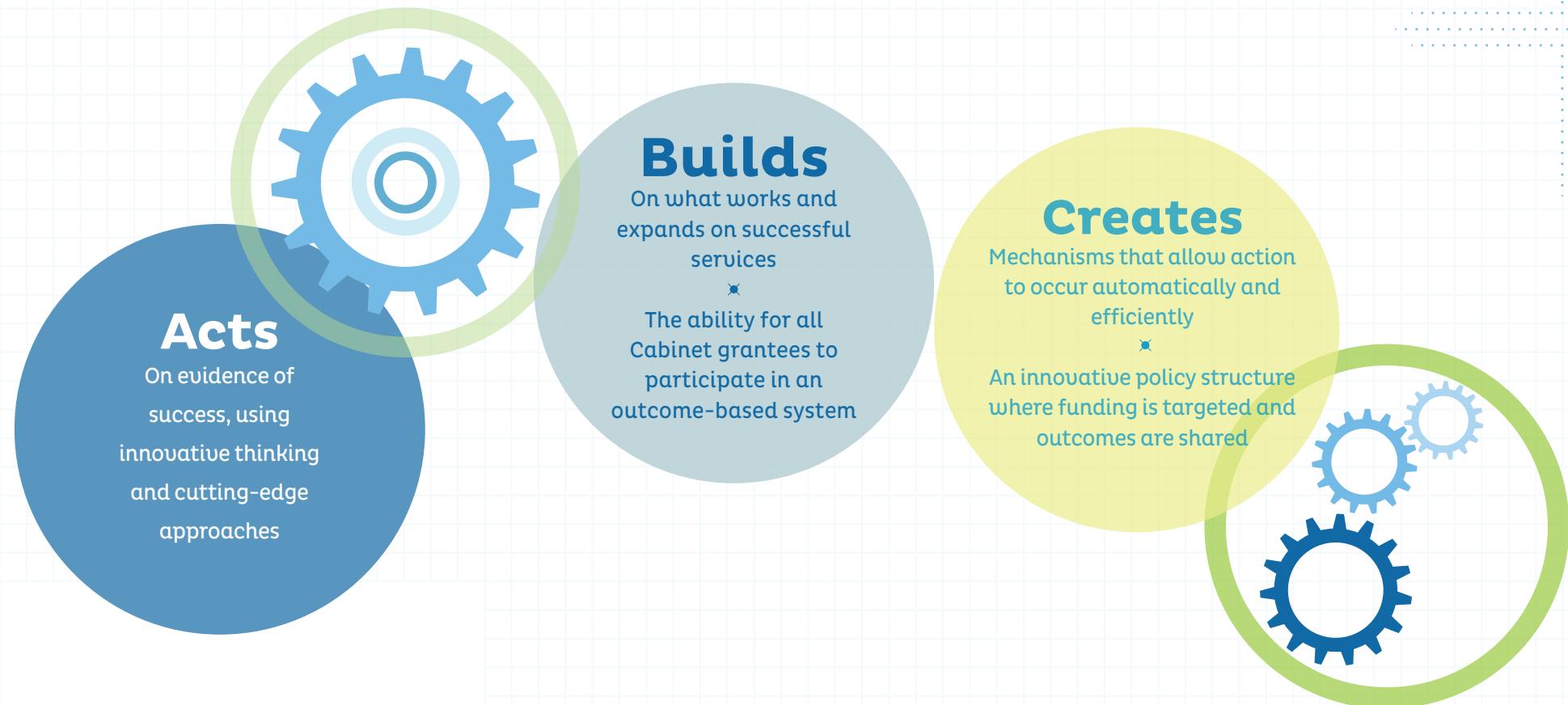


Transforming Goals Into Reality

The Cabinet's ABC's

The Cabinet is invested in maximizing positive outcomes for children and families.

Through its financial portfolio, the Cabinet focuses on programming that supports at-risk children ages birth to five delivered by community- or agency-based initiatives that are grounded in research. This position statement articulates the Cabinet's philosophy on how to achieve the goals outlined in the Blueprint for Early Childhood.



Investing in the Future of Kansas

Healthy Development, Strong Families, Early Learning

700

New neural connections made every second in the first few years of life

Vital period of brain growth

Maximized by supporting cognitive, social, and emotional development through quality early learning

Reduced social costs

Through investments in early childhood education for at-risk children

Strong Family environments

Major predictor of child's cognitive and social abilities and life outcomes such as crime and health

10% Return

For every dollar invested in early childhood education annually for the life of the child

CHILDREN

who participate in early childhood programs
are more likely to...

