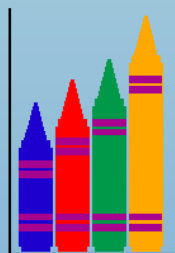




## Policy Challenges, Opportunities and Strategies Identified by State/Local Leaders, Families and 2004 Policy Maker's Summit Participants

Barbara Smith, U. of Colorado at Denver  
Roxanne Kaufman, National TA Center  
for Children's Mental Health

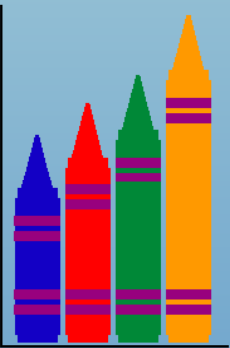


Center for Evidence-Based Practice:  
Young Children  
with Challenging Behavior

[www.challengingbehavior.org](http://www.challengingbehavior.org)

# Policy Research: Literature Syntheses, Focus Groups & Surveys

- What are the barriers and/or challenges to effective prevention and intervention services for young children at risk for or who have challenging behavior?
- What are policy strategies to address the challenges or barriers?



# Information Sources



## **Center for Evidence-based Practice: Young Children with Challenging Behavior**

- Literature syntheses re: systems and policies
- Focus groups
- National survey

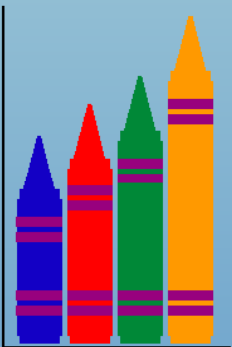


## **National TA Center for Children's MH**


- Discussion groups, Nat'l. scan and TA with states

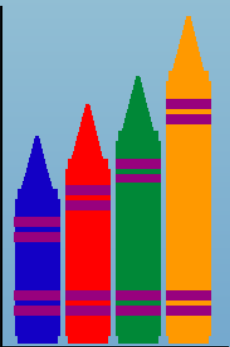


## **Centers' collaborative survey of states**



# Informants

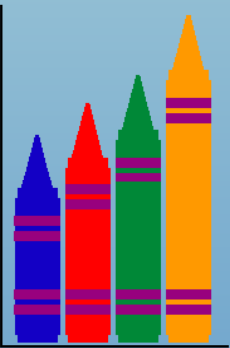
- 
- **State Agency Leaders:** IDEA Part C., ICC and 619; Child Mental Health; Child Welfare; Maternal and Child Health; Health
  - **Local Program Administrators:** Head Start, Child Care (including military programs), Public Schools, mental health consultants, home visitors and other TA providers
  - **Family Members:** Lists from PACER and FFCMH, parents involved with programs



