



Defining an ECMH System (Knitzer, 2000)

- ◆ A set of strategies and perspectives that:
 - Promote the emotional and behavioral well-being of young children
 - Help families address barriers
 - Expand the competencies of caregivers
 - Ensure that those with identified developmental difficulties are getting services



A Continuum of Supports

- ◆ Public health approach:
 - Promotion

 - Prevention

 - Intervention



What does an effective system look like at the service level?

- ◆ Services and supports that are comprehensive and coordinated
- ◆ Children and families accessing services earlier on the continuum
- ◆ Well-equipped workforces (early care and education, health, mental health, etc.)
- ◆ Connections across systems that don't typically collaborate



What does an effective system look like at the state or community level?

- ◆ Cross-systems understanding
- ◆ Joint strategic planning
- ◆ Information sharing across agencies
- ◆ Connections across systems that don't typically collaborate



What needs to be done?

- ◆ Look across systems for financing options and ways to share resources
- ◆ Develop shared, measurable systems-level goals
- ◆ Connect with existing systems-building efforts
- ◆ Create interagency partnerships for training



Resources at NCCP

- ◆ Social-emotional Development in Early Childhood: What Every Policymaker Should Know
- ◆ Promoting Young Children's Health and Development: Taking Stock of State Policies
- ◆ Promoting Social-emotional Wellbeing in Early Intervention Services: A Fifty-state View
- ◆ Supporting Parents of Young Children in the Child Welfare System



Resources at NCCP

- ◆ Indicators for Social-emotional Development in Early Childhood: A Guide for Local Stakeholders
- ◆ Forthcoming: Promoting the Social-emotional Well-being of Infants and Toddlers in Early Intervention Programs: Promising Strategies in Four Communities

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