

MCH Early Childhood Systems Initiative

Assessment Findings Checklist

Where are we now?

- √ What do you know about the families and children in your community? (i.e., annual births, numbers of preschool children, poverty rate, school readiness indicators, results of lead and developmental screenings, immunization rate, child abuse rate, numbers of children in child care, unemployment rate, insurance coverage for families, etc.)

What do we have to work with? *(Identification of Strengths and Analysis of Gaps)*

- √ What policies, programs, services, and resources are already in place locally to address identified problems for your early childhood focus area?
- √ Have these programs or services been effective for those receiving services?
- √ Are the individuals or families who should be receiving the programs, resources or services in fact receiving them and getting what they need?
- √ Are there duplicative programs, services, or resources in place attempting to address the same problem?
- √ If there are duplicative programs, services, or resources, which are effective and which may be less effective?

Where do we want to be?

- √ Are those who are implementing duplicate programs or services talking to each other about their efforts?
- √ Are there some issues that are not addressed by any program, service, or resource?

How do we get there?

- √ How could an early childhood group better address identified needs to optimize services for young children and families in your community?
- √ As a result of convening your partners and other stakeholders what needs should be address while setting priority objectives in the next year? In 2 years? In five years?
- √ As a result of convening your partners and other stakeholders what strengths will help guide your setting priority objectives in the next year? In 2 years? In five years?
- √ What state and local policies, procedures, and funding best support the community to provide programs, resources, and services?