

P R I T Z K E R

Children's Initiative

A photograph of a woman with dark hair, wearing a white and pink striped shirt, leaning forward and smiling at a baby. The baby is sitting in a white high chair, wearing a pink floral dress with a white lace collar, and is also smiling. The background is blurred, suggesting an indoor setting. The text "Pritzker Children's Initiative vision: Every child reaches kindergarten ready to learn" is overlaid on the bottom half of the image.

**Pritzker Children's Initiative vision:
Every child reaches kindergarten
ready to learn**

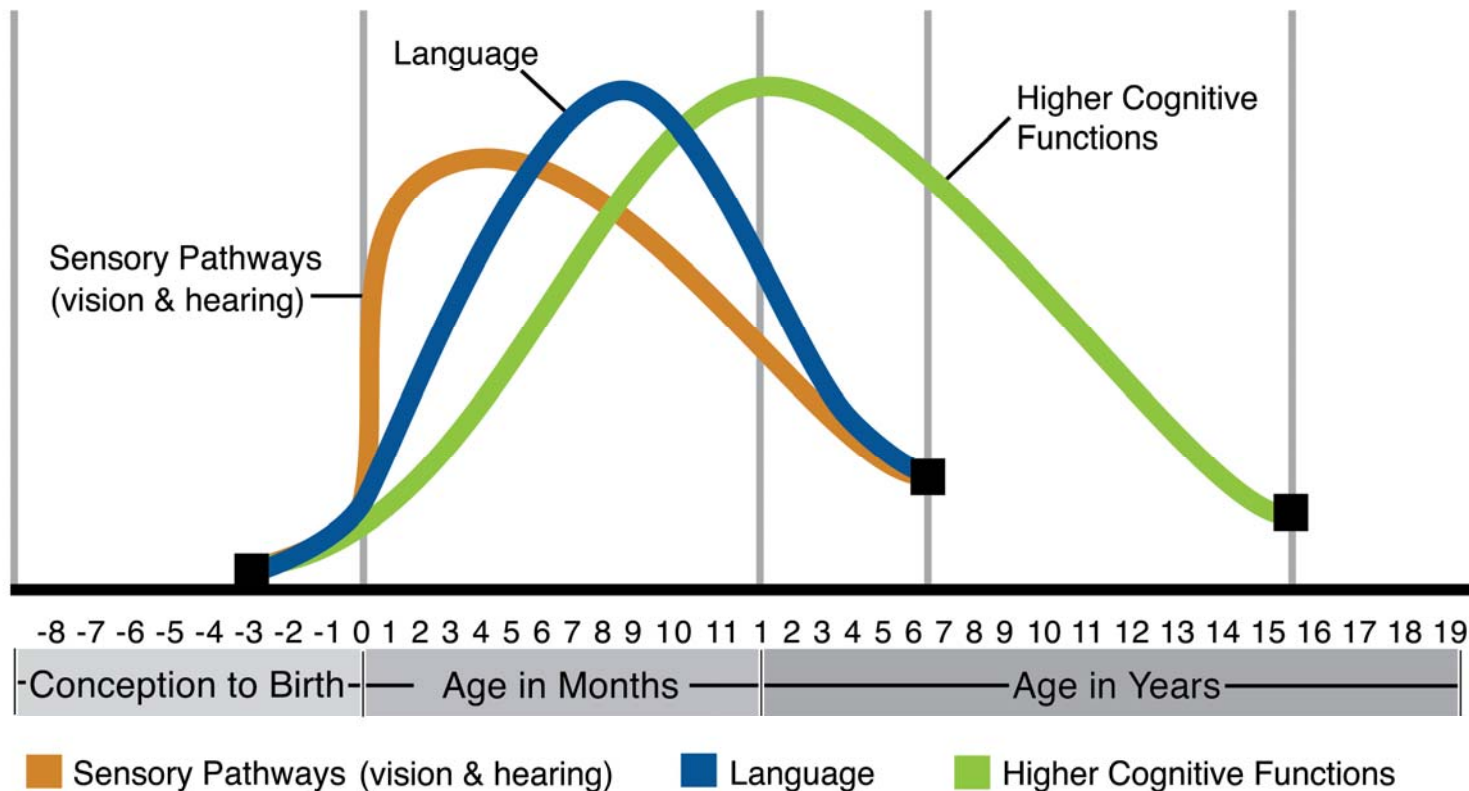


National Goal: At least one million low-income infants and toddlers and their families will be served by high quality programs by 2023.



