



## Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) Renewal Grant Award

In November 2019, DCDEE submitted an application to the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care, for a Preschool Development Grant (PDG) Renewal to further work to strengthen North Carolina's early childhood education system. On December 31, 2019, notification was received that North Carolina is among 20 states and territories that have been awarded three-year renewal grants through the PDG B-5! DCDEE will receive over \$40 million during the 3-year grant to build upon work from the planning grant and implement activities that will address areas identified as high priority in the PDG Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan. The funded activities will align with North Carolina's Early Childhood Action Plan. We are thrilled that one PDG activity will provide funding to continue work to improve and expand the NC Early Childhood Integrated Data System (NC ECIDS). Several projects and resources have been funded to support NC ECIDS:

- Continued work to modernize the NC ECIDS reporting and request platforms
- Expanded work to integrate home visiting data into NC ECIDS
- Expanded work to integrate Head Start data into NC ECIDS
- Integration of data from NC's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program into NC ECIDS
- Additional project management resource to manage new PDG activities for NC ECIDS

The projects included in the PDG application were selected based on input from the NC ECIDS Governance Council Executive Committee, ongoing work with GDAC, and partners of the Education Longitudinal Data System (ELDS). Below are descriptions of each project or resource that has been funded.

### Modernization of Reporting & Research Request Platforms

NCDHHS has partnered with NCDIT/GDAC through the PDG Planning Grant to transition NC ECIDS from an IBM to a SAS technology platform. The platform change will provide a cost-savings to maintain the system and will allow NC ECIDS to readily connect with other systems in the Education Longitudinal Data System. Collaborative work between NCDHHS's Information Technology Division (ITD), NCDIT/GDAC, NC ECIDS staff, and individual data contributors is taking place to prepare updated data that will be shared in the new SAS platform. After incorporating NC ECIDS data into the new technology platform, stakeholders will work with SAS to produce updated reports and visualizations. The project is expected to be completed by the end of June 2020.

The PDG Renewal Grant will allow partners to continue to modernize NC ECIDS to make its data more accessible for a diverse range of users. NC will fund additional data visualization, reporting, and other enhancements to complete the work of fully modernizing NC ECIDS to allow the system to provide timely, regularly updated data in a meaningful format for a diverse range of data. Up to 10 standard reports to address ECE data inquiries will be created through this project. The updates will also put in place more efficient processes for data requests to be fulfilled and pave the way for NC ECIDS to more easily contribute data to the broader Education Longitudinal Data System (ELDS).

## Home Visiting Data Integration

NC will continue to build a statewide picture of what data is being collected today across all home visiting (HV) models through convenings of HV data stakeholders (there are multiple HV programs with multiple administrative homes so there is no one place to obtain the data); and pilot the integration of data from a subset of HV models into NC ECIDS.

## Head Start Data Integration

NC has made progress on the integration of Head Start data into NC ECIDS. NC was able to export Head Start data for 22 of the 53 Head Start grantees in NC that signed on to participate in data integration with NC ECIDS. In the next round of PDG activities, NC proposes to bring on the remaining 31 grantees for participation in NC ECIDS, conduct trainings with programs on NC ECIDS and data use, and develop training materials for programs to use at the local level.

## Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program Data Integration

NC will add data to NC ECIDS from NC's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program, a statewide program and system of care to ensure that children who are deaf or hard of hearing are identified through newborn, infant, and EC hearing screening, and receive diagnosis and appropriate early intervention.

## Snapshot of NC ECIDS Projects Funded through PDG

NC ECIDS Project	PDG Planning Year	PDG Renewal Grant, Years 2 – 4
<b>Modernization of Reporting &amp; Research Request Platforms</b>	By the end of the no-cost extension period of June 2020, NC ECIDS data will be transitioned to new SAS technology platform, and new report tool with updated reports will be developed.	New reports will be developed in new SAS reporting tool as new data is integrated into NC ECIDS. Research request portal and NC ECIDS website will be modernized.
<b>Home Visiting Data Integration</b>	Foundational work was completed to identify key home visiting stakeholders and map out the process for extracting data from two home visiting models to be integrated into NC ECIDS.	Data will be extracted from home visiting models for integration into NC ECIDS. Project will be expanded to include additional home visiting models in work.
<b>Head Start Data Integration</b>	NC was able to export Head Start data for 22 of the 53 Head Start grantees in NC that signed on to participate in data integration with NC ECIDS.	NC will work to develop training materials on NC ECIDS, conduct trainings with grantees, export new and expanded Head Start data, and fully integrate data into NC ECIDS/NC ECIDS reports.
<b>Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program Data Integration</b>	N/A	New project – funding will cover work to map and prepare EHDI data for integration, assign unique identifiers, integrate data, and develop new reports with EHDI data.