



**EVERY CHILD READY CHICAGO (ECRC)
SHARED LEARNING JOURNEY #1:
PRENATAL TO THREE INITIATIVE (PN₃)**

SHARED LEARNING JOURNEY VOTE

(DECEMBER 2020)

Proposed Topics	Votes
Prenatal to 3 Initiative (PN3)	12
Early Intervention & Special Education	12
Workforce Development	11
Data	7
English Language Learners	7
Governance	3
Understanding the aftermath of COVID – promising strategies & practices from other cities	2
IL Funding Commission	1
Family engagement/enrollment in Early Head Start/Head Start programs	1
Latino Policy Forum analysis that integrated CPS classroom data with DFSS to indicate need by neighborhood	
Communication channels	
The EHS/HS Re-Competition	
Define “equity” in the group	

PN₃ SHARED LEARNING JOURNEY OVERVIEW

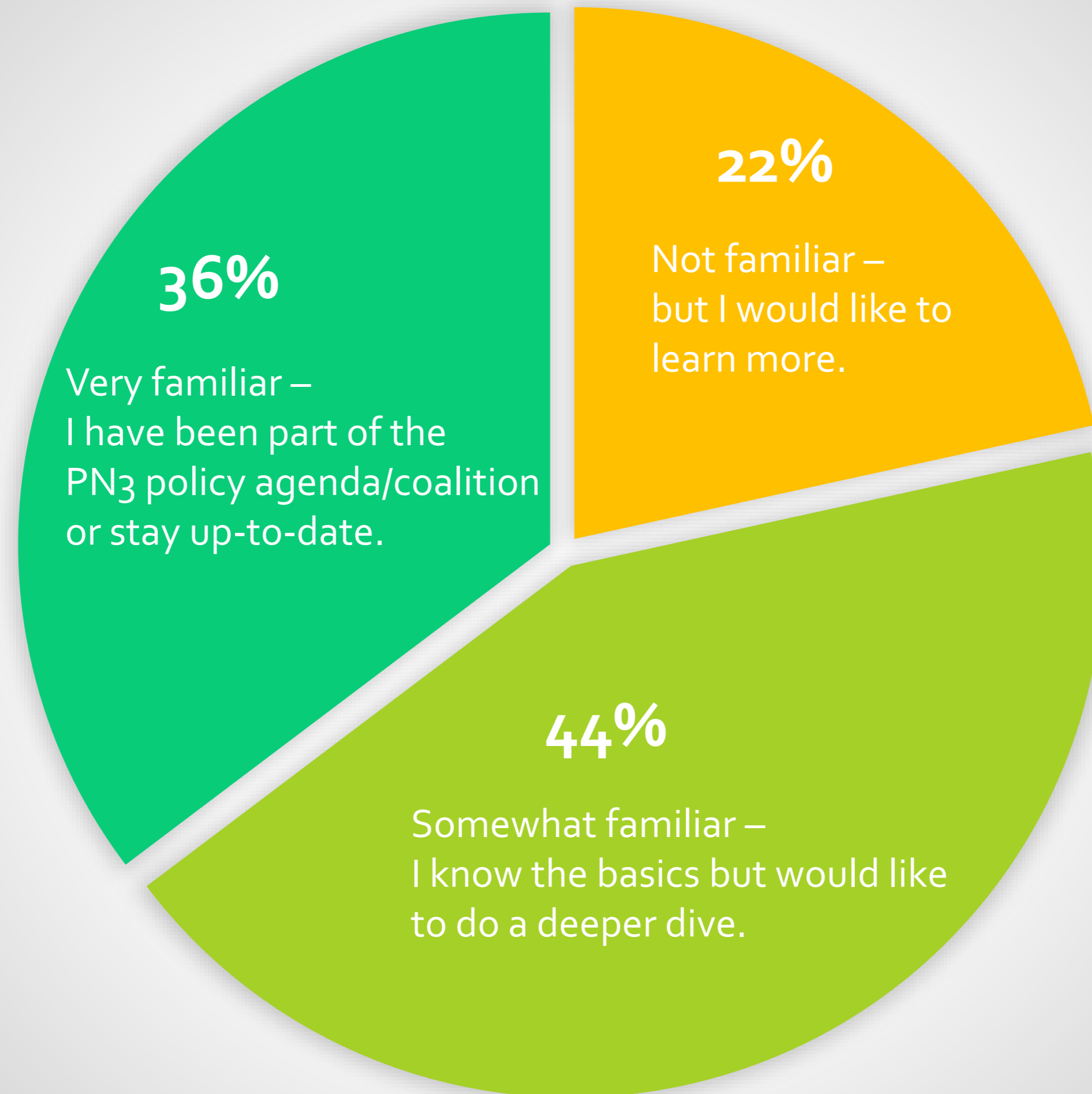
Purpose

- The ECRC Working Group identified the need to explore how the ECRC strategic plan can align with state and local initiatives that are already underway as to not duplicate efforts and to build on existing priorities and objectives.

Objectives for today:

- Ensure Working Group members have a shared knowledge and understanding of the PN₃ initiative
- Begin to explore how PN₃ can inform the ECRC visioning process & strategic plan (including potential strategic directions and the formation of Working Group subcommittees this summer)

HOW FAMILIAR ARE YOU WITH THE PN₃ INITIATIVE?



PREVIEW OF TODAY'S SESSION

- **Overview of the PN₃ Initiative – Simone Santiago, Director of the PN₃ Coalition at Start Early (15 min.)**
- **Potential Areas of Strategic Overlap – Dr. Jamilah Jor'dan, Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development, Denise Dell Isola, Program Director, Early Care and Education at the Irving Harris Foundation, and Jennifer Alexander, Director of Early Learning at the City of Chicago (15 min.)**
- **Questions and Group Discussion (20 min.)**
- **Next Steps (5 min.)**



APRIL 2021

Illinois Prenatal to Three Agenda & Coalition

A collective effort to close the opportunity gap for our earliest learners.