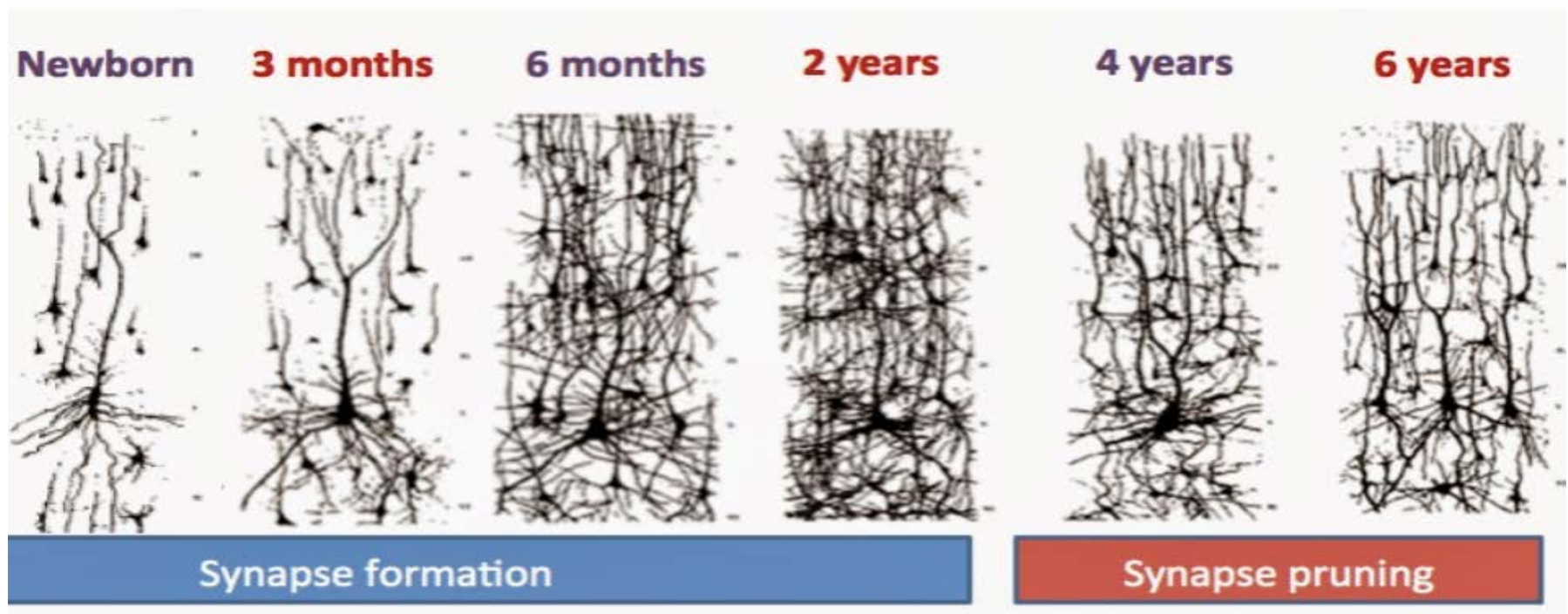
New Jersey Goal: Expanded services for nearly 29,000 infants/toddlers/families by 2023 and nearly 59,000 by 2025.

Early experiences form brain architecture.



