

ASSET MAP & STRATEGIC VISION



PURPOSE

The launch of Mississippi's State Early Childhood Advisory Council (SECAC) presents a vital opportunity to create a renewed vision for the early childhood (EC) system. An asset map of the Mississippi early childhood system will answer the following questions:

- Who are the children, families and early childhood workforce in the MS EC system? How are they faring?
- What EC programs/services are available to children and families in MS? Who is (and is not) accessing them?
- What funding exists for EC programs and services? How and where is it being used?
- What supports are available to EC programs to ensure the services they provide are high-quality and effective?
- Are access, experiences and outcomes equitable for those involved in the MS EC system?

The asset map will inform the creation of a **strategic vision**, which will articulate a path for improvement towards a comprehensive, aligned, high-quality system of early childhood development and care.

SCOPE

The asset map and strategic vision will address children and families in Mississippi from prenatal to age 8. It will include all parts of the early childhood system, including Head Start, Early Head Start, and Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships, subsidized child care, preschool, home visiting, IDEA Part B and C, Title I, university-based programs and K-3 elementary education. It will also extend to sectors outside of education, including health, housing, child welfare, nutrition and other subsidized basic family needs.

AUDIENCE

The audience for the asset map and strategic vision is intended to be wide-reaching, including the Mississippi SECAC, the Governor's Office, early childhood agency leadership, families, providers, advocates, the state legislature and the general public.

ELEMENTS

Current State of Kids & Families

- Demographics
- Indicators of health and wellbeing, learning and development

Funding & Governance

- Federal, state, local, and philanthropic funding sources
- Funding requirements (e.g., standards, regulations)
- Map illustrating funding flows

EC Programs & Services

- Description of program/service
- Description of provider/workforce (demographics, qualifications)
- Amount of funding
- Who benefits? (# served, eligibility)

EC System Assets

- Professional learning
- Data and technology systems
- Quality improvement supports
- Accountability, monitoring

Public & Political Context

- Recent legislative wins for EC
- Funding opportunities (e.g., new federal funds)
- Public support for EC

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PROCESS

The asset mapping and strategic visioning process will be led by the SECAC co-chairs and will include the participation of the full SECAC and stakeholders, including state agency leaders, advocates, providers and families, from across Mississippi. Start Early will support SECAC leaders to facilitate the process.

PLANNING: AUG-SEP 2021

- Finalize purpose, scope, and process for asset mapping & visioning.
- Identify key stakeholders and develop processes for engaging SECAC and stakeholders.
- Identify key reports, documents, data sources for review.



INFORMATION GATHERING: SEP 2021-JAN 2022

- Implement stakeholder engagement process.
- Complete document/report review and data analysis.
- Process quantitative and qualitative data, and hold data dialogues with stakeholders and SECAC.



DRAFTING: FEB-APR 2022

- Create first draft(s) of asset map, including products tailored to various audiences.
- Release first draft(s) of asset map for public comment and SECAC feedback.
- Proactively seek feedback on draft from stakeholders.



DISSEMINATION & STRATEGIC VISIONING: APR-DEC 2022

- Release final draft(s) of asset map.
- Hold stakeholder and SECAC dialogues on findings of the asset map and how it can inform the creation of a three-year strategic vision.
- Launch strategic visioning process!

FEEDBACK?

Send your feedback to the SECAC co-chairs and to Start Early (kfisher@startearly.org).