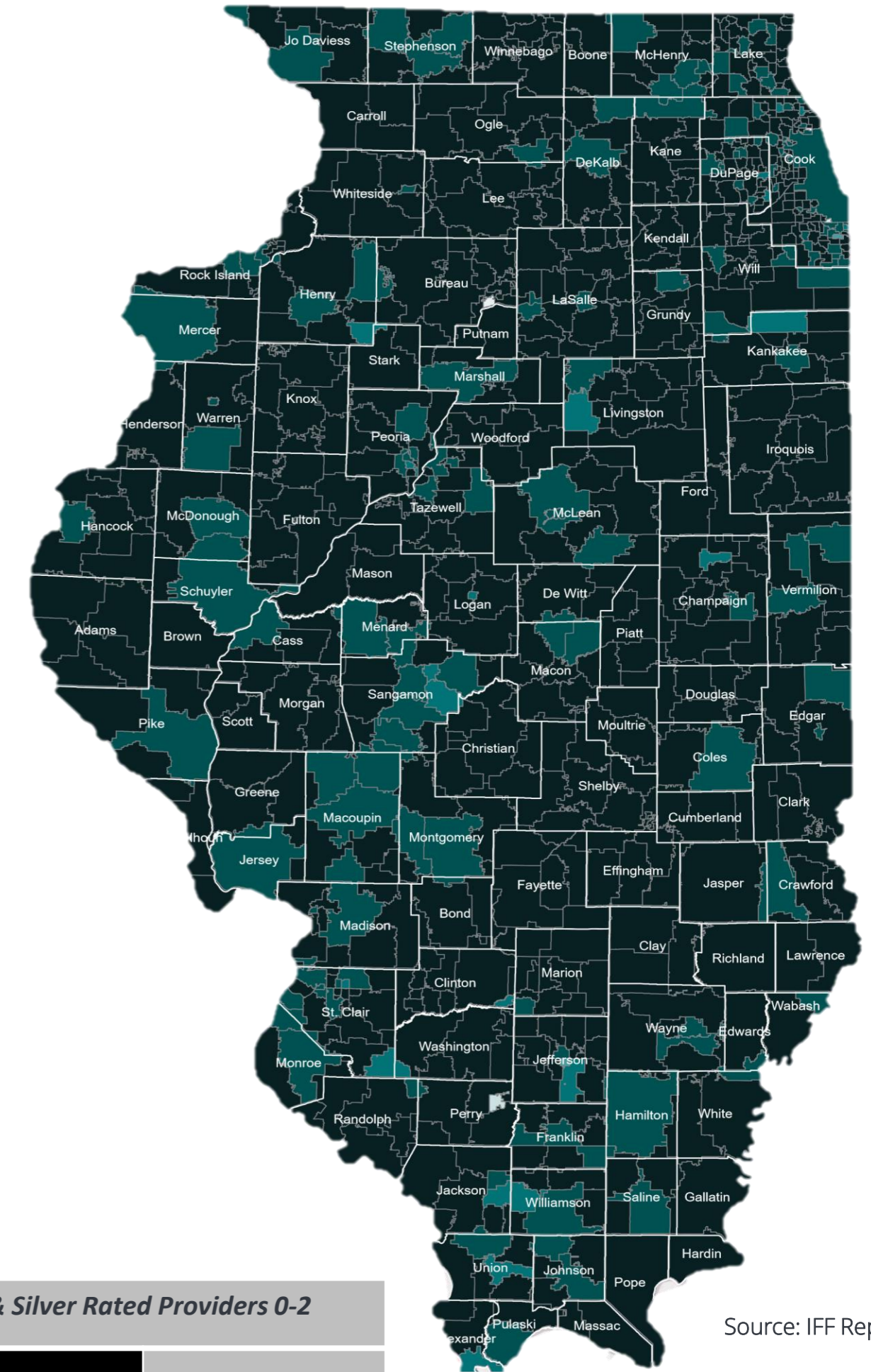
Problem to Solve

- The science is clear that **the first three years of life are the most critical** for development, setting a child up for lifelong success or lifelong challenges.
- Infants and toddlers see the **greatest disparities** in funding. Our children are shortchanged **exactly when the potential benefit is greatest.**

In Illinois, the impacts of this crisis are acute:

- Only 25% of infants and toddlers have access to licensed child care, with only 5% of infants and toddlers having access to high-quality care.

We know these barriers to access exist in home visiting, early intervention, and other critical infant-toddler services.



Gold & Silver Rated Providers 0-2	
Black	0-10%
Dark Teal	10-25%
Medium Teal	50-75%
Light Teal	75-100%
Lightest Teal	100%+

Source: IFF Report 2019

How We Got Here

In 2019, we convened a broad group of 100+ diverse stakeholders to develop an **ambitious, comprehensive, multi-year strategic policy agenda.**

“

The group identified where Illinois needs to:

- Increase **access** to services that exist through enrollment or expansion efforts
- Improve **quality** of existing programs and services
- Implement **new services or innovations** that are needed

In developing recommended policy priorities, we examined data, applied a racial equity lens and focused on Illinois' priority populations.

Illinois will become the best state in the nation for families raising young children.

JB Pritzker, Illinois Governor

PN3 Agenda & Coalition

- We are part of a **national movement** of 19 states funded by Pritzker Children's Initiative (PCI) to move PN3 work forward.
- Last fiscal year, we convened a broad group of 100+ diverse stakeholders to create a **bold, ambitious PN3 Agenda** for Illinois.
- Together with the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development (GOECD), Start Early will lead the PN3 Coalition as a **public – private partnership**.
- The vision is to **close the opportunity gap with our earliest learners** so that every expecting family and child in Illinois has the care and learning they need during their most formative years to create the strongest foundation for success in life.
- PN3 Coalition is the **collective effort** to implement the PN3 Agenda.

Who We Are – Illinois Prenatal to Three (PN3) Coalition

Our Mission

Together we are addressing the **root causes of disparities** and working to create an **equitable** and **cohesive** early childhood development system of supports for Illinois' expecting **families, infants** and **toddlers** and the communities in which they live. We believe no child should have race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status or ability determine the opportunities and ultimately the success they experience in life.

Our Vision

Every expecting family, infant, and toddler in Illinois should have affordable and equitable access to the **high-quality learning experiences, health services** and **economic supports** that they need during their most formative years—creating the strongest **foundation for their success** in school and life.