Source: North Carolina Family Forward

Connections in the Brain



Source: Universe Review, StongNation.org/ReadyNation

NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL ON THE DEVELOPING CHILD

**Connecting the Brain to the
Rest of the Body: Early Childhood
Development and Lifelong Health
Are Deeply Intertwined**

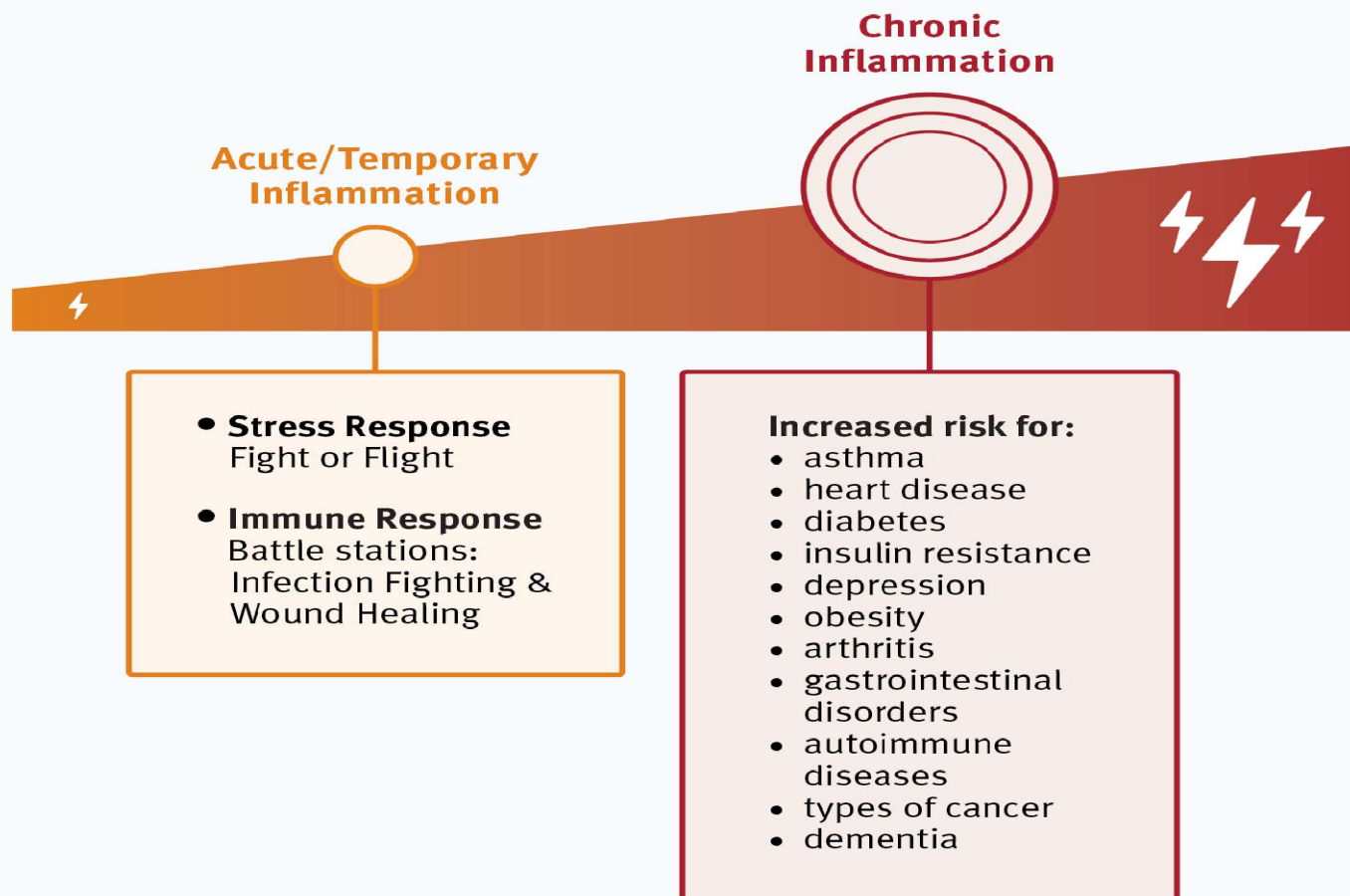
WORKING PAPER 15

15

Center on the Developing Child  HARVARD UNIVERSITY

- 1. What happens during this period (prenatal to age two) can have substantial effects on both short- and long-term outcomes in learning, behavior, and both physical and mental health.**
- 2. All of these domains are connected and the potential for learning is linked to the quality of physical and mental health.**

