



Supported by the Kent County Ready by Five Millage.

NEWLY FUNDED READY BY FIVE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR 2021-2022

OUTREACH AND NAVIGATION

These services educate parents about resources available to support healthy child development and early learning and connect them to programs in the community. They engage expectant parents and parents of young children, with a strategic focus on those with the highest needs.

Navigation and Outreach recipients include:

- **West Michigan Partnership for Children** – The Parent Engagement Program will conduct parent and leadership training and activities with a trauma-informed approach focusing on communications skills, support with navigating the child welfare system, increasing understanding of early childhood development and self-care.
- **Health Net of West Michigan** – Services will be provided to children and their families engaged in foster care services through a targeted case management approach, forming a wrap-around service team with the foster care caseworker, family of origin, foster family, and Health Net's Early Childhood Case Management Team.
- **Family Promise of Grand Rapids** – While children and families experiencing homelessness are in shelter, the Family Engagement and Stabilization Specialists will support and connect families with young children to community resources using a trauma-informed approach.
- **Family Futures** – This outreach strategy will enhance Family Futures' current efforts as an Outreach and Navigation provider by targeting families in need of specialized services using advanced marketing data to increase entry points into the network for specific groups and populations most in need.
- **Hispanic Center of West Michigan** – This organization will provide outreach to engage and provide navigation supports to an unmet population in Kent County.
- **Bethany Christian Services of Michigan** – In order to improve outreach and navigation services for the children and parents served by the Hands Connected Network, Bethany will ensure parents will be connected by their provider to a Refugee Navigator, who will provide comprehensive support in navigating available community resources.

Navigation and Outreach service providers were awarded a total of \$1,738,422.

HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT

These services ensure expectant parents and those with young children have access to comprehensive, coordinated care that maximizes the child's physical and emotional health and regular screenings to identify developmental delays, disabilities, and emotional concerns. Examples of services include developmental screening tools, health care-focused programming, behavioral health services, and programs addressing environmental hazards.

Healthy Development recipients include:

- **Early Learning Neighborhood Collaborative (ELNC)** – Promote, Refer, Educate-Keep Early Education Positive (PRE-KEEP) will increase mental health services for children through a partnership with Arbor Circle and will provide basic mental health training for parents and teachers.
- **Family Futures** –Connections will provide learning kits with age-appropriate materials, targeting three- and four- year-old Connections participants. Learning kits will come with guides for parents on how to use the materials at home.
- **The Kent County Health Department** will lead the implementation and ongoing management of the Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) Network to ensure services are addressing the social, equity, economic, and health factors that contribute to healthy births in Kent County.

Healthy Development service providers were awarded a total of \$635,075.

TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION

These agencies will provide interpretation and translation services (in-person, telephone, and written) to families enrolled in programs funded by Ready by Five. Languages include, but are not limited to, Spanish, Nepali, Kinyarwanda, Serbo-Croatian, Swahili, Burmese, American Sign Language, Vietnamese, and Karen.

Translation and interpretation recipients include:

- **Bethany Christian Services** –The Interpretation Services program provides linguistically- and culturally-appropriate- services for refugees and immigrants.
- **Hispanic Center of West Michigan** – Staff in the Language Services Department are professionally trained interpreters and have the ability and responsibility to be culturally competent as it pertains to the culture they represent while interpreting.
- **Liaison Linguistics** provides interpretation and written translation services, including face-to-face interpretation, telephone and video interpretation, accurate document translation, and staff education about cultural appropriateness.

Translation and Interpretation services were awarded a total of \$210,000.