



HEALTHY BEGINNINGS – WHAT WE FUND

In the Healthy Beginnings Focus Area, we support three strategies, **Enhancing Perinatal and Pediatric Health Care, Strengthening Support During Pregnancy and Early Parenting,** and **Promoting Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health.**

We use our [guiding principles](#) to make funding decisions across all of our focus areas. Organizations and programs reaching children and families of color and/or with limited access to resources and care are prioritized.

In the **Enhancing Perinatal and Pediatric Health Care** strategy, we seek to fund the following in health care settings:

- ✓ Integrated health services in obstetric, pediatric, and family care settings that promote greater accessibility to parent-child support and seek to enhance holistic, team-based care.
- ✓ Screening and referral processes developed in collaboration with community-based partners to provide continuum of family support services.
- ✓ Education and group-based services, such as group prenatal care and other family-focused programming.

In the **Enhancing Perinatal and Pediatric Health Care** strategy, we **do not** fund:

- Billable costs
- Screening in the absence of clearly identified referral partnership
- Free clinics
- Pharmacies
- Pregnancy resource centers
- Programming focused on specific medical disorders

In the **Strengthening Support During Pregnancy and Early Parenting** strategy, we seek to fund:

- ✓ Education and social connection for expecting parents and parents of young children, including peer groups, social networks, doula programs and parenting classes.
- ✓ Evidence-based and evidence-informed home visitation programs.

In the **Strengthening Support During Pregnancy and Early Parenting**, we **do not** fund:

- Programming focused on specific medical disorders
- Basic needs support in the absence of more comprehensive programming

In the **Promoting Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health** strategy, we seek to fund:

- ✓ Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation across multiple program/organization types including early care and education, home visitation, family childcare homes, and integrated health settings. Consultants must work across a region and/or settings.
- ✓ Capacity building for early childhood caregivers, with an emphasis on family, friend, and neighbor providers, to nurture social and emotional development. Requests from community partners working across regions or settings are encouraged.

In the **Promoting Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health** strategy, we **do not** fund:

- General operating costs for childcare centers
- Mental health diagnosis and treatment within early childhood education centers