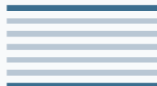
Acute to Chronic Inflammation



Adult Diseases Associated with Childhood Adversity **Dominate U.S. Health Care Costs**

Four of the top eight most costly diagnoses **total \$622 billion per year**

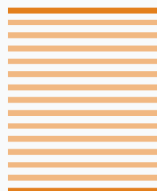
\$40 billion



Asthma

#8 MOST COSTLY

\$99 billion



Depression

#5 MOST COSTLY

\$189 billion



Diabetes

#2 MOST COSTLY

\$294 billion



Cardiovascular Conditions

#1 MOST COSTLY


SOURCES: WATERS, GRAF (MILKEN INSTITUTE, 2018); GREENBERG ET AL. (2015)

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https://46y5eh11fhgw3ve3ytpwxt9r-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/wp15_health_FINAL_061520.pdf

Emphasize PN-3 in Messaging and Policies!

Messaging:

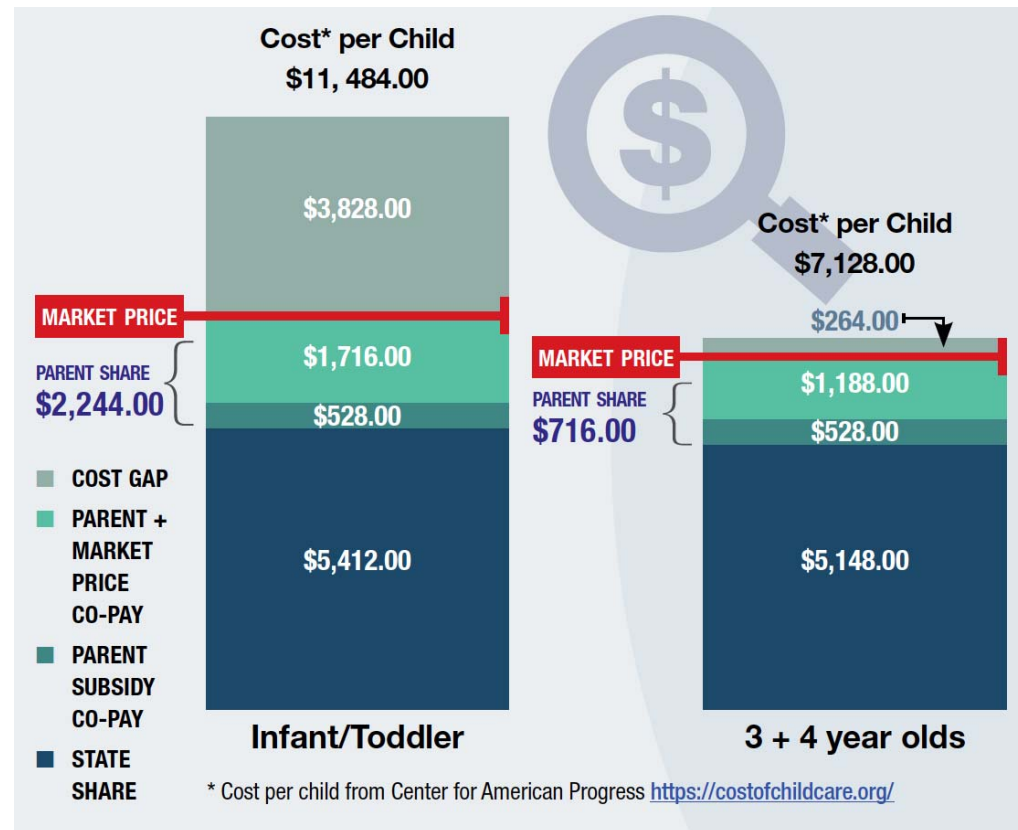
- Call out PN-3, infants, toddlers, babies, prenatal care, needs of families over and over again in your messaging.
- Call out the brain science but connect the dots on how government can help: brain development is the “why,” but they still need the “what” of specific policy interventions.
- Connect the systemic economic challenges families face with the added pressure of new parenthood.
- Be clear this is about *empowering* parents, not replacing them. Programs are voluntary.
- Talk about ROI data and real life success stories and challenges of families.