GRADUATE

High School

COMMIT

fewer crimes

OWN

a Home and pay more in taxes

EARN

a Higher Lifetime Salary and have SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

A Powerful Investment

Efforts to improve early childhood programming

With a primary focus on Kansas Children's Cabinet supported programs, the Cabinet developed the Blueprint for Early Childhood as a strategic framework to guide investments and maximize positive outcomes for children and families.

What is the Blueprint for Early Childhood?

Building a Strong Foundation for Children and Families

An expression of the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund's vision for early childhood in Kansas, the Blueprint for Early Childhood ("Blueprint") is a strategic framework to optimize child and family well-being. The Blueprint will be used to align the Cabinet's investment portfolio and monitor progress toward goals.



"Often the most powerful change comes from the community level and develops from the alignment of stakeholders working together in a coordinated way."



- Amanda Adkins, Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund Chair



Implementation

Built on past systems' work, the Blueprint is a forward-looking guide for expanding an effective early childhood system of services and supports for young children and their families.

Current Measures

The Cabinet is committed to a system of shared measurement and strong accountability to tell the story of early childhood investments in Kansas. Common measures are the tools currently being used to measure short-term and intermediate outcomes in Early Childhood Block Grant (ECBG) and Community-based Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention (CBCAP) programs.

Areas of Impact

The Cabinet identified Areas of Impact within each of the Building Blocks – Healthy Development, Strong Families, and Early Learning that aim to unite past and current collaborative work products.

Community Collaboration

Moving the needle on Healthy Development, Strong Families, and Early Learning will require creative community collaboration across sectors, involving multiple partners working toward a shared vision of high quality, accessible, affordable programs for young children and families.

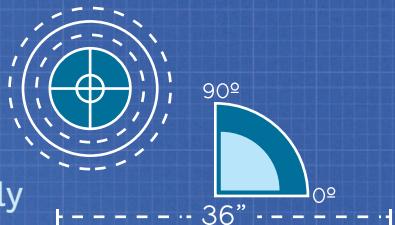
What Do Healthy Development, Strong Families, and Early Learning Look Like?

While the path to achieve success may vary, the Cabinet's vision of success is intended to serve as a guide for innovative program design, partnership development, implementation and tracking toward long-term outcomes for children and families.

Blueprint for Early Childhood

Building a Strong Foundation for Children and Families

The **Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund** recognizes early childhood as a critical period of intervention that establishes a child's foundation for school and life success. We are therefore committed to nurturing a culture of public-private partnerships in early childhood programming where diversity of thought is an asset and past work is valued.



Goals



As a baseline for this Blueprint, collaborative work products in which the Cabinet has participated, such as the Kansas Early Childhood Comprehensive System Plan, the Kansas School Readiness Framework, and the Kansas Strengthening Families Plan, have been used. Existing plans such as the Governor's Roadmap for Kansas, the Maternal and Child Health Strategic Plan (KDHE), the Child Care and Development Fund State Plan (DCF), and the Kansas Head Start State Collaboration Office Priority Areas (DCF) will also continually inform the Blueprint to support collective impact.

Healthy Development

WHAT DOES HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT LOOK LIKE?

Child

- Pregnant women have access to prenatal care
- Infants are born at adequate birthweight
- Mothers breastfeed at least 6 months
- Children are current with immunizations
- Children reach developmentally appropriate milestones
- Early childhood professionals have specialized early childhood mental health training

COMMON MEASURES*

- Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) - 3
- ASQ: Social-Emotional
- Devereaux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) I, (DECA) T, (DECA) P2
- Individual Growth & Development Indicators (IGDI), myIGDI

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Businesses | Foundations |
| Child Care | Local Health Depts |
| Community Orgs | Medicaid |
| Faith-Based Orgs | Mental Health Centers |
| Families | State Agencies |
| Family Supports | Other |

Strong Families

WHAT DO STRONG FAMILIES LOOK LIKE?

Family

- Fewer children live in poverty
- Families can afford child care
- More children are born to mothers with a high school diploma or more
- Family support programs are able to meet the demand for services
- No children experience abuse or neglect

COMMON MEASURES*

- HOME Inventory - Infant/Toddler
- HOME Inventory - Early Childhood
- Keys to Interactive Parenting Scale (KIPS)
- Protective Factors Survey (PFS)

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Businesses | State Agencies |
| Community Orgs | Universities |
| Faith-Based Orgs | Other |
| Families | |
| Family Supports | |
| Foundations | |

Early Learning

WHAT DOES EARLY LEARNING LOOK LIKE?

