



# Help Me Grow Indiana

Monthly News and Updates

## Welcome Brittany Butterfield– Bilingual Care Coordinator to the HMG team!

Brittany has a bachelor’s degree in Social Work from the University of Indianapolis. She has 4 years’ experience in early childhood education as a teacher in ages ranging from 2-5, as well as 6 months as the program coordinator for the Martha O’ Bryan Early Learning Center in Nashville TN. She worked with Adult and Child as a Therapeutic Care Specialist, in the foster care setting assisting foster children and foster families with skill building. In that role she worked in the community, visiting fosters homes, attending IEP meetings, attended court dates for the children and their families, as well as participated in the Child and Family team meetings through DCS. She came to the health department from Primrose schools in West Clay as a Preschool Teacher (age 3) to take a position with Children’s Special Health Care Services as a Care Coordinator. She is excited to join the team!

Help Me Grow-Indiana is a **FREE** toll free number connecting families and providers to community resources and child development information in Indiana, with the mission of promoting optimal development of Indiana’s young children.

## Connecticut Puts Developmental Needs First With Help Me Grow (HMG)

In the 1990s, Connecticut applied a developmental approach to how it connected at-risk children with the services they needed. With Help Me Grow (HMG) Connecticut, a system for improving access to existing resources for children birth to 8 years old, there is a central point of contact for families of young children as they navigate services and coordinate care. The Child Development Infoline, which is a specialized call center of the United Way of Connecticut’s 2-1-1 system, is the access point for HMG. Rather than providing direct services, HMG builds collaboration across sectors, including child health care, early care and education, and family support. Through comprehensive physician and community outreach and centralized information and referral centers, families are linked with needed programs and services. Doctors who received training from HMG were twice as likely to identify and refer children for services after being trained. HMG Connecticut connected more than 2,000 families to more than 3,000 services in 2014. Ongoing data collection and analysis help identify gaps in the system and barriers to accessing resources. As the program has grown, new efforts are adding targeted attention to infants and toddlers. HMG Connecticut recently embarked on a campaign to raise public awareness of the need for early identification and intervention through the developmental screening of 2-year-olds in a number of Connecticut communities. This effort includes statewide and local promotion activities as well as local events involving parents, professionals, and community partners.

Connecticut Puts Developmental Needs First With Help Me Grow (HMG). (2017, November 13). Retrieved August 22, 2018, from <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/2106-connecticut-puts-developmental-needs-first-with-help-me-grow-hmg>

# Opportunities to get involved

## **Help Me Grow Leadership Team**

ELAC Child Development and Well Being Workgroup

Fourth Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon EST- St. Mary's Child Center

## **Help Me Grow Centralized Telephone Access Workgroup**

September 7th 10am-12am at Early Learning Indiana. Contact MMendez1@isdh.IN.gov for more information

## **Help Me Grow Child Health Provider Outreach Workgroup**

Please contact Klinson@isdh.in.gov for more information.

## **Help Me Grow Data Collection and Analysis Workgroup**

ELAC Data Workgroup 4th Thursday of each month from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST

Ice Miller Offices One American Square

## **Help Me Grow Community and Family Outreach Workgroup**

HMG State Workgroup August 29 10-11:30am

## **Local Family Engagement Workgroups–**

ECCS COIIN– 4th Monday of every month 12-2 at the John H. Boner Center

## Next Steps

- Hiring Help Me Grow Resource Specialist
- The Leadership group will be creating strategic recommendations based on the Help Me Grow Capacity for Change document from the Help Me Grow National team
- HMG workgroups will be provided 1 page summary document for providers.
- Opportunities to join workgroups in person or remotely
- HMG Presentation will be given at the 2018 Institute for Strengthening Families on September 24-26th
- Contact [KLinson@isdh.in.gov](mailto:KLinson@isdh.in.gov) to schedule a Help Me Grow presentation.

## ISDH-MCH is hiring HMG Resource Specialists

Indiana State Department of Health is looking to hire two resource specialists to serve as the liaison between the community, families and the Help Me Grow system. The Resource Specialists will support the awareness and visibility of the Help Me Grow system throughout 9 pilot counties in the state, Marion, Scott, Madison, Grant, La Porte, Lake, St Joseph, Elkhart and Delaware.

Please contact [SGarrity@isdh.IN.gov](mailto:SGarrity@isdh.IN.gov) for a more detailed job description.

# Help Me Grow Indiana Organizational Chart



## IN HMG Organizing Entity *IN MIECHV state team + ECCS*

David Reed  
Cynthia Smith  
Barbara Gainer  
Carrie Higgins

Martha Allen  
Shirley Payne  
Kristi Linson  
Casey Kinderman

Implementing entity –  
Final implementation authorization, funding direction, federal reporting, presentation approval, and data approval decisions are made by this team.

IN HMG Program Manager oversees Leadership Team and communicates to IN HMG Organizing Entity activities and recommendations.

## IN HMG Program Manager Shannon Garrity

IN HMG Leadership Team reviews activities and recommendations from Core Component committees and provides report and recommendation to Organizing Entity via IN HMG Program Manager. IN HMG Leadership Team is a function within larger existing entity of [to be confirmed] workgroup

## IN HMG Leadership Team Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee *Early Learning Advisory Committee (ELAC) Child Development and Well-Being*

IN HMG Workgroups implemented within existing early childhood system entities where possible. These workgroups serve as special project workgroups and subject matter advisory entities.

### IN HMG Centralized Telephone Access Workgroup

MCH MOMS HELPLINE  
1-844-MCHMOMS  
(844-624-6667)  
*The key to a healthy baby and a happy mom*  
MOM's Helpline  
Marta Mendez

EARLY LEARNING INDIANA  
Early Learning Indiana  
Marta Fetterman

### IN HMG Child Health Provider Outreach Workgroup

Dr. Emily Sherer

### IN HMG Community and Family Outreach Workgroup

HMG State Workgroup (Formerly LAUNCH)  
Shannon Garrity

### IN HMG Data Collection and Analysis Workgroup

Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee  
ELAC- Data Coordination and System Integration  
Charlie Geier  
Kim Hodqe

### Local Community and Family Outreach subgroup(s)

ECCS COIIN  
Natasha Guffey

### Local Community and Family Outreach subgroup(s)

Entity(ies) to be created / identified

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The Help Me Grow (HMG) system is designed to help states and communities leverage existing resources to ensure they identify vulnerable children early, link families to community based services and empower families to support their children's healthy development through the implementation of four core components:

- Child health care provider outreach
- Community outreach
- Centralized call center
- Data collection

### The vision of the Indiana Help Me Grow system is to:

- Help families, primary care providers and other community-based providers, including home visiting services, identify developmental or behavioral concerns in children.
- Provide a statewide resource directory with a feedback loop to identify gaps in services targeted and developed in pilot sites.
- Utilize the MCH MOMS Helpline as the centralized call center to connect families with specialized programs and services focused on their needs.

## Help Me Grow pilot sites