Policies:

- Don't just propose generic “early childhood” or across the board policies that are about children 0-5.
 - Make policy recommendations that are specific to the impact they will have on PN-3.
 - Child care example: Across the board percentage rate increases perpetuate the cost gap for infant toddler child care versus care for 3 and 4 year-olds.
 - Policies that target “all” children must incorporate implementation strategies that assure reach to those children and families most likely to be left behind – particularly children and families of color.
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Child Care Example: Strategic Cost Modeling + Rate-setting

Rates based on market prices often exacerbate inequity – age of child, location, quality level.

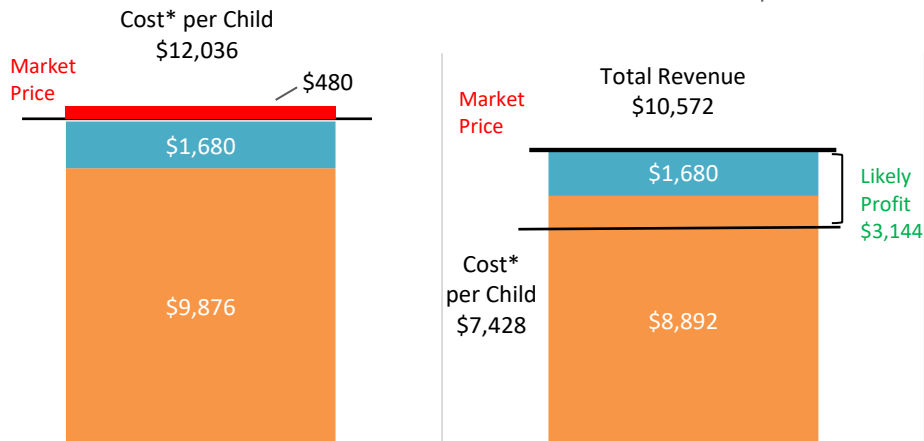


Reimbursement Payment Cost Gaps

MIN. LICENSING-SOUTHERN CITY

SINGLE MOM+CHILD@POVERTY (\$16,900)

State Share Parent subsidy co-payment Cost Gap

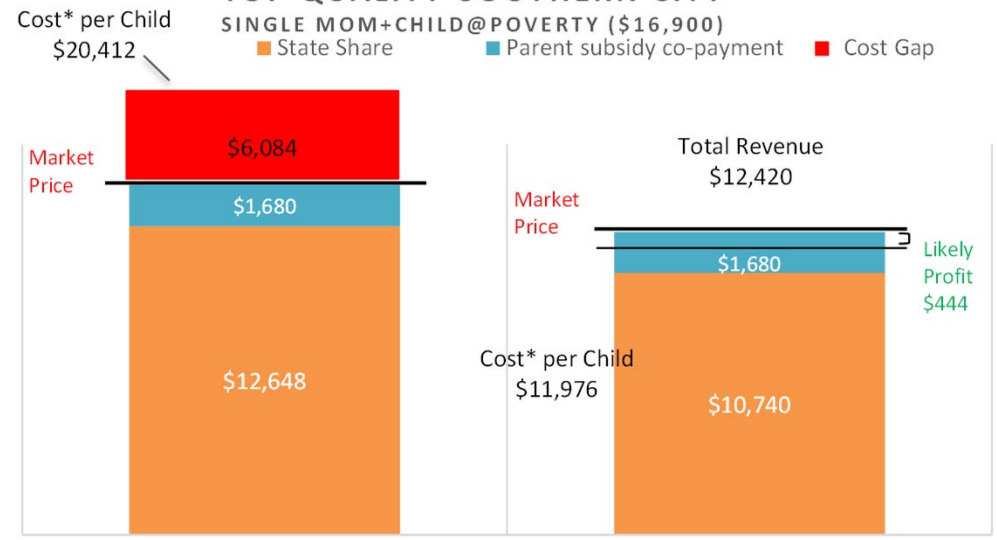


*Cost per child from Center for American Progress <https://costofchildcare.org/>

TOP QUALITY-SOUTHERN CITY

SINGLE MOM+CHILD@POVERTY (\$16,900)

State Share Parent subsidy co-payment Cost Gap



*Cost per child from Center for American Progress <https://costofchildcare.org/>

What Is Racial Equity and Why Does it Matter for Early Childhood Systems Change?

