



# Overarching Logic Model

## Early Connections Last a Lifetime



**ZERO to THREE**  
Early connections last a lifetime

**MISSION:** *To ensure that all babies and toddlers have a strong start in life.*

**VISION:** *A society with the knowledge and will to support all infants and toddlers in reaching their full potential.*

### Context

The earliest years of life are a unique period of opportunity and vulnerability, during which emotionally nourishing relationships lay the foundation for lifelong health and well-being

- Many infants and toddlers face significant adversities during these foundation years that impact their learning and development
- Early identification and intervention leads to long-term cost savings and better outcomes for infants, toddlers, families, and society
- Many parents, professionals, and policymakers do not understand how they can buffer the effects of adversity and maximize healthy development
- The general public is not fully aware of the critical role that social-emotional well-being plays in the development of healthy minds and bodies
- The early childhood workforce faces a shortage of professionals with the specialized knowledge and skills to support expectant parents, infants, toddlers, and families
- Few comprehensive and coordinated policies, systems, services, and supports exist to help families meet the varied needs of their infants and toddlers
- There is a growing demand for resources that translate the evolving research base into practice and policy

### Resources

- Strong core values:
  - passion and persistence in helping infants and toddlers thrive
  - centrality of healthy positive relationships
  - highest standards of excellence in our work
- Long-standing reputation as the leading organization focused on children from birth to 3 years old within a prenatal to age 8 developmental framework
- Multidisciplinary and cross-sector expertise of board, staff, and fellows
- Grounding in the latest research evidence and best practices
- Wide range of resources and services that meet the needs of parents, professionals, and policymakers
- Respect for and responsiveness to cultural and linguistic diversity
- Established collaborations, networks, and partnerships
- Capacity to reach a wide and diverse audience
- Organizational financial stability

### Activities

We provide parents, professionals, and policymakers the knowledge and know-how to nurture early development by...

- Offering **parents** (and other primary caregivers) information and practical strategies to strengthen bonds with their children and address common parenting challenges
- Providing **professionals** with training, technical assistance, and resources that translate research into practice to inform their work with diverse families, especially those experiencing adversity
- Collaborating with **policymakers** to adopt policies, fund programs, and build comprehensive early childhood systems
- Mobilizing advocates and educating the general public to advance policies that better meet the needs of expectant parents, infants, toddlers, and families
- Cultivating the next generation of early childhood leaders through our Leadership Development Institute
- Partnering with nonprofit, academic, corporate, and government organizations

In all our work, we strive to be: evidence-based, multidisciplinary, comprehensive, respectful, reflective, and relationship-based

Evaluation and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)

### Outcomes

#### Short-Term

Our key audiences **understand their unique roles** in supporting infants and toddlers:

- **Parents** better understand how they can foster the well-being and healthy development of their infants and toddlers
- **Professionals** expand their knowledge of the needs of expectant parents, infants, toddlers, and families, and of the best practices for meeting those needs
- **Policymakers** and the general public more fully recognize the benefits of supporting expectant parents, infants, toddlers, and families, and the positive role policy can play in doing so

#### Intermediate

Our key audiences **embrace their unique roles** in supporting infants and toddlers:

- **Parents** become more responsive and engaged in interactions with their infants and toddlers
- **Professionals** enhance their competencies in partnering with parents and implementing best practices
- **Policymakers** actively pursue policies that provide for better-funded systems, services, and supports to benefit expectant parents, infants, toddlers, and families

#### Long-Term

Our key audiences **ensure that all infants and toddlers have a strong start in life:**

- **Parents** have stronger, more secure relationships with their children
- **Professionals** are part of a more highly skilled and knowledgeable workforce that has the capacity to meet the diverse needs of expectant parents, infants, toddlers, and families
- **Policymakers** create well-funded, more responsive public policies that ensure access to a comprehensive, cohesive system of high-quality supports focused on the earliest years

### Ultimate Impact

To transform society so that all infants and toddlers...

...have emotionally nourishing relationships

...live in strong families and healthy communities

...experience greater equity and fewer disparities

...are resilient in the wake of adverse events

...thrive emotionally, socially, cognitively, linguistically, and physically

...develop the foundation for lifelong health and well-being