Educational Environment

- Child care facilities & homes are able to meet the demand for services
- Early learning programs are able to meet the demand for services
- Programs are compliant with licensing regulations
- Early learning programs are high quality
- Early childhood professionals are competent, credentialed, and effective

COMMON MEASURES*

- Devereaux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) I, (DECA) T, (DECA) P2
- Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) - Toddler
- CLASS Pre K
- Individual Growth & Development Indicators (IGDI), myIGDI

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Businesses | Foundations |
| Child Care | Health Professionals |
| Community Orgs | Libraries |
| Faith-Based Orgs | Pre-K Programs |
| Families | State Agencies |
| Family Supports | Other |

*These common measures are currently used by Cabinet-funded ECBG and CBCAP programs. All Cabinet-funded programs are invited to use these measures.



Why Does Kansas Need Investments in Early Childhood?

Building a Strong Foundation for Children and Families

17,684

Average monthly enrollment of Kansas children in the child care subsidy program



152,120

Number of Kansas children under age 6 who need child care because parents work

6

Number of available slots in Early Head Start programs throughout Kansas for every 100 eligible children

43

Number of available slots in Head Start programs throughout Kansas for every 100 eligible children

70,615

Number of women and children in Kansas receiving WIC (Women, Infants and Children) supplemental nutrition support



48

Percent of Kansas children under age 6 living in low-income families

50

Percent of public school students in Kansas approved for the Free and Reduced Price Lunch Program

60

Percent of Kansas children ages 3-4 from low-income homes not enrolled in preschool

13

Percent of Kansas children ages 1 to 5 read to fewer than 3 days per week

36

Percent of children under age 6 developmentally screened in a health care setting

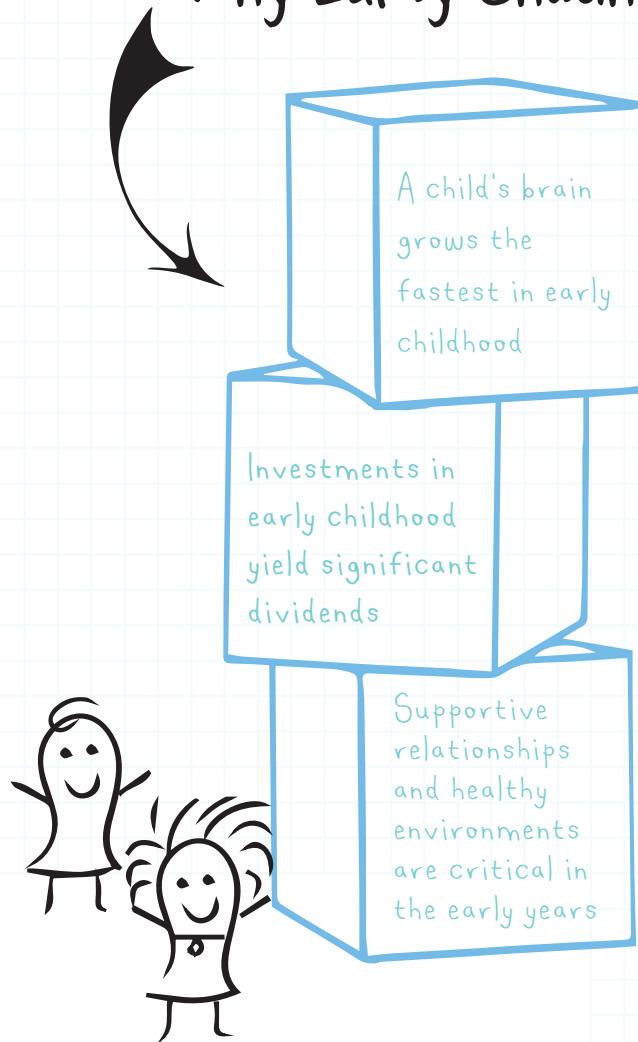
50

Percent of elementary schools in Kansas that offer public preschool

Blueprint for Early Childhood

Building a Strong Foundation for Children and Families

Why Early Childhood?



Where must we focus?

The Building Blocks

