

326M Child Find Model Demonstration

Mary Beth Bruder, University of Connecticut UCEDD

Bethanne Vergean, University of Connecticut UCEDD



2023 OSEP LEADERSHIP AND PROJECT DIRECTORS' CONFERENCE





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Project Officer: Yolanda Lusane / Yolanda.Lusane@ed.gov



Three Child Find Model Demonstration Projects

Connecticut Family Support, Tracking and Referral System (CT Family STARS)

Child Find ACCESS: Advancing Community-Centered, Equity-Focused Child Find Systems and Supports

Collective Impact Model for IDEA Part C Child Find (CIM-C)

Connecticut Family Support, Tracking And Referral System (CT Family Stars)

UCONN Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities and
Connecticut Office of Early Childhood

Purpose: Build state and community capacity to develop, demonstrate, evaluate, and replicate an interagency system to track, identify, screen, refer or monitor infants and toddlers at risk for, or having a delay or disability in CT.

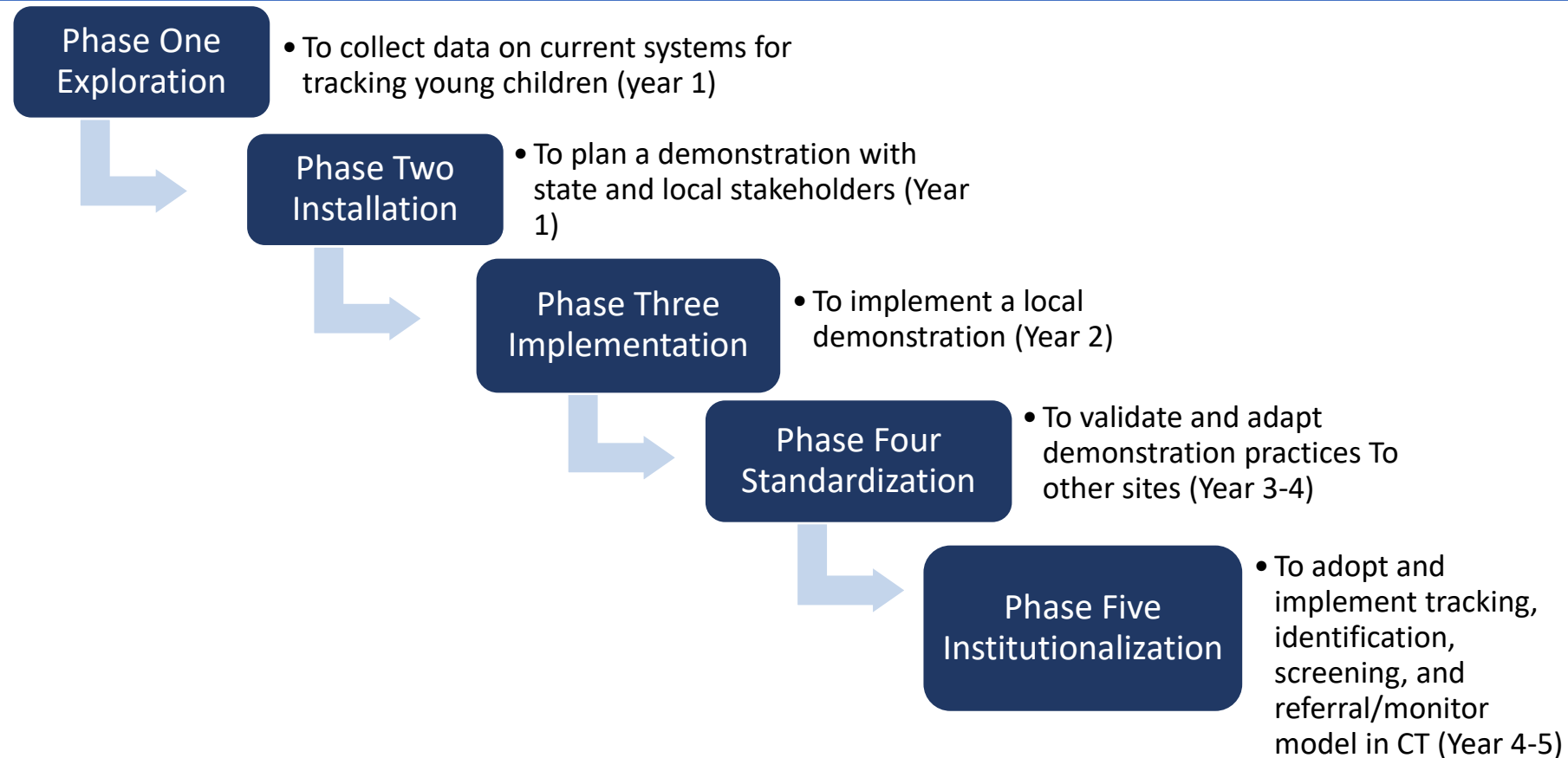


Model Elements

- Implement Integrated data system across state systems for tracking and screening children from birth, or system entry
- Use Ages and Stages Questionnaire to identify and monitor children's development using a mobile app called Sparkler (and other options for families)
- Parent to Parent outreach to increase parent/caregiver participation in the tracking, identification, screening, referral or monitoring, and evaluation of services for their child



