USING THE HIPPY MODEL WITHIN HOME-BASED CHILDCARE

The Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters’ Caregivers Project is designed to improve childcare quality and school readiness skills of young children in the care of a home-based childcare provider. By developing our coordinated, content-rich curriculum and specialized training for families and home-based childcare providers, HIPPY is directly addressing the opportunity gap that exists for children in rural and undeserved communities that enter school without the necessary skills to be successful. The project includes the development of a 30-week curriculum within a guidance document that gives caregivers the tools to create a dynamic learning environment for children ages 2 through 5 while in their care. The curriculum is enhanced by one to one peer coaching in the home as well as through the inclusion of extension activities that support learning for all children in a multi-age childcare setting. The project uses the components, the delivery methodology, and the model guidance from its 30-year history of implementation and 20 years of evidence-based research.

With the support of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, our vision to improve the outcomes for pre-preschoolers in communities across the country is coming to fruition, and states like Arkansas, Alabama, Texas, and Colorado will be some of the first states to implement this resource to its communities and to share data about the project’s preliminary outcomes. Stated outcomes include:

- Parents and home-based child care providers will gain knowledge of child development and age-appropriate activities for children ages two to five as measured by parent and caregiver survey tools.
- Parents and caregivers will increase the time spent reading, teaching and talking with the young children in their care, as measured by pre- and post-parent and caregiver survey tools.
- Children will gain skills in key developmental areas based on pre- and post-testing using age appropriate assessments.
- Home-based providers will be better prepared to improve early learning opportunities for the two- to five-year-old children in their care.

Milestones

- Developed 15 weeks of curricular resources for home-based, family childcare providers and parents (16-30 expected by April 2020).
- Ensured alignment with HIPPY curriculum for all ages.
- Provided resource pages for family childcare providers that build on the original research-based HIPPY activities.
- Provided resource pages for parents to share child development week-to-week with parents.
- Piloted with 45 home-based child care providers and 175 children. Developed in English and Spanish.

Next Steps

- Finalize weeks 16-30 of the implementation guidance and resources to support curriculum and training protocols.
- Begin peer review and editing based on feedback from pilot project.
- Analyze and disseminate evaluation data.
- Adopt curriculum as an official component of the HIPPY model.
- Plan replication and scaling to national network of 119 affiliates in 20 states and DC as well as other potential public and private partners.