Vermont Statewide IECMHC Framework

Georgetown University Thrive Center for Children, Families, and Communities

The goal Design a coordinated statewide framework (the Vermont IECMHC Network Blueprint & Scale Roadmap) to embed infant and early childhood mental health consultation across early care and education settings.

Three core pillars

1

Systems landscape & data infrastructure

Use the validated Program Planning and Reflection Tool (PPRT) and national models to map classroom-based consultation, gauge workforce capacity, and address regional access gaps across early learning settings.

2

Workforce & supervisory architecture

Identify pathways for in-classroom consultation, launch a Micro-Community of Practice, and align state-funded consultants with Head Start mental health consultants.

3

Sustainable braided financing

Complete targeted fiscal mapping and recommend a move away from time-limited grants by strategically braiding funding.

Shared language

Defining consultation

IECMHC is our term used throughout.

Vermont's definition, provided to Thrive 9/16/2026: a collaborative, problem-solving process between an external consultant with topic expertise and adult learning experience and an individual or group from one program or organization. It can be a one-time experience or an ongoing relationship over a defined period, and may resolve a program, staff, child, or family issue or address a specific topic.

From the National Center of Excellence for IECMHC:
A problem-solving and capacity-building intervention implemented within a collaborative relationship between a professional consultant with mental health expertise and one or more caregivers, typically an early care and education provider and/or family member.