

Systems- Building PDG '26 Initiative

- One-year initiative; approx. \$13 million
- Supports series of mostly CDD-led strategies to help unify Vermont's early childhood system so that it is easier for:
 - Families to use
 - Programs to run
 - Better for children
- Head Start participation and data improvement are themes throughout the activities.

Goal 1

Goal 1: Fix fragmentation and align systems.

- Universal prekindergarten system alignment
- Screening, intake, and referral (statewide CIRS model/developmental screening infrastructure and training)
- Mental health model for EC support
- Workforce pathways (Workforce analysis, AOE licensure, associate's degree pilot)

Goal 2

Goal 2: Expand availability, affordability, and quality.

- Child care capacity (specialized child care/SAG/business technical assistance)
- CCFAP (eligibility analysis/outreach)
- STARS (portfolio tool/CLASS data alignment/family outreach)
- Digitized background checks
- Health and safety (Consultation/training/supplies)

Goal 3

Goal 3: Use shared data to guide and improve the system.

- CDDIS expansion
- CIS data system
- Vermont's EC Data and Policy Center and cross-agency coordination