



Proposal for Durham County Early Childhood Action Plan (ECAP)

- DCo already active in all 10 goal areas of the NC ECAP

- Healthy babies,
- Preventive health services,
- Food security,
- Safe and secure housing,
- Safe and nurturing relationships,
- Permanent families for children in foster care,
- Social-emotional health and resilience,
- High-quality early learning,
- On track for school success, and
- Reading at grade level.

DCI already active in 8 of 10 areas and aligned with all 10.



- DCo making new investments in these areas

- New ACES Coordinator position funded in FY20
- New Early Childhood Coordinator position funded in FY20
- Mini-grant funding for each area
- Over \$5m in FY20 for expansion of Durham pre-K
- New food insecurity efforts in FY19 and FY20
- Expanding enrichment and referral through well-child visits
- Large-scale affordable housing efforts on County property

- Alignment and growth of partnerships will accelerate with clear backbone

- Over the last 9 years, DCI has secured and invested \$12.9 million to build a pipeline of support for families and children in East Durham.
- DCI has established partnerships and relationships with organizations serving DCo children, families, and communities, and has a track record of bringing cross-sector agencies together, especially in early childhood.
- The United Way of the Greater Triangle supports the *EDCI Collaborative*, which is already aligning services across agencies serving families with children birth to eight.



- DCI Early Childhood Family Advocates are already working across Durham to support families and children and connect them to services (public, private, non-profit partners).
- DCI has existing systems to integrate partners, provide support to direct service staff, develop and implement programs, and evaluate the impact on the community, families, and children. The Center for Child and Family Policy at Duke University evaluates DCI's impact annually.
- **DCI will act as the backbone agency for birth-to-8 strategic and implementation planning in Durham County.**
- **DCo and DCI are, and will continue to, seek funding partnerships for planning and implementation.**
- **The objectives detailed below will be accomplished over a three year period.**

Outline of Three Year Objectives

Year 1 – planning & initial implementation

- Initiate conversations with the leadership of potential core ECAP partners to develop cross-sector, public/private buy-in and readiness.
- Begin capacity/needs assessment for the ECAP.
- Convene and align core ECAP partners, and determine roles/responsibilities related to ECAP. Partners must have a track record of moving the needle on outcomes of interest for the ECAP.
- Build DCo ECAP with partners, and create communication and engagement plans utilizing community voice. Community input will be solicited through surveys and focus groups.
 - Identify the core outcomes related to the implementation of the ECAP and develop a longitudinal evaluation plan.
 - Develop diversification strategy and plan to braid state, county, municipal, and philanthropic dollars to support ECAP.
- Hire EDCI Partner Coordinator to support collaboration and convenings.
- Establish a strong working relationship with the Duke Pediatrics Clinics and Durham pre-K sites.
- Reflect on and evaluate the effectiveness of the ECAP structure and outcomes for year 1.

Year 2 – full implementation and continuous improvement

- Recalibrate the ECAP partners from Birth to Eight to maximize the effectiveness of the pipeline.
- Complete capacity/needs assessment for the ECAP and seek additional outside funding to support the sustainability and expansion of the ECAP.
- Convene all ECAP partners at least once.
- Continue the evaluation of the ECAP.
- Report out to key stakeholders on progress of the DCo ECAP.



Year 3 – Full implementation and expansion of ECAP

- Modify the ECAP partners as needed based on the evaluation outcomes.
- Continue to seek outside funding to support the expansion of the ECAP to reach additional children.
- Convene all ECAP partners at least once.
- Continue the evaluation of the ECAP.
- Report out to key stakeholders on progress of the DCo ECAP.



November 2019-
November 2020

*Planning & Initial
Implementation*

- Identify and convene core partners, and create buy-in
- With partners, communicate ECAP to Durham community
- Begin comprehensive needs/capacity assessment
- Create evaluation plan
- Develop diversified funding strategy
- Hire EDCI partnership coordinator
- Report out on progress to stakeholders

November 2020-
November 2021

Implementation

- Convene core partners and assess ECAP partnerships
- Complete comprehensive needs/capacity assessment
- Build philanthropic support for sustainability
- Evaluate and report out on progress to stakeholders

November 2021-
November 2022

*Implementation
& Expansion*

- Convene core partners and assess ECAP partnerships
- Build philanthropic support for sustainability and expansion
- Evaluate and report out on progress to stakeholders

