

# Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Network Hub Foundations



## Purpose

The Colorado Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Network Hub strengthens connections, resources, policies, and practices for mental health consultation to ensure children, families, and programs can thrive.

## Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI) Commitment

The Network Hub recognizes our country's history of systemic oppression and resulting inequities. This reality has lasting, critical impacts on the mental well-being of our families, children, and professionals.

- The Network Hub actively pursues strategies that center DEI in all its endeavors, embracing the hope of wellness for all in this approach. This includes DEI implications across practice and implementation, as well as policy and systems, in acknowledgement of the personal and institutional natures of DEI.
- Difference is not deficit; it births opportunity. We elevate voices and opportunities for all people to see themselves within the work and have meaningful connections, with the intention to seek diversity as strength and opportunity.
- All means all. DEI encompasses all people who might experience discrimination or be impacted by oppression, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, sex, gender identity, age, ability, access, sexual orientation, income, language, and religion. We recognize our shared humanity while valuing differences across cognitive, physical, social, emotional, experiential, spiritual aspects of development.

## Guiding Principles

- We build upon existing efforts and tools.
- We make data-informed decisions and utilize recent evidence and best practices.
- We ensure sustainable, consistent, quality Network Hub services.
- We advocate for culturally responsive and relevant services, centering principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, and ability.
- We strive for equitable access to services, particularly for programs and communities that are furthest from opportunity.

## Desired Results



Statewide, equitable access to high-quality ECMHC has increased



ECMHCs and supervisors are prepared, supported, and motivated to improve their practice



Infrastructure is strong, supportive of, and responsive to programs, communities, and ECMHCs



ECMHC is aligned with other ECMH efforts and supported by collaborative public-private partnerships

# ECMHC Network Hub Core Functions

## Engagement & Support



We support consultants to understand their role and the broader landscape, connect with their peers, provide tools, and share timely and relevant information. We are responsive to the needs of the network and focus on developing relationships.

## Learning & Implementation



We guide the ongoing learning and knowledge acquisition of the network to ensure high-quality and equitable consultative services.

## Leadership & Advocacy



We focus on developing diverse leaders, convening a leadership structure, and building bridges between national, state, and local levels. We monitor and catalyze policy and advocacy efforts to advance consultative roles, health equity, and early childhood.



Our Network Hubs support various consultative roles and focus on strengthening connections, resources, policies, and practices to support high-quality consultation and ensure children, families, and programs thrive.

# ECMHC Network Hub Implementation Plan 2022 – 2023

## Priorities

### Excellence in Services

With an emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion, support consultation in a continuum of excellence, from meeting requirements to excellence in practice.

### Strong Relationships

Strengthen relationships, communication, and collaborative bridges to create connection and cohesion among diverse partners.

### Proactive Advocacy

With an emphasis on communities with greatest challenges to access, utilize data and evaluation, including storytelling, to elevate the role and voices of mental health consultants to advance systemic change.

## Action Plan

### Core Function: Engagement & Support



- Offer technical assistance and develop resources
- Build relationships within and across consultative roles
- Provide technology tools and compile network data
- Disseminate communications

### Core Function: Learning & Implementation



- Align with and establish professional standards
- Ensure there are professional development offerings: training, coaching, mentoring
- Contribute to development and utilization of a consultative model, implementation, and evaluation
- Create and support workforce development strategies

### Core Function: Leadership & Advocacy



- Develop leadership and advocacy capacity to build a movement
- Build bridges between and awareness of consultative roles at national, state, and local levels
- Convene the State Leadership Team and Workgroups
- Engage in policy-making processes and advocacy opportunities

### Core Values Compass

