bills did not pass this session.

North Carolina

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No.

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in North Carolina uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in North Carolina uses state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

Families in North Carolina have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2024, North Carolina was one of 19 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 3,400 families, or 2.8% of births, across three sites.

In 2024, North Carolina was also one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served nearly 25,300 families, or 5.1% of children through age 3, across 15 sites. HealthySteps in North Carolina is supported by local philanthropy and federal funds.

In the last year, North Carolina did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

North Dakota

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

Families in North Dakota do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs, nor a state alternative model.

In the last year, North Dakota did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Ohio

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? Yes. In 2024, Governor DeWine announced plans to establish a statewide universal nurse home visiting program using the Family Connects model. The program launched in early 2025 in eleven counties, with plans for further expansion.

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The HealthySteps program in Ohio uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

In 2024, Ohio was one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 15,700 families, or 3.0% of children through age 3, across 12 sites.

Family Connects launched in Ohio in early 2025 in eleven counties. Access data are not yet available for those sites. Families in Ohio also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, legislators enacted H.B. 7, which directs the Department of Children and Youth to enter into interagency agreements to help support the implementation of the Help Me Grow program and to maximize all possible reimbursements from federal sources. Additionally, Governor DeWine's proposed budget included additional funding for both Help me Grow and the expansion of Family Connects. The final enacted budget, H.B. 96, increased Help Me Grow funding by \$21.5 million, but failed to further expand funding for Family Connects as the Governor had requested.

Oklahoma

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Oklahoma have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2024, Oklahoma was one of 19 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served nearly 1,600 families, or 3.3% of births, at the state's lone site. Family Connects in Oklahoma is supported by local philanthropy.

In 2024, Oklahoma was also one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 17,300 families, or 8.9% of children through age 3, across 14 sites. HealthySteps in Oklahoma is supported by federal funds and local philanthropy.

Families in Oklahoma also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Oklahoma did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Oregon

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? Yes. Oregon is expanding Family Connects statewide after passing legislation in 2019. The program is currently available in ten counties.

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects and HealthySteps programs in Oregon use Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program uses state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Oregon have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2024, Oregon was one of 19 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 1,700 families, or 4.5% of births, across 10 sites.

In 2024, Oregon was also one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served 2,700 families, or 1.7% of children through age 3, at the state's lone site.

Families in Oregon also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Oregon did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Pennsylvania

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Pennsylvania have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2024, Pennsylvania was one of 19 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 280 families, or 0.2% of births, across the state's lone site that opened for the first time in 2024. Family Connects in Pennsylvania is supported by local public health funding.

In 2024, Pennsylvania was also one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served 3,400 families, or 0.6% of children through age 3, across two sites. HealthySteps in Pennsylvania is supported by federal funds and local philanthropy.

In the last year, Pennsylvania did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Rhode Island

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in Rhode Island uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in Rhode Island uses state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

In 2024, Rhode Island was one of six states in which families could access DULCE. DULCE served over 160 families, or 1.6% of births, across three sites.

In the last year, Rhode Island did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

South Carolina

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects program in South Carolina uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects and HealthySteps programs in South Carolina use state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

Families in South Carolina have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection models. In 2024, South Carolina was one of 19 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served nearly 2,400 families, or 4.1% of births, across two sites.

In 2024, South Carolina was also one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served over 9,200 families, or 3.9% of children through age 3, across nine sites.

Families in South Carolina also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, South Carolina did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

South Dakota Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in South Dakota do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs, nor a state alternative model. In the last year, South Dakota did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings. Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and Tennessee connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Tennessee do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to two alternative, statewide connection program models. Welcome Baby, which began in 2013, connects families with necessary community resources by providing an informational packet via mail and potential follow-up phone calls and outreach for families with newborns. Families also have access to Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. Though Tennessee did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings, the state did launch a HealthySteps program through Allied Behavioral Health

Systems in October 2024. The rollout is ongoing and updated service data are not currently available.

Texas

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects and HealthySteps programs in Texas use Medicaid funds, among other funding sources.

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects and HealthySteps programs in Texas use state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Texas have access to two of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. In 2024, Texas was one of 19 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 1,900 families, or 0.5% of births, across five sites.

In 2024, Texas was also one of 22 states in which families could access the HealthySteps model. HealthySteps served more than 7,000 families, or 0.4% of children through age 3, across seven sites.

Families in Texas also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Texas did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Utah

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

Families in Utah do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Utah did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Vermont Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? Yes Vermont is using federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Transforming Pediatrics for Early Childhood agreement funds to expand the reach of DULCE statewide. Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in Vermont uses Medicaid funds, among other funding sources. Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The DULCE program in Vermont uses state funding, among other funding sources. State Context and Policy Update In 2024, Vermont was one of six states in which families could access the DULCE model. DULCE served over 740 families, or 14.7% of births, across nine sites. Families in Vermont also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Vermont did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings. Virginia Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Virginia do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and

In the last year, Virginia did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening

connection programs, nor a state alternative model.

and connection program offerings.

Washington

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? Yes. The Family Connects model in Washington uses state funding, among other funding sources.

State Context and Policy Update

In 2024, Washington was one of 19 states in which families could access the Family Connects model. Family Connects served over 680 families, or 0.8% of births, at the state's lone site.

Families also have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, Washington did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

West Virginia

Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No

Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No

State Context and Policy Update

Families in West Virginia do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources.

In the last year, West Virginia did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Wisconsin Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No **State Context and Policy Update** Families in Wisconsin do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs. Families do, however, have access to an alternative connection program model, Help Me Grow, which serves as a guide to community service providers for families seeking resources. In the last year, Wisconsin did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings. Wyoming Does the state have a goal to implement evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs statewide? No Does the state use Medicaid funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No Does the state use direct state funding to support evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs? No State Context and Policy Update Families in Wyoming do not have access to any of the three evidence-based comprehensive screening and connection programs, nor a state alternative model. In the last year, Wyoming did not take any legislative or regulatory action to enhance its comprehensive screening and connection program offerings.

Find additional information on the methods and sources used throughout the Roadmap and for each state.