

FORWARD TO THE COMMUNITY

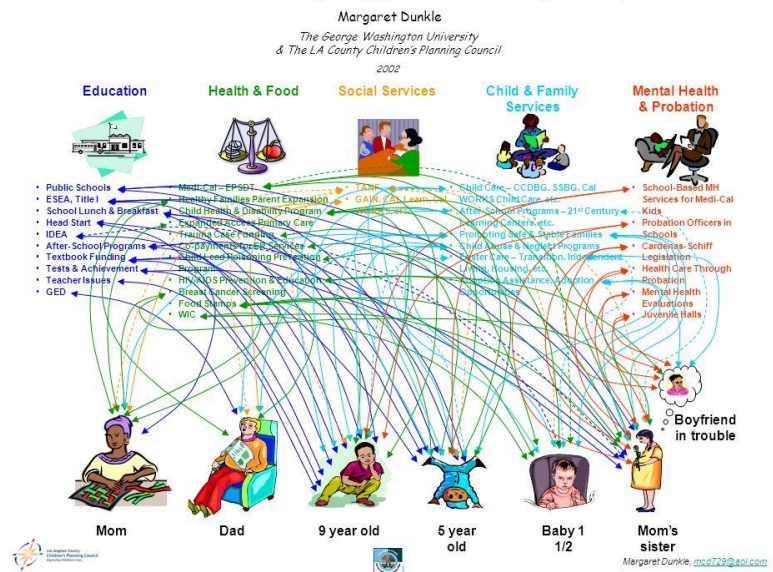
Just as each child is unique, each child’s journey from birth to adulthood is unique.

There are many impactful organizations working to support children in our community, but each faces barriers to offering the highest-quality services and education to meet the needs of all children in our community. The personalized approaches needed and the array of service providers creates a complicated, tangled web that is difficult to navigate.

In this three-year plan to support early childhood, we’ve identified strengths, barriers and gaps, proposed some collaborative solutions, and committed to the continuous assessment of what’s working for families in our community. If you do not feel that your experience as a family or service provider is captured in this plan - raise your voice. Share with us the community’s strengths that we’ve missed and the systemwide challenges that are holding families back.

Understanding LA Systems That Affect Families

A Look at How 40+ Programs Might Touch One Los Angeles Family



We all have a vested interest and stake in supporting our youngest citizens. Whether or not children live in your home, if you live in Chattanooga-Hamilton County, you are a part of this community and you play a role in the early childhood system.

There is no one-size-fits all solution to ensuring children will grow up to be successful, productive members of society. What we *can* do as a community, however, is try to make sure that children have access to the high-quality services and educational opportunities to meet their individual needs, that will give them their best start in life. Whether you choose the moral imperative or the empirical evidence - the children of today will be your doctors, lawyers, mechanics, pilots, mayors and teachers of tomorrow.

Simply put, our children are our present *and* our future.

Sincerely, Members of the Early Matters-Bright Start Steering Committee