



# Quarterly Newsletter

This newsletter highlights progress from **Quarter 4 (October to December, 2022)** and summarizes upcoming activities for **Quarter 1 (January to March, 2023)**.



## ACTIVITY 1: Needs Assessment

### QUARTER 4 HIGHLIGHTS

- Researchers at the Carsey School of Public Policy at UNH continued the **statewide needs assessment** to better understand NH's early childhood workforce capacity and training needs, as well as families' early childhood experiences. As part of this effort, Carsey completed five briefs summarizing findings from the **2022 Early Supports and Services Workforce Survey** and **2022 Children's Behavioral Health Workforce Survey**.
- Carsey also completed analysis of the **2022 NH Family Survey** data and presented initial findings to the NH PDG Leadership Team.

### UPCOMING IN QUARTER 1

- In Quarter 1, the Carsey team will finalize the Family Survey analysis and brief. The Family Survey and Workforce briefs will be disseminated upon approval by the NH PDG Leadership Team.



## ACTIVITY 2: Strategic Planning

### QUARTER 4 HIGHLIGHTS

- In previous quarters, the Council for Thriving Children worked with Greenway Strategy Group, the organization **contracted to provide Strategic Planning support** in Year 3, to finalize an updated [framework](#) for the Year 3 Strategic Plan and facilitate strategy teams to identify strategic initiatives to advance the objectives of the state's Strategic Plan. In Quarter 4, the Council's [website](#) was updated to reflect the updated approach and resources related to the Strategic Planning efforts.
- The Council Strategic Plan Subcommittee and Greenway also began developing work plans and determining measurable progress markers for priority initiatives in the updated Plan. The six priority initiatives for 2023 include **Early Childhood Workforce Capacity and Quality, Investment in Early Childhood Services and Programs, Systems Integration, Quality and Consistent Child Care Access, Coordinated Messaging, and the Office of Early Childhood**.

### PDG CONNECTIONS

The 2022 update to the Strategic Plan represents an effective collaboration between the contracted support organization, Greenway Strategy Group, the Director of the Council for Thriving Children, and the Council's Strategic Plan Subcommittee. The group worked together to facilitate the work of the strategy teams, plan for the work in 2023, and identify priority initiatives.

### UPCOMING IN QUARTER 1

- Greenway Strategy Group will finalize the Strategic Plan report to be disseminated publicly.
- The Action Planning phase of the Strategic Planning work will continue with the six priority initiatives.



## ACTIVITY 3: Maximizing Family Choice and Engagement (State-level)

### QUARTER 4 HIGHLIGHTS

- New Hampshire Children's Trust (NHCT) continued **supporting the NH Departments of Education (NHED) and Health and Human Services (DHHS) to promote under-utilized programs for families and children**, including the Child Care Development Fund Child Care Scholarship Program and the Kinship Navigator Program.
- NHCT also continued to provide **support for strengthening the network and infrastructure of Family Resource Centers (FRCs)**. In Quarter 4, NHCT provided two trainings on the FRC Standards of Quality, reaching 57 participants.
- PIC/NHFV partnered with DHHS to conduct focus groups with families to better understand their experience utilizing **the Family section of NH Connections**, the state's consumer education website and main public information source for programs and services for families with young children.

### PDG CONNECTIONS

NHCT and PIC/NHFV continued their partnership in Quarter 4 on the family voice campaign for FRCs. PIC/NHFV built a package of family voice assets, which include resources on systems approach to family engagement. These resources were also shared with the Early Childhood Regional Leads.

### UPCOMING IN QUARTER 1

- NHCT will continue to work with DHHS and NHED to promote the Child Care Scholarship Program and the Kinship Navigator Program.
- NHCT will also continue monitoring FRC needs in Quarter 1 and plans to offer a training on Cultural Competency and additional FRC Standards of Quality trainings.
- PIC/NHFV will meet with NHCT and discuss FRC needs around family voice and how they can provide additional resources and support.



## ACTIVITY 4: Sharing Best Practices

### QUARTER 4 HIGHLIGHTS

- The Early Learning Coaches continued the 2022 **Play Based Learning coaching program**. They held biweekly meetings with the 21 participating teachers and began facilitating monthly Professional Learning Community meetings.
- The **Pyramid Model Consortium (PMC)** completed their NH PDG-funded support to programs implementing the Pyramid Model. They developed a series of eModules supporting implementation in sites in the Readiness/Exploration stages.
- NH PDG staff continued to provide support to implement the state's new **Quality Rating Improvement System**, [Granite Steps to Quality](#). Southern New Hampshire Services (SNHS) and ACROSS NH maintained Anchors in the Environment Rating Scale (ERS) tools and supported programs at Steps 3 and 4. They completed assessments in two Step 3 programs in Quarter 4.

### UPCOMING IN QUARTER 1

- The Play Based Learning coaches will continue supporting the 2022 cohort of educators.
- Going forward, the PMC's efforts to support NH programs in implementing the Pyramid Model and participating in the GSQ will be sustained through another contract funded directly by DHHS.
- SNHS will provide additional training to support Anchors in the ERS tools and will also collaborate with DHHS to initiate a revision to the NH Connections website. Both SNHS and ACROSS NH will continue to support GSQ programs at Steps 3 and 4.



## ACTIVITY 5: Improving Quality/ Subgrants

### QUARTER 4 HIGHLIGHTS

- Abt Associates completed an analysis for NHED and DHHS of the landscape of relevant national policies and state approaches for **enhancing NH's mixed delivery system of care and education**.
- All seven of the **Early Childhood Regional Lead Grants continued to implement their programs as part of the project-specific funding grants**.

Regional Early Childhood Lead	Project-Specific Funding Focus
Region 1: Monadnock United Way	Practice-Based Coaching Institute; Collaboration through Mentorship
Region 2: Granite United Way	Home visiting program; Play-Based Learning
Region 3: United Way of Greater Nashua	Health/Behavioral Health; Strong Families; Positive Learning Experiences
Region 4: Amoskeag Health	Pyramid Model implementation and expansion
Region 5: Granite United Way	Joint home visiting program; developmental screening; Pyramid Model implementation; resource coordination; Welcome Baby
Region 6: Granite United Way/ United Way of Greater Seacoast	FRC-/school-supported play groups; Rochester child care community room; Somersworth Ready Together enrichment program
Region 7: Children Unlimited	Pyramid Model expansion; early childhood care and education workforce

### UPCOMING IN QUARTER 1

- The Early Childhood Regional Leads will continue their projects and will submit their next quarterly report update to NH PDG staff.
- Abt Associates will submit a second analysis paper on NH-specific considerations for enhancing the state's mixed delivery system.



## ACTIVITY 6: Governance/ Data Interoperability

### QUARTER 4 HIGHLIGHTS

- NH PDG staff continued supporting the seven **Early Childhood Regional Leads**. They reviewed quarterly reports and assessments, facilitated capacity-building technical assistance, and coordinated bi-directional communication meetings between Regional Leads and DHHS/DOE staff.
- NH PDG staff continued efforts to support the **Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS) and the Data Integration Pilot**. In Quarter 4, Deloitte's contract was renewed to provide additional support integrating DHHS program data and developing data visualization and dashboard tools.

### UPCOMING IN QUARTER 1

- NH PDG will continue managing the Early Childhood Regional Leads system.
- NH PDG staff will continue supporting the Data Integration Pilot and Deloitte's efforts with DHHS program staff to identify new opportunities for data integration.
- Abt will begin working with NHED to support the Desired Results Development Profile (DRDP) Pilot.

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