Early Childhood Action Strategy (ECAS)

## **ECAS TEAM 3**

# On-track Health & Development

Team 3 is working to ensure all children are supported to reach their optimal development by working with early childhood and healthcare providers and families. ECAS GOAL 2 More children develop on-track ECAS GOAL 3 More children enter kindergarten school ready

#### **THEORY OF CHANGE**

The first years of childhood are critically important to a child's health, wellbeing, and development. When children with developmental concerns are identified early, the sooner supports can be provided to promote their optimal development.Building lifelong healthy habits starts prenatally and extends into early childhood. Children that are regularly offered opportunities to eat healthy, culturally-appropriate foods and engage in physical activity reduce their risk for chronic diseases in adulthood. Additionally, children are more likely to thrive when their physical and mental well-being needs are addressed and their families have the knowledge, skills and resources they need to be strong partners and advocates for their children's health, wellness and early learning.

## GOALS

- » Ensure all children, especially those atrisk, get screened at AAP recommended ages, are provided with appropriate referrals, and access those services
- » Ensure there is communication with the medical home and early childhood programs
- » Ensure childhood obesity prevention best practices and standards are understood, supported, and implemented in early childhood programs
- » Ensure young children's social and emotional development is supported by childcare providers, medical and health care providers and parents and families

### STRATEGIES

- » Create a framework for a screeningreferralutilization of services feedback loop within the medical home model
- » Increase the number of children enrolled in a medical home
- » Embed childhood obesity prevention best practices into the early childhood system
- » Promote the social and emotional health of infants and toddlers

#### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS)**

- » Increase in the # children (0-3 years) who have had a developmental screening
- » Increase in the # of children (0–5) having a medical home
- » Decrease in the # of children (2-8) who are overweight or obese
- » Increase the number of early childhood programs implementing childhood obesity prevention best practices.
- » Increase in the # of young children (age 6 months - 5 years) who are flourishing