

YOUNG CHILD WELLNESS COLLABORATIVE

PURPOSE

The role of the Young Child Wellness Collaborative (YCWC) is to provide leadership and informed recommendations that drive shared priority setting and strategic planning across the continuum of supports and services within Louisiana's Early Childhood System. The YCWC serves as the State-Level Early Childhood Advisory Team for major early childhood initiatives such as the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems and the Pediatric Mental Health Access Grants.

PRIORITIES

The YCWC seeks to support and further statewide efforts to improve developmental outcomes for young children prenatal-3, and help Louisiana families thrive. The YCWC recognizes the importance of considering all areas of development, as well as the major factors that work together to influence developmental outcomes, within the Louisiana Early Childhood System.



AREAS OF FOCUS

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

The YCWC seeks to promote family engagement in Louisiana's Early Childhood System by:

1. Creating opportunities for caregiver involvement and input and supporting their development as leaders and advocates.
2. Partnering with parents and caregivers to co-develop system improvement strategies and health education policies.
3. Expanding the traditional scope of early childhood supports and services to include resources for caregivers, when available.

SUSTAINABILITY AND GROWTH

The YCWC seeks to support the sustainability and growth of essential early childhood supports and services in Louisiana by:

1. Supporting and furthering partners' efforts to identify and obtain funding to help them contribute to the development of a coordinated, comprehensive Early Childhood System.
2. Expanding the traditional understanding of early childhood partners to include representation from a variety of sectors such as pediatric providers, perinatal providers, educators, and community programs.
3. Advocating for leaders and policy makers to prioritize children and families.

SYSTEMS ALIGNMENT

The YCWC seeks to increase alignment and strengthen linkages between supports and services across the Early Childhood System in order to create seamless transitions and coordination for families. This includes: workforce development, policies, data systems, and care coordination.

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