It is an intentional process that focuses on how race, ethnicity, and social class influence opportunities, outcomes, treatment, power and privilege.

It is implemented to identify, remove, and replace systemic and structural factors that perpetuate inequality for children and families.

It helps early childhood systems leaders understand how inequality is structured, target disparities, create more effective programs, and improve child and family outcomes.

Disparities and Inequalities in State Systems Serving Young Children (0-5) and Families

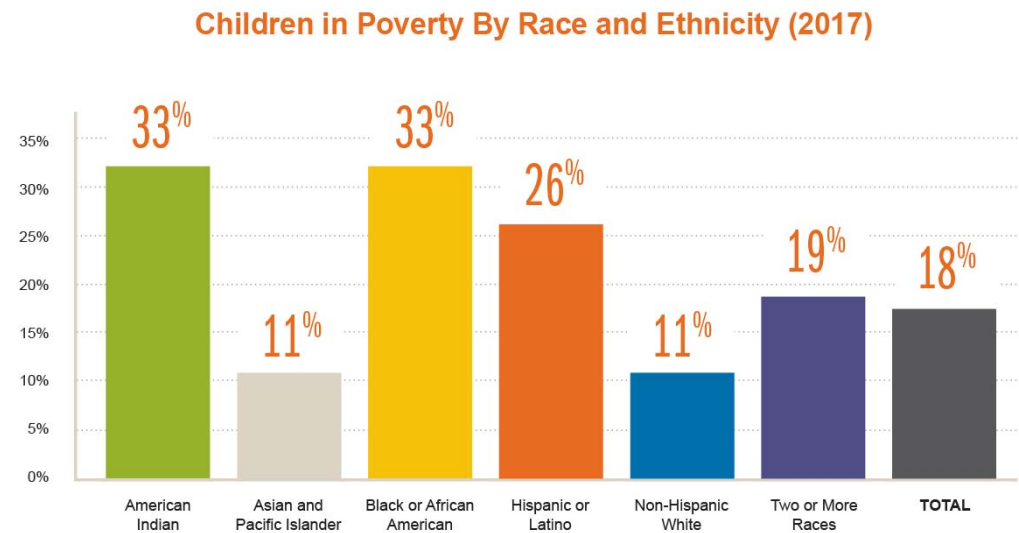
- Access
- Availability of programs
- Affordability of programs
- Eligibility to receive programs
- Culturally respectful and responsive practices
- Programs and services with language competence that matches that of families and children for whom English is not their 1st language
- Access to a highly prepared workforce that is culturally and linguistically competent
- Comprehensive wrap around services

Leaders Intentionally Use Data

Leaders use data to drive change for racial equity and improvement in early childhood systems

Disaggregating data by race, gender, and other factors helps leaders see which children are furthest from opportunity.

- Just looking at poverty alone without looking at race and poverty obscures disparities.



Source: <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/updates/show/213-child-poverty-rate-reaches-prerecession-level>



Kinshella, Matt (2016). Equity illustrated Design Contest. Meyer Memorial Trust and Northwest Health Foundation. Retrieved from: <https://mmt.org/news/equity-illustrated-3rd-place-equity-about-resources>

Equity is at the Core of Many National and State Early Childhood Initiatives

- They are designed to meet a universal goal, such as high- quality early childhood education for all children.
- But are targeted to meet the needs of particular groups of young children who may be less likely to have access to these experiences.
- Head Start
- Early Head Start
- Home Visiting
- Maternal and Child Health
- SNAP
- Child Care

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