

Understanding Help Me Grow

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Texas Department of State
Health Services



Disclosures

- The views and opinions expressed in this presentation are those of my own and do not reflect the official views or policy of UT Health San Antonio.
- I have no financial conflicts of interest to disclose concerning this presentation.



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Unconscious Bias Disclosure

- UT Health San Antonio ECHO recognizes that language is constantly evolving, and while we make every effort to avoid bias and stigmatizing terms, we acknowledge that unintentional lapses may occur in our presentations.
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- Your input will help us refine and improve our presentations, ensuring they remain inclusive and respectful to participants.



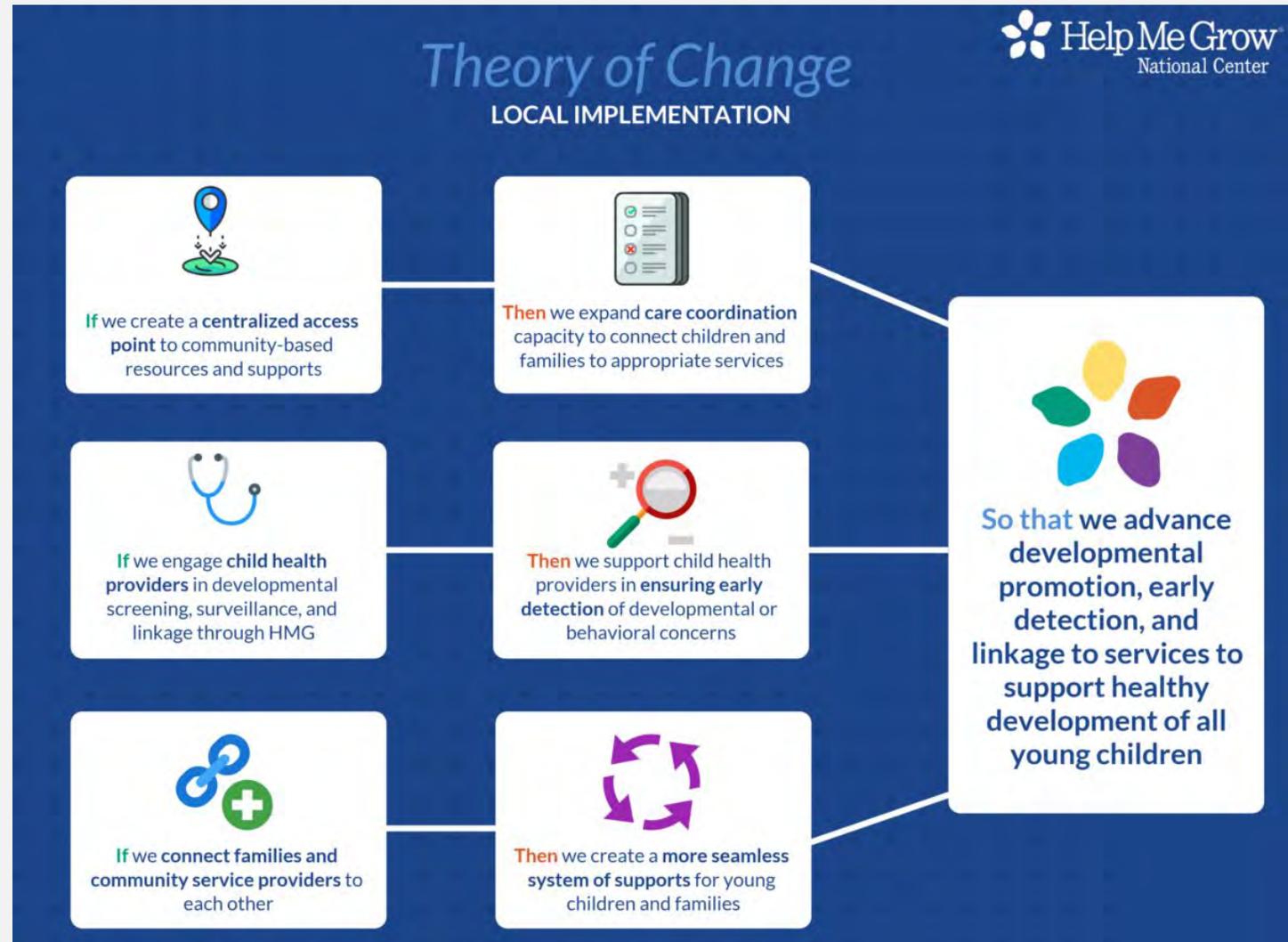
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Help Me Grow (HMG) Summary

Help Me Grow aims to improve children's access to developmental screening through:

- Improving access in various settings;
- Implementation of public awareness campaigns; and
- Creation of a data collection system.



The Help Me Grow System Model



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HMG System Model Overview

A system model that leverages and enhances existing resources to develop and enhance a comprehensive approach to early childhood system building in any given community.

It is the **cooperation** of the core components that defines the system.



Why Help Me Grow?



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Systems Building Matters



Early is best



Need for improved
coordination



1 in 10 babies born in
the U.S. is born in TX

HMG Texas Background

The HMG Texas mission is to build a statewide early childhood system that supports the optimal health, development, and well-being of all Texas children.

HMG Texas' primary objectives are to:

- Build and enhance effective, sustainable service, and support networks;
- Convene stakeholders to develop partnerships and capacity-building momentum;
- Identify at-risk children and appropriate referral pathways;
- Evaluate return on investment rate; and
- Promote the optimal development of all Texas children.

HMG Texas History



Project Linking Actions
for Unmet Needs in
Children's Health (LAUNCH) Grant

2016-
2019



HMG National Center
approached Texas

Fall 2019



HMG Texas launched FY21 Cohort

Summer
2020



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Department of Family
and Protective Services

HMG Texas launched Preschool
Development Grant Cohort

Spring
2023



1st local Texas System

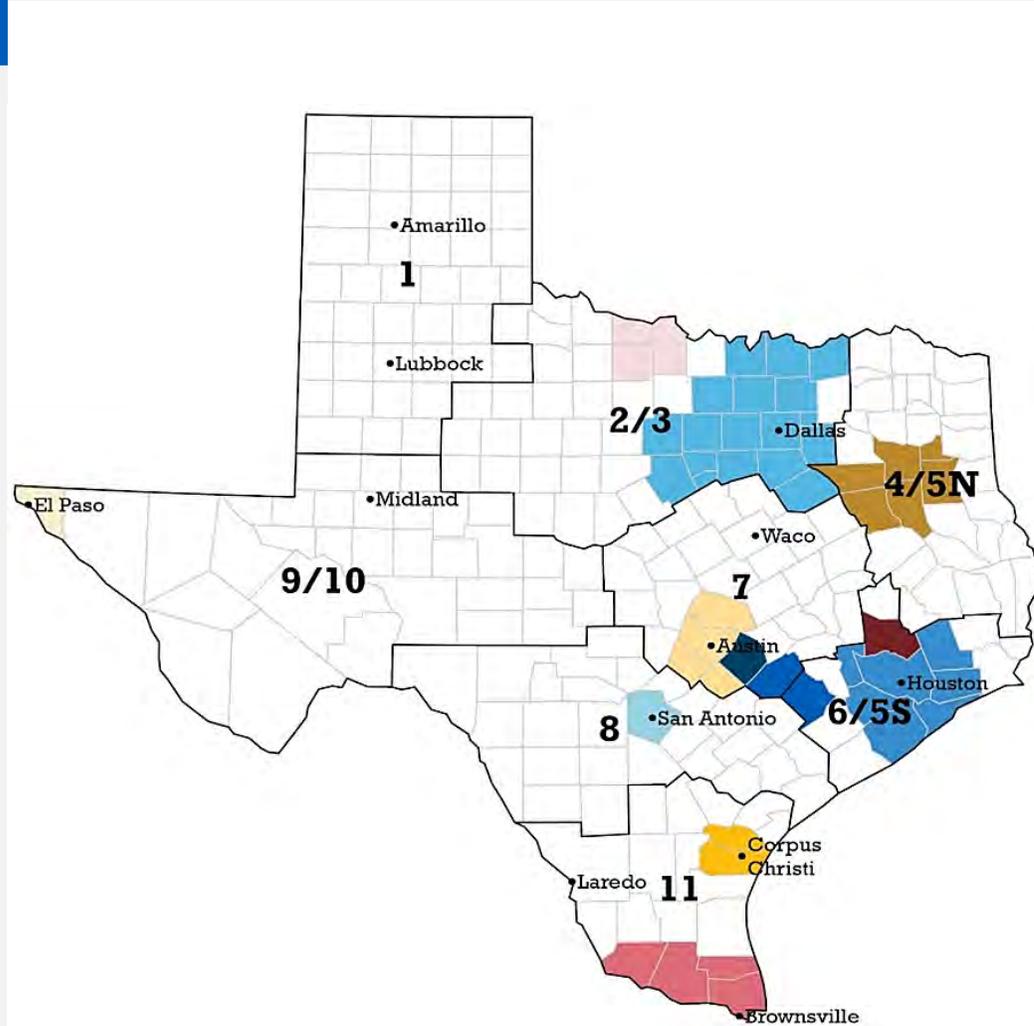
DSHS signed Affiliate Agreement



HMG Texas launched FY23 Cohort



HMG Texas Reach



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HMG Texas Fidelity Assessments

Activities	Total Number (Period: January 1, 2023-December 31, 2023)	Total Number (Period: January 1, 2024-December 31, 2024)
Centralized Access Point (CAP)		
Children served	9,468	19,395
CAP activities	46,668	72,509
Families served	9,009	15,507
Families served that resulted in a referral	6,447	8,207
Family & Community Outreach		
Individuals (parents, caregivers, family) reached through HMG coordinated or led events	7,013	15,090
Individuals (non-families) representing community agencies reaching through HMG coordinated or led events	10,547	25,167
Child Healthcare Provider Outreach		
Trainings provided by HMG to medical staff on developmental screening & referral linkage	97	379

HMG Texas FY25 Highlights

Activity	FY24	FY25
Centralized Access Point	11,249	21,149
Children & Families reached through education & referrals	21,025	19,353
Ages & Stages Questionnaires®	7,259	6,110
Individuals reached through events coordinated	17,318	31,813

Reached full implementation of the HMG System Model in FY25:

- HMG Bexar County
- HMG Central Texas
- HMG Coastal Bend
- HMG North Texas
- HMG Rio Grande Valley

Thank you!

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