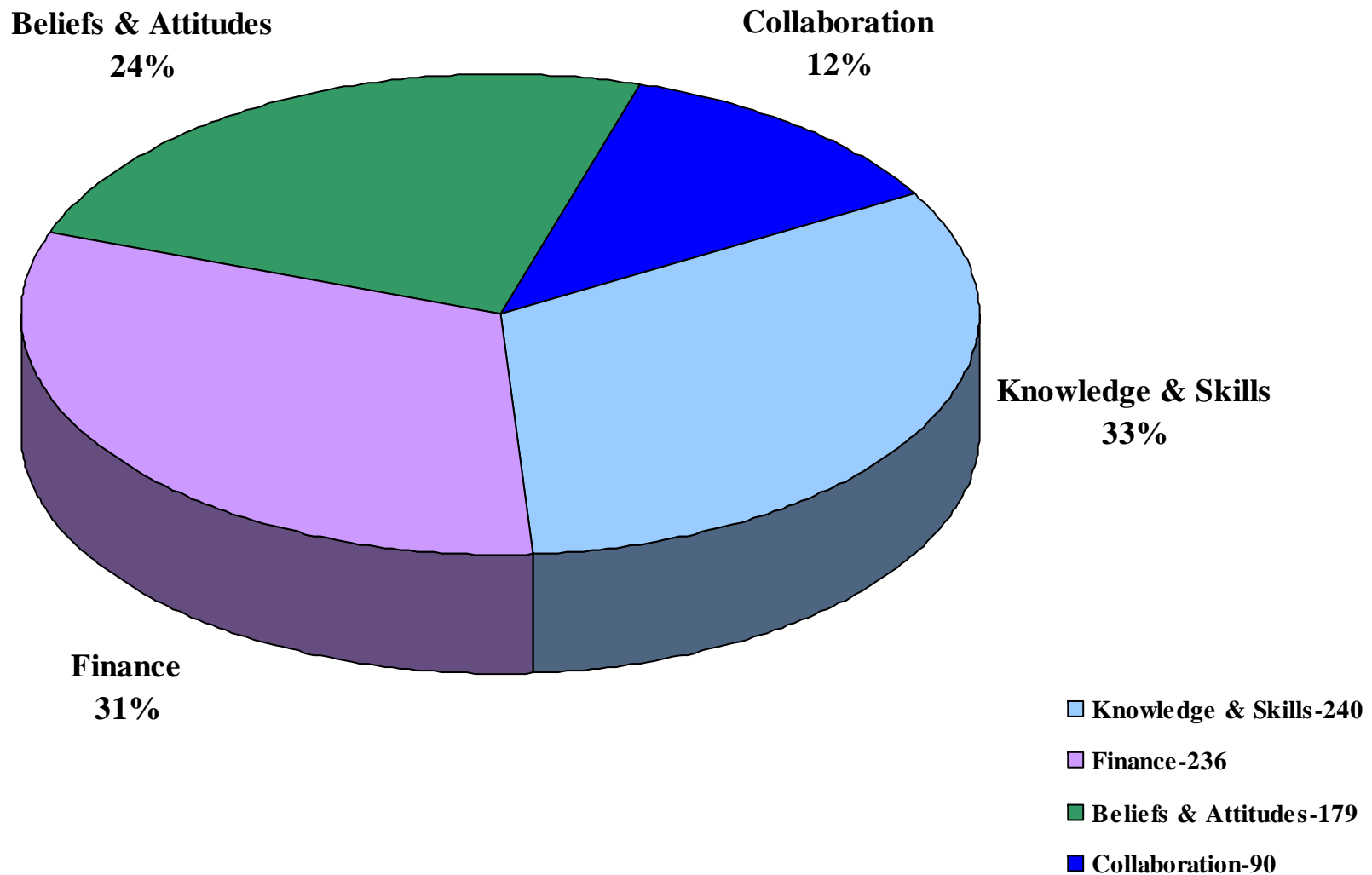
# Findings

## Categories of barriers/challenges

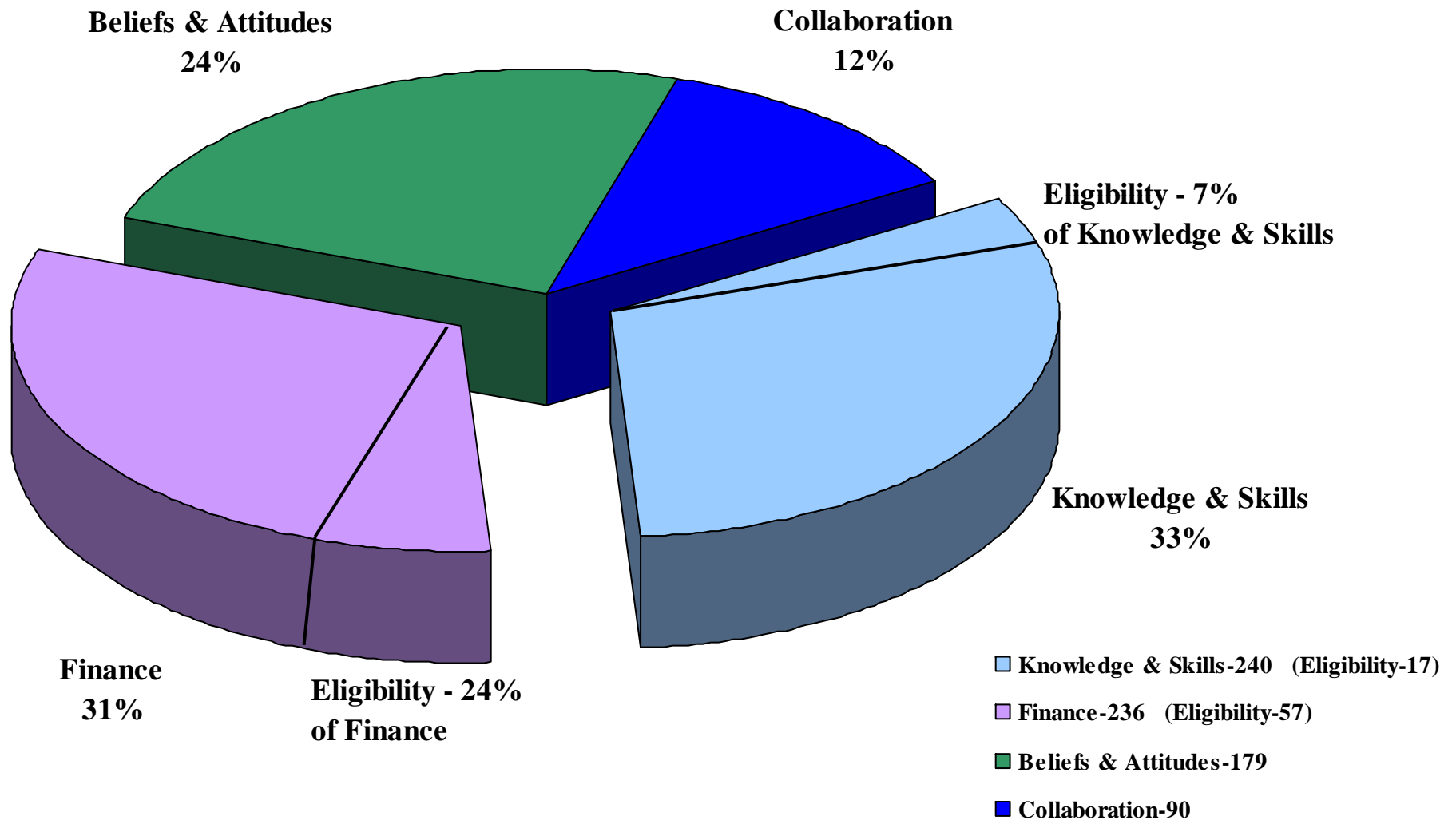
- Knowledge & Skills (including eligibility)
- Finance (including eligibility)
- Beliefs and Attitudes
- Collaboration/Coordination/System
- Availability of Evidence-based Services/Programs