Impact Goal

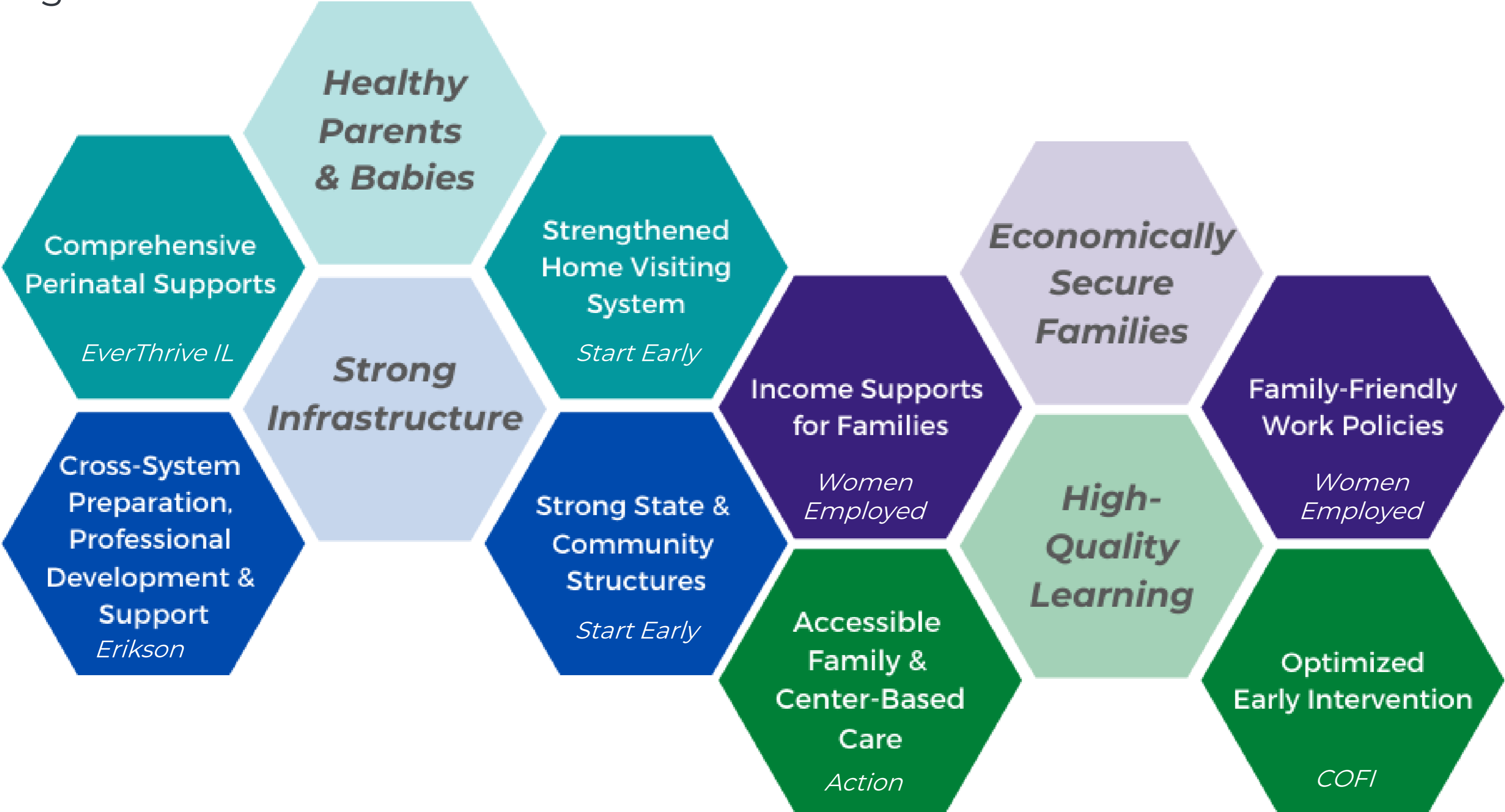
100,000 more expecting families and infants and toddlers receive services and supports they need by 2025.

