

Early Childhood Services Bureau

[Best Beginnings Advisory Council](#)

dphhs.mt.gov/hcsd/childcare/bestbeginningsadvisorycouncil.aspx

The Best Beginnings Advisory Council serves as the comprehensive early childhood advisory council and the collaborating entity for the early childhood system. The Council has four principal objectives:

- Children have access to high quality Early Childhood Programs.
- Families with young children are supported in their community.
- Children have access to a medical home and health insurance.
- Social, emotional, and mental health needs of young children and families are supported.

[Best Beginnings Community Coalitions](#)

The local coalitions are working to increase coordination across early childhood systems at the grass roots level in towns, counties, and regions.

[Best Beginnings STARS to Quality](#)

dphhs.mt.gov/hcsd/ChildCare/STARS.aspx

The Best Beginnings STARS to Quality Program is a voluntary quality rating improvement system that aligns quality indicators with support and incentives for early childhood programs and early childhood professionals.

[Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems](#)

The Montana Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Grant is addressing the mitigation of toxic stress and trauma in infancy and early childhood. The key components of the grant include prevention, promotion, and intervention.

[Head Start State Collaboration Office](#)

dphhs.mt.gov/hcsd/ChildCare/HSSCO.aspx

The Head Start State Collaboration Office facilitates collaboration among Head Start agencies (including Early Head Start agencies) and entities that carry out activities designed to benefit low income children from birth to school entry, and their families.

[Healthy MT Teen Parent Program](#)

dphhs.mt.gov/hcsd/ChildCare/HealthyMTTeenParentProgramHome.aspx

The Healthy Montana Teen Parent Program supports programs that work with pregnant and parenting teens. The program supports teen mothers and fathers, along with their children.

[Montana Preschool Development Grant](#)

The purpose of the grant is to build, develop, and expand high-quality preschool programs so that more children from low-and moderate-income families enter ready to succeed in kindergarten and in life. The grant is supported in partnership with the MT Department of Public Health and Human Services and the MT Office of Public Instruction.

[Montana Project LAUNCH](#)

The purpose of Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health) is to promote the wellness of young children ages birth to 8 by addressing the physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and behavioral aspects of their development.