Implementation Phases



Phase 1 : Exploration

Focus Groups

- Birth to Three Providers
- Families receiving Early Intervention
- Families not eligible for Early Intervention
- Families with no development concerns

Survey

- Pediatricians
- Child Care



Families never referred to Birth to Three ($n=20$)

12 African American 5 Latinx and 2 Asian (southeast) Children ages 6 months to 2 years
Focus groups

- 20 families feel their pediatrician listens to their developmental concerns if they have any.
- 18 families say their pediatrician asks them questions on their child's development
- 16 families said their child has had a formal screening.
- Only 4 of families said the pediatrician conducted this screening.
- 2 of families said that the pediatrician completed the screening.
- 13 of families said their child does not attend an Early Childhood Program.
- 18 of families said they were not familiar with 211 Child Development Infoline.



Families Received Birth to Three Services $n=15$

12 African American (80%) 3 White (20%) Children age 9 mo to 4 yrs

3 Focus Groups

- 12 parents had a referral from a pediatrician
- 3 parents contacted 211 after teacher concerns.

(None of parents identified a developmental screening was administered).

- 15 parents had an assessment with a team conducted in the home or child-care with at least 2 service delivery providers from different backgrounds such as a speech and language therapist and an early childhood special education teacher.
- 11 of parents felt B23 staff ask for their input during the assessment.
- 15 parents said the results from the assessment was shared with them.
- 13 parents said the B23 staff review the IFSP process
 - 2 parents stated they were confused by the acronyms and can not remember



Continued

- 7 parents said overall process identified and assessed for early intervention was positive.
- 8 parents felt the overall process of identification and then assessed for eligibility for early intervention services was hard.
 - The process was hard because the timeline in between treatment and receiving test results was more than 45 plus days in between each.
 - Parents feel like providers need to be more engaged with the children, need more service time. The staff is excellent with the children once they were in the home.
 - Parents wished they knew about the other B-3 organizations.



Families not eligible Birth to Three Services *n=13*

8 African American (80%) 5 Latinx (20%) Children age 9 months to 2 years
3 Focus Groups

- 11 parents had a referral from a pediatrician 2 parents contacted 211 after they had concerns
- 13 parents had assessment schedule with Birth to Three; however was not eligible services
- 7 parents were still concerned about your child's development
- 10 parents were not aware that if they still had concerns they can refer by calling 211
- 8 parents stated they would find it helpful if more resources were provided after not being eligible for services
- 6 parents stated they would like a follow up from a partner agency.
- 6 parents signed up for Sparkler and completes ASQ.



Birth to Three Providers (n=12)

(n=12) 12 (100%) White

- 7 said their role in Early Intervention was as a Special Education Teacher tied with 5 who said they were Occupational Therapists.
- 8 said office coordinator/intake coordinator/secretary/program coordinator/office directors get the referral in their agency for a new child/family. of respondents said they did receive a screening score.
- 3 said they know who completed the screening and 9 said they don't know who completed the screening.



- 8 of the providers have a plain written protocol to use when meeting families at an intake or evaluation that includes eligibility for services and what that means.
- 8 of respondents have a plain language written protocol to use when meeting families at an intake of evaluation that includes the IFSP and what that means.



Phase Two: Installation



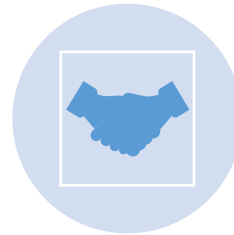
Convene a state steering committee.



Finalize the local demonstration site as Hartford.



Collect information about current identification, screening, referral and tracking procedures in Hartford.



Convene a group of state and local stakeholders to develop a strategic plan to implement a community demonstration on identification, screening, referral and tracking children age birth to 3.



Phase Two: Installation

- Hartford Demo site: Strategic Planning
- 4 Workgroups
 - Response and Referral (Parent to Parent)
 - Screening and Tracking
 - Data Integration
 - Workforce
- Parent to Parent
 - Parent to implement screening through parent and provider applications of Ages and Stages
 - Parent to Parent Model with CT PATH
 - Parent to Parent Coordinator



Resource Spotlight

- CT Office of Early Childhood / Birth to Three Services <https://www.ctoec.org/birth-to-three/>
- UConn Center on Excellence in Disabilities <https://uconnucedd.org/>
- PATH <https://pathct.org/>