PN3 Alignment with State Initiatives

- The **Funding Commission's** work in adequate funding and cohesive governance moves forward a critical set of objectives from the PN3 Agenda. In this area of overlap, both initiatives move forward together.
 - The Funding Commission's report released early this month makes recommendations driving community and regional infrastructure, and increased funding, improved governance and funding mechanisms that are critical components for the success of our PN3 Agenda.
- The PN3 Agenda has been aligned with the **GOECD Strategic Plan for the Preschool Development Grant B-5** and activities.
 - Each of the GOECD PDG B-5 strategic goals in the focus areas of Access, Coordination, Quality and Workforce align directly with PN3 Agenda objectives. This enables us to coordinate efforts to track and report on progress in implementation.

Our Illinois PN3 Agenda – Goals & Strategies

In order to reach more families, we have identified four policy-specific goals: Healthy Parents & Babies, High-Quality Early Learning, Economically Secure Families and Strong Infrastructure. We will advance these goals through eight interconnected and targeted strategies.



Illinois PN3 Coalition Structure – Roles & Responsibilities

Lead Organization(s):

- *Facilitating Contributions* – Overseeing pre-identified strand of work and facilitating a unified effort among all **contributing** members.
- *Policy Implementation* – Enact the policy agenda to meet objectives.
- *Family Voice* – Inclusion of family and beneficiary voice.

Contributing Organization(s):

- Regularly participate and commit significant effort in service of this initiative.

On-the-Ground Champion(s):

- Provide assistance (as able), sign-on to and vocalize support for Coalition and its call-to-action items.



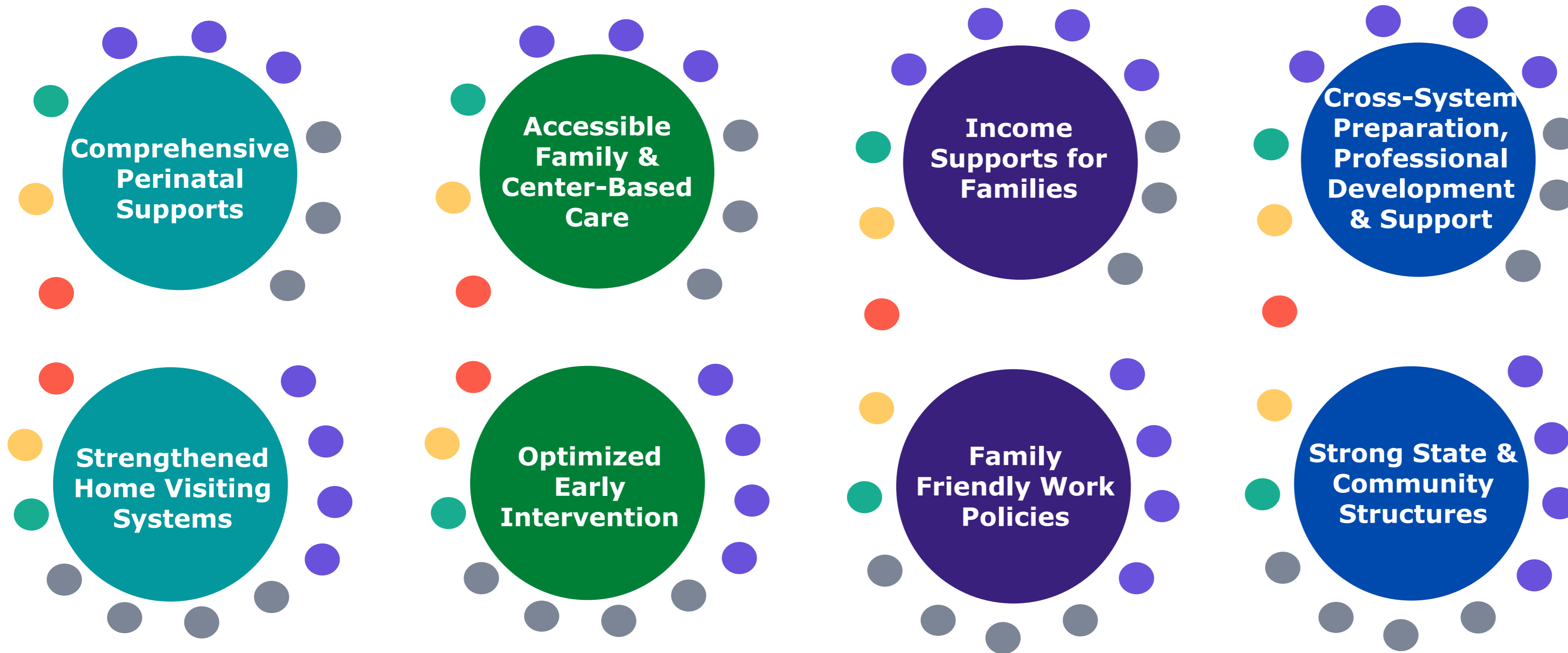
Communications Committee:

- Each work group will have at least one member of the Communication Committee to support the *building of public awareness and investment*.
- Committee will work together ensure *clear, unified messaging* across all components of Agenda.

Data Committee:

- Each work group will have a Data Committee member to *vet baseline data and track progress* of Agenda objectives using impact data.

Illinois PN3 Coalition Structure



KEY:

Lead Organization

Contributing Organization

On-the-Ground Champion

Communications Committee

Data Committee

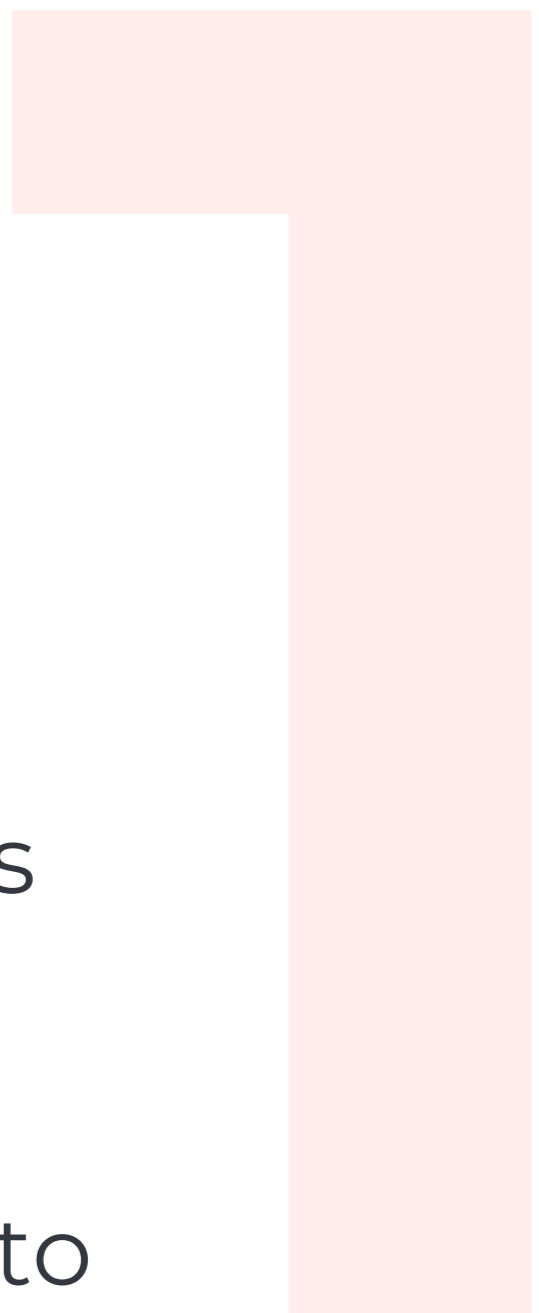
Public Side Strategy

- GOECD will lead coordination across public agencies to ensure we are lifting up priorities, potential challenges, and wins.
- As we move forward, we will use an inter-agency approach with members of these bodies working to operationalize the PN3 Agenda through their organizational efforts.
- **Agencies:**
 - Department of Children & Family Services (DCFS)
 - Department of Health Care & Family Services (DHFS)
 - Department of Public Health (DPH)
 - Department of Human Services (DHS)
 - Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)

Founding Year: Q1 Progress



- In Q1, we conducted a **survey of 100+ leaders** in the PN3 space to begin to gauge their interest and capacity in components of the PN3 Agenda.
 - In the analysis, we saw a **diverse array** of organizations that clearly saw themselves contributing to work across our strategies and goal areas.
- We conducted a series of meetings with organizations across the state, **matching PN3 stakeholders** to our Lead, Contributor, and Champion roles across the eight strategies of our agenda.
- We convened a short-term **Advisory Group** to reflect on this data and guide us in thinking through implementation strategy.
- This group, together with our funders, partners, and PCI connections, helped to **co-create the structure and governance** of our Coalition, articulate our core values and guiding principles, and set member roles and responsibilities.



Founding Year: Q2 Progress



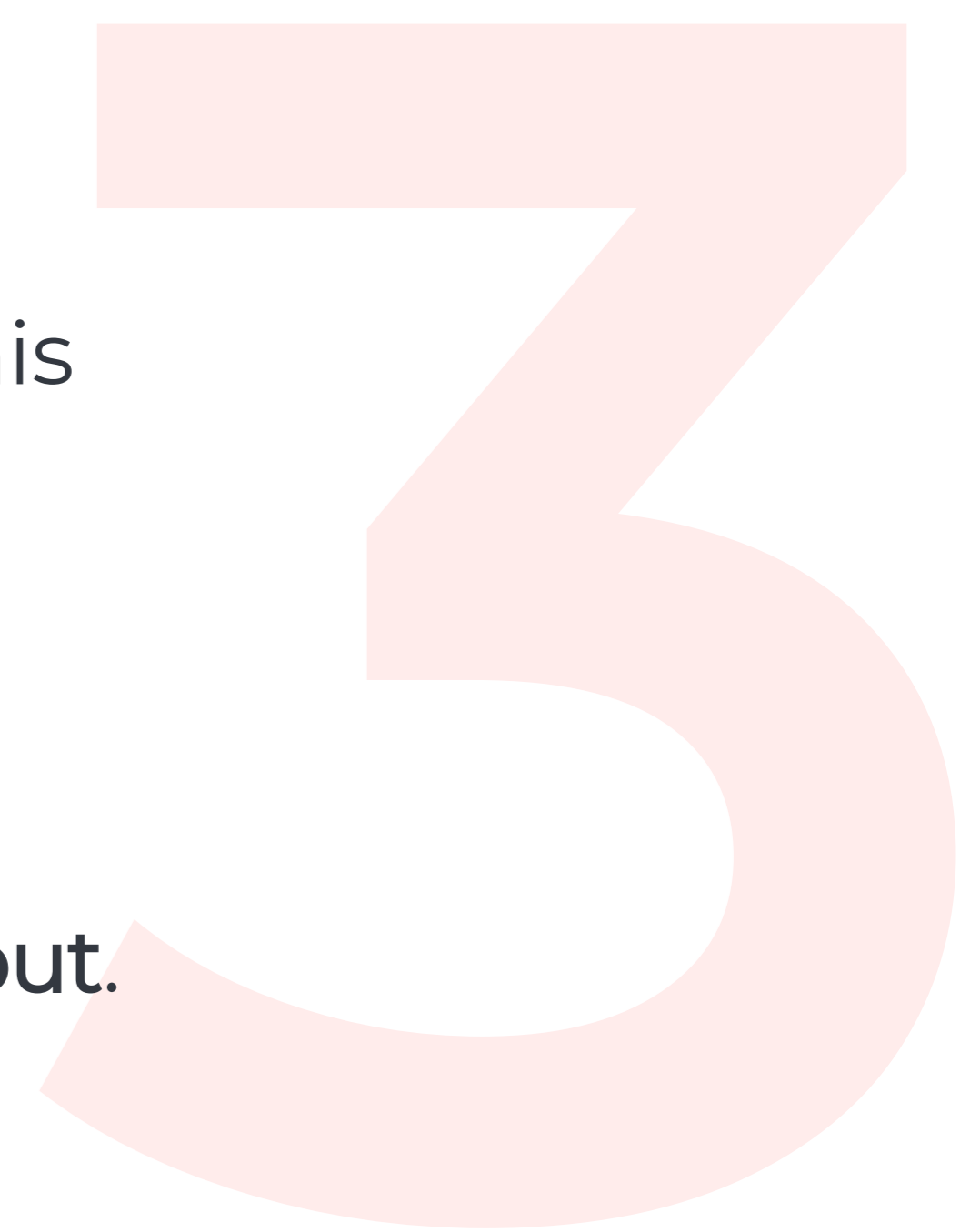
- In Q2, we launched our Communications Committee and developed:
 - **Communications infrastructure** including an internal communication site, list creation, and an e-messaging systems.
 - **Communications strategy** rooted in a series of workshops facilitated by consultant, identifying key, unifying messages, culminating in a communications plan.
- We launched the Data Committee and developed:
 - **Online reporting system** to track progress towards our policy objectives. We collect qualitative data on legislative, administrative, and budgetary movement and quantitative data on our key impact measures.
- We arranged engagement agreements with Lead Facilitating Organizations and key Contributors, laying the foundation for the Policy Groups of the PN3 Coalition.



Founding Year: Q3 Progress



- In Q3, we launched the **Policy Groups** of our Coalition. We will continue to recruit to ensure a diverse membership to optimally pursue our objectives with strong incorporation of family and beneficiary voice.
- The Communications Committee has developed our:
 - **Branding plan** that is more family-friendly and easily distinguished in this landscape
 - Laying the foundation for plan for an initial **website and public launch**.
- The Data Committee has developed our:
 - Partnership with IECAM and Erikson to create a **PN3 Risk & Reach pull-out**.
 - The foundation for our **end-of-year report**.
- With partner organization COFI, we drafted a strategic plan to deepen our **family engagement** going forward.



Investments in the PN3 Agenda

- GOECD has leveraged Preschool Development Grant investments to address critical resource gaps as we drive to our policy objectives:
 - Early Intervention Demonstration Projects
 - Infant-Toddler Childcare Roadmap
 - Prenatal to Three Risk & Reach Report
 - Communications Support for the PN3 Coalition
 - Licensed Child Care Infant Toddler Classroom Quality
- We have also seen philanthropic investments in key areas:
 - Home Visiting for Homeless Families Evaluation
 - Universal Newborn Supports Financing Study



Top-Line Policy Wins

Despite the pandemic, we have seen significant wins this year:



- Our state's COVID-19 response kept early childhood providers at the center of our plans and supports
- HB158 provides the legislative framework for covering critical home visiting and doula services to families across our state through Medicaid
- HB2170 will extend Early Intervention services and expand access to infant mental health consultation and services.
- Progress in advocacy for racial equity, including Diversity, Equity & Inclusion training, disaggregated data by race, and a new Anti-Racism Commission
- Advancements in telehealth and live video visits allowed us to provide home visiting and early intervention services to infants, toddlers and their families in unprecedented conditions.
- Expansion of services with our state receiving the most EHS/CC slots in this region

Strategic Questions



Our state's PN3 Coalition is a collective effort – the success of Chicago in supporting expecting families, infants and toddlers is critical.



- Are there aspects of our model that are applicable to Every Child Ready Chicago?
 - Are there values and guiding principles that we have in common?
 - Are there priorities and policy objectives that we share?
 - Are there aspects of the structure and/or sequence of our work that resonate?
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Thank you!

To join this collective effort, you can complete [this form](#).

You can also contact our team by emailing IllinoisPN3@StartEarly.org.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Are there aspects of the PN3 model that are applicable to Every Child Ready Chicago?
- Are there values and guiding principles that we have in common?
- Are there priorities and policy objectives that we can share?

NEXT STEPS

- This discussion will be included in the landscape and SRC's strategic planning document to help us identify our top strategies and potential subcommittees
- Please bring your thoughts and ideas to April 27th Working Group Meeting
- Upcoming Shared Learning Journeys:
 - Early Childhood Workforce Partnership – *Wednesday, May 12th 9:00-10:15am*
 - Special Education & Early Intervention – *Week of May 24th*
 - Data Infrastructure & Citywide Research Consortium – *June 2021*