



## COLORADO COMMUNITIES ADVANCING CHILDREN'S SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL HEALTH

[LAUNCHTogetherColorado.org](http://LAUNCHTogetherColorado.org)

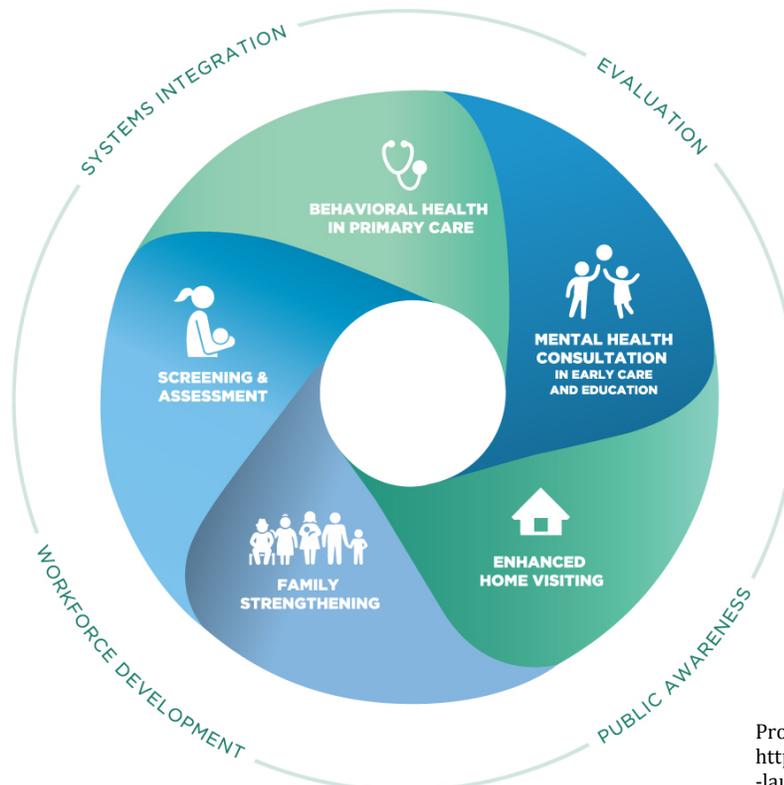
**The Need.** The early years of a child's life lay the foundation for school readiness and future success. Early emotional experiences impact children's ability to learn and thrive at home and in school. Yet approximately 30% of children by the age of 8 are not on track with their social and emotional development as exhibited by self-control, good interpersonal skills and no behavioral problems.

**The Focus.** LAUNCH Together supports Colorado communities in expanding evidence-based prevention and promotion strategies and building coordinated systems to support the wellness of children, prenatal through age 8, and their families with a focus on behavioral health and social and emotional development. The privately-funded LAUNCH Together initiative is inspired and informed by the experiences and outcomes of the SAMHSA's Project LAUNCH initiative. To learn more about SAMHSA's Project LAUNCH, visit: [healthysafechildren.org](http://healthysafechildren.org)

**The Strategy.** LAUNCH Together aims to 1) invest in communities to plan and implement effective community-based strategies and train professionals in a variety of settings; 2) bring together public and private partners to communicate what works, raise awareness and support policy changes to sustain effective community practices; and 3) evaluate the project and provide technical assistance to communities.

HOLISTIC PERSPECTIVE | ECOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK | PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACH

FAMILY-CENTERED | CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY COMPETENT



*“As young children develop, their early emotional experiences literally become embedded in the architecture of their brains.”<sup>1</sup>*

**LAUNCH Together incorporates research-based prevention and promotion strategies established through Project LAUNCH:**

- Screening and assessment in a range of child-serving settings
- Integration of behavioral health into primary care settings
- Mental health consultation in early care and education
- Enhanced home visiting through increased focus on social and emotional well-being
- Family strengthening and parent skills training

**LAUNCH Together aligns and leverages existing efforts to:**

- Increase access to screening, assessment and referral to appropriate services for young children and their families
- Expand use of culturally relevant, evidence-based prevention and wellness promotion practices in a range of settings
- Increase integration of behavioral health into primary care settings
- Improve coordination and collaboration across disciplines at the local, state, tribal and federal levels
- Increase workforce knowledge of children’s social and emotional development and preparation to deliver high-quality care



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***LAUNCH Together drives public-private partnerships to better address gaps in early childhood social-emotional health and development programs and systems to improve the social, emotional, behavioral, physical and cognitive development of young children.***

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<sup>1</sup> National Scientific Council on the Developing Child (2004). *Children’s Emotional Development Is Built into the Architecture of Their Brains: Working Paper No. 2*. <http://www.developingchild.net>