Infant-Toddler Services
Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)

Building family capacity to meet the needs of their children who have disabilities or developmental delays

What happens in the first three years of a child’s life can have a profound impact on their development and life-long quality of life. This is especially true for infants and toddlers who have a developmental delay or disability. In accordance with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004, Infant-Toddler Services (also known as tiny-k or Part C) helps families access needed services in a natural environment, whether the home, a child care facility, or other community setting. Working with families, care providers, and other community partners, Infant-Toddler Services provides early intervention services and promotes early screening and detection of developmental delays.
Infant-Toddler Services

THE NEED

Without early detection, developmental delays are more likely to lead to secondary disabilities and costly special education services. Working with families, care providers, and other community partners, Infant-Toddler Services promotes early screening and detection of developmental delays and access to early intervention services. Services from tiny-k providers help prevent secondary disabilities and eliminate or decrease future special education costs. The service delivery model is family-centered and interventions support family-identified priorities and the achievement of functional Individual Family Service Plan outcomes.

“*If we can reach families when the child is young, support that family to be the child’s best teacher, and make sure they have the resources they need, we reduce the number of children who will need those services long-term when they reach school.*”

—Heather Staab, Infant-Toddler Services

OUR SOLUTIONS

TRAINING AND COACHING

Child care providers receive on-site coaching to support infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities and training to recognize developmental delays and make referrals.

SERVICE COORDINATION

A statewide system of multidisciplinary early intervention services provides coordinated, comprehensive care for infants and toddlers with disabilities.

FAMILY SUPPORT

Families receive support and coaching around their child’s development and family rights, helping them better advocate for their child and communicate their needs.
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OUTCOMES

Infants and toddlers demonstrated improvement upon the completion of their time in Infant-Toddler Services

- Improved positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships)
  - FY 2017: 83% (n = 3,060)
  - FY 2018: 85% (n = 3,163)

- Improved acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language skills)
  - FY 2017: 85% (n = 3,060)
  - FY 2018: 85% (n = 3,163)

99% of infants and toddlers served by Infant-Toddler Services received their services primarily in a home or community-based setting.

Families reporting that early intervention services have helped them help their children develop and learn: 92%

Percent of infants and toddlers with Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs) who receive the services in their plans promptly: 100%

Training events were held for Infant-Toddler providers and administrators across the state: 46

FY 2018 POPULATION SERVED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Children</td>
<td>10,306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prenatal to Age 2</td>
<td>4,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 2-5</td>
<td>5,874</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ages 5-12</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ages 12-18</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ages 18+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caregivers</td>
<td>10,306</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Development</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Infant-Toddler Services

LOOKING BACK
WHAT WE’VE ACHIEVED

- Began a robust strategic planning process with a focus on the local program level
- Standardized program branding to increase awareness and access to services across the state
- Worked closely with the Help Me Grow initiative to better help connect families to additional resources

LOOKING FORWARD
WHERE WE’RE HEADED

- Continuing to focus on strategic planning efforts and building program sustainability
- Collaborating with the University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships and Research on a SenseMaker story collection project to better understand family experiences
- Maximizing information sharing so communities better understand the importance of early childhood education

Evaluation Practices: Infant-Toddler Services conducts an annual internal evaluation through the Child Outcome Summary (COS) process, which measures progress for children with disabilities and developmental delays within early intervention programs. Data is entered into a KDHE data system. Evaluation findings are submitted at the state and federal levels and are used to improve the implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), enhance local programming, and determine the states’ progress on improving outcomes for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

Evidence Base: Strong Evidence. Multiple studies have found that practices effectively support and build the capacity of parents and caregivers and demonstrate sustained improved outcomes for children with, or at risk for, developmental delays.