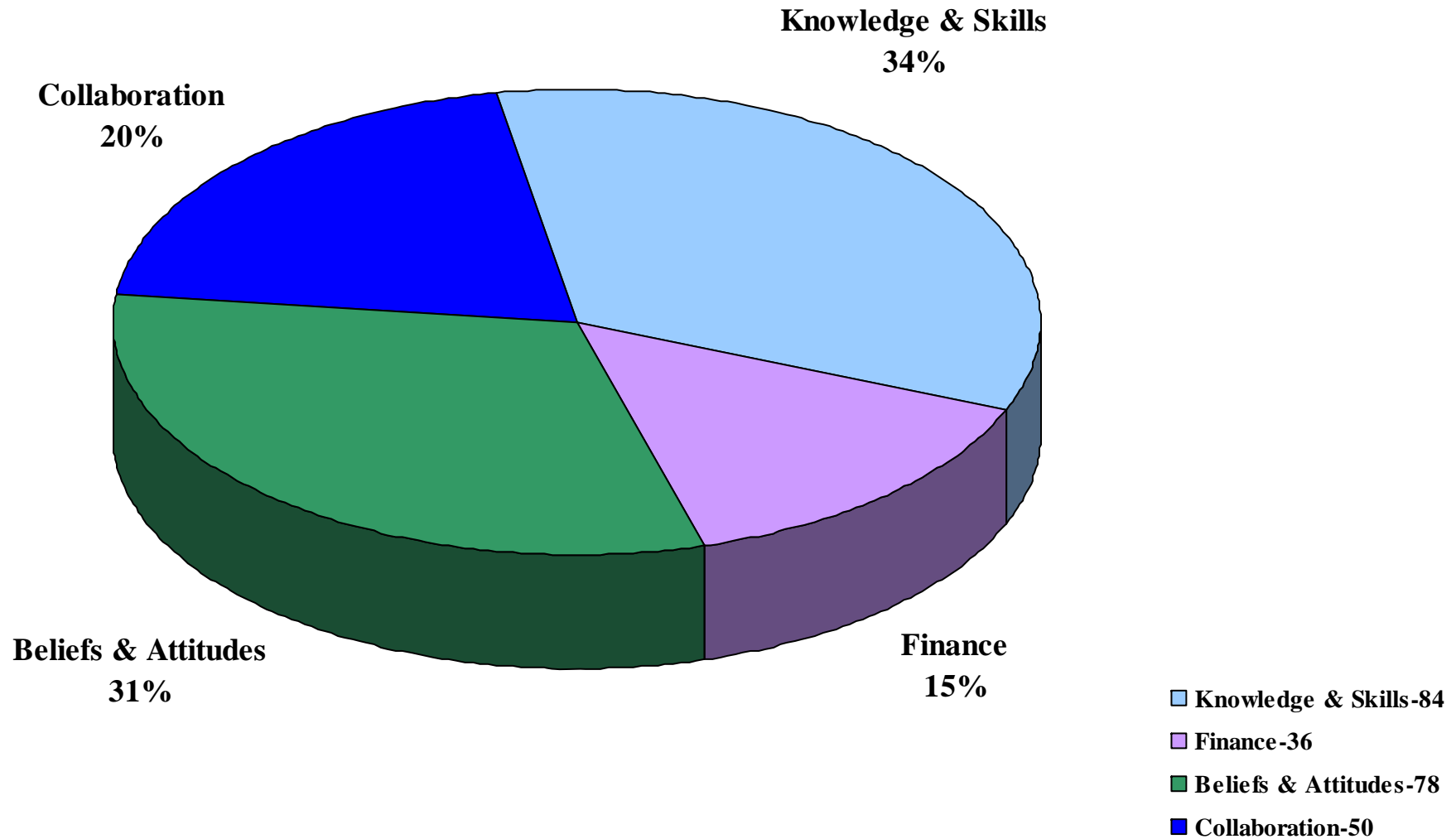
# Barriers/Challenges to Evidence-Based Practice re: Challenging Behavior



# Barriers/Challenges to Evidence-Based Practice: Eligibility



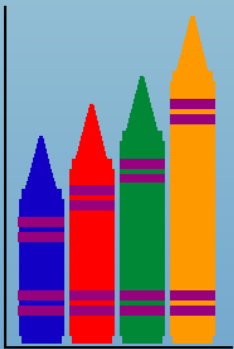
# Percent of Suggested Remedies to Barriers/Challenges





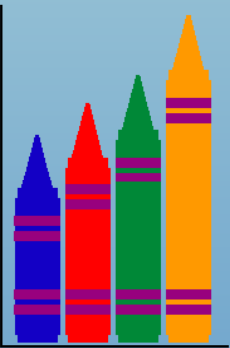
# Challenge: Knowledge and Skills (workforce development & support)

- Availability & quality of pre-service training
- Availability & quality of in-service training, TA, mentoring and other on-going support
- Quality of content of training/support:
  - Evidence-based
  - Eligibility
  - Working with families
- High turnover rates



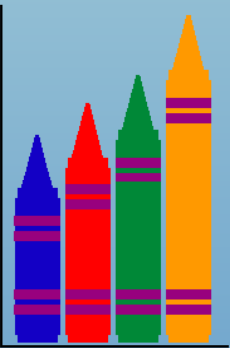
# Remedies: Knowledge & Skills

- Availability of pre-service training in evidence-based practices re: young children's social-emotional development and behavior
- Availability of in-service training, TA, mentoring, and other on-going support in evidence-based practices
- Availability of information and models of evidence-based practices, programs and systems
- Higher compensation and other workforce supports
- Awareness campaigns



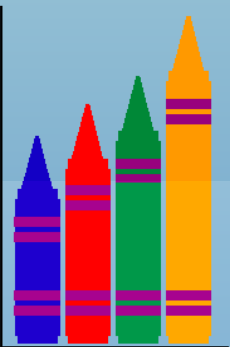
# Challenge: Attitudes & Beliefs

- Differing philosophies & approaches
- Perceptions of children, mental health, social-emotional development and behavior
- Perceptions between professionals and parents








# Remedies: Attitudes & Beliefs

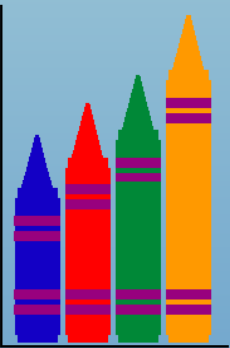
- Shared training on evidence-based practices among different professions, agencies and with parents
- Awareness campaigns about the importance of young children's social-emotional development, mental health and behavior




# Challenge: Finance

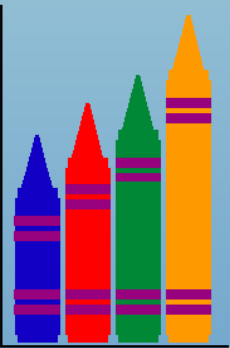


-  Eligibility criteria and requirements
-  Insufficient resources
-  Limits on blending resources
-  Insurance, Medicaid and other third party payment restrictions
-  Low compensation for EC personnel



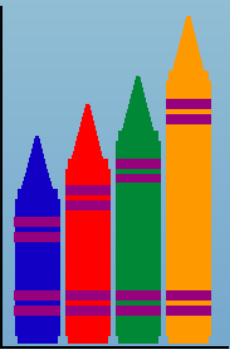
# Remedies: Finance

- 
- Policies that support blending and coordinating resources
  - Policies that promote prevention and support reaching children early
  - Adequate resources for programs and training/TA/support
  - Adequate compensation for EC personnel




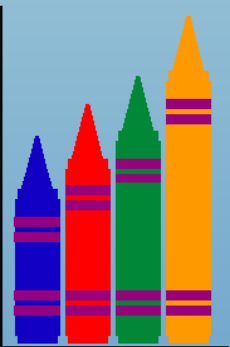
# Challenge: Collaboration & Coordination

- Lack of coordination of programs, systems and resources/funding streams
- Lack of collaboration among service providers
- Poor collaboration between professionals and parents
- Lack of integrated practice/services
- Failure to reach under-served populations
- Lack of leadership/ownership



# Remedies: Collaboration & Coordination

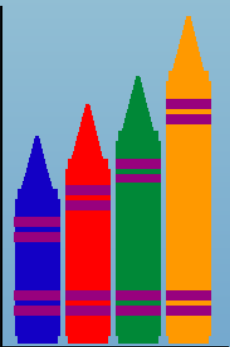
- 
- Policies that promote collaboration and coordination, e.g.,
    - System of care
    - Wrap around
    - Addressing differing eligibility limits
  - Skills in collaborating with families and other professionals
  - Addressing attitudes and beliefs (turf guarding, trust, differing philosophies)
  - Inclusion of diverse stakeholders





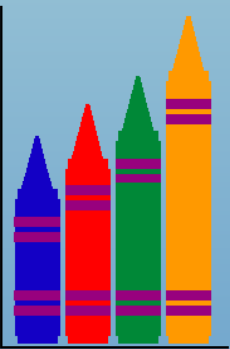
# Challenge: Evidence-based Services/Programs

- Need to focus on diverse populations
- Lack of services addressing co-occurring disorders
- Difficulty sustaining and scaling-up programs
- Lack of adequate research, development and dissemination
- Lack of evidence-based services for infants and toddlers



# Remedies: Evidence-based Services/Programs

- Incentives to serve diverse populations
- Cross-agency funding of evidence-based services
- National attention to use of evidence-based programs and services for infants, toddlers and young children
- Better dissemination of “what works”



