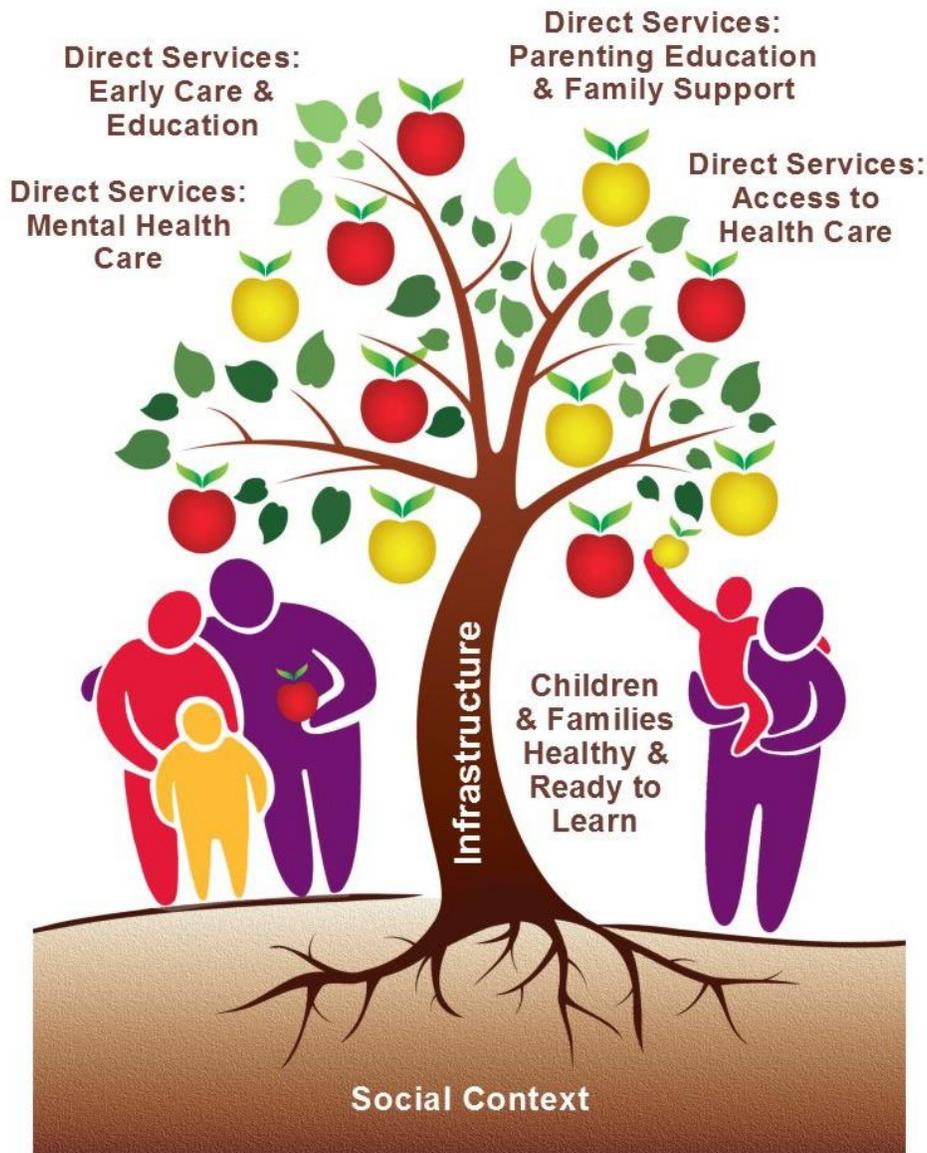


# Early Childhood Utah

Early Childhood Utah (ECU), designated by the Governor in 2011, is Utah's combined Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems State Team (ECCS) and State Advisory Council on Early Care & Education (SAC). The goal of ECU is to support Utah parents in their efforts to ensure that their children enter school healthy and ready to learn. ECU accomplishes this by working with teams of public and private partners to foster the development of cross-sector service systems.

Early Childhood Utah supports state agencies and local communities in their efforts to build and integrate early childhood systems that provide direct services in the areas of: Access to Health Care and Medical Homes, Early Care and Education, Parenting Education and Family Support, and Social-Emotional Development and Mental Health.

## Utah's Early Childhood System



# Utah's Early Childhood Integrated Data System

Utah's Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS – pronounced E-KIDS) is a project of the Early Care and Education Committee of Early Childhood Utah.

## **Mission:**

The mission of ECIDS is to facilitate data sharing in an effort to better coordinate policy and program administration among all of the participating early childhood programs in Utah.

## **Background:**

There are a variety of early childhood (EC) programs and services available to families in Utah. Examples include programs for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers who have a disability or a developmental delay, home visiting support for pregnant mothers, child care subsidies for low-income working families, preschool services offered by local school districts and Head Start comprehensive services for young children living in poverty. Early Childhood programs are often funded and administered separately and data from each program is maintained independently. This makes it difficult to have a complete understanding of the needs of families in order to collaborate and coordinate needed services.

## **ECIDS program evaluation questions:**

*ECIDS will facilitate the use of data to address five broad policy questions:*

1. Are children, birth to age 5, on track to succeed as they prepare to enter school?
2. Which children and families are/are not being served by early childhood services and programs?
3. What characteristics of programs are associated with positive outcomes for which children?
4. What are the educational and economic returns on early childhood investments?
5. How is data currently being utilized and how will data be utilized in the future to inform policy and resource decisions?

## **ECIDS objectives:**

1. Evaluate long term outcomes for children who participate in EC programs.
2. Improve child outcomes and the quality of EC programs by promoting data driven decisions.
3. Answer key policy questions regarding EC programs and services.
4. Provide data that is timely, relevant, accessible and easy to use.
5. Improve the ability of agencies to participate in funding opportunities that require data on children, EC professionals and EC programs.

## **ECIDS projected early childhood data sources:**

- Department of Health: **Baby Watch** Early Intervention Program (IDEA Part C).
- Department of Health: Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood **Home Visiting**.
- Department of Health: Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Program, **WIC**.
- Department of Health: All Payer Claims Database (**Medicaid/CHIP**).
- Department of Health: **Vital Records** (birth & death databases).
- Department of Workforce Services/Office of Child Care: Licensed/regulated **Child Care**.
- Utah's **Early Head Start & Head Start** programs.
- United Way of Utah County: **Help Me Grow Utah – early care coordination services**.
- Ages & Stages Questionnaire: statewide, multi-agency ASQ-3 online account; **developmental screening data** (*Brookes Publishing*, funded by UDOH).

For more information on the Utah Early Childhood Integrated Data System, please contact Stephen Matherly at 801.273.2882 or email: [smather@utah.gov](mailto:smather@utah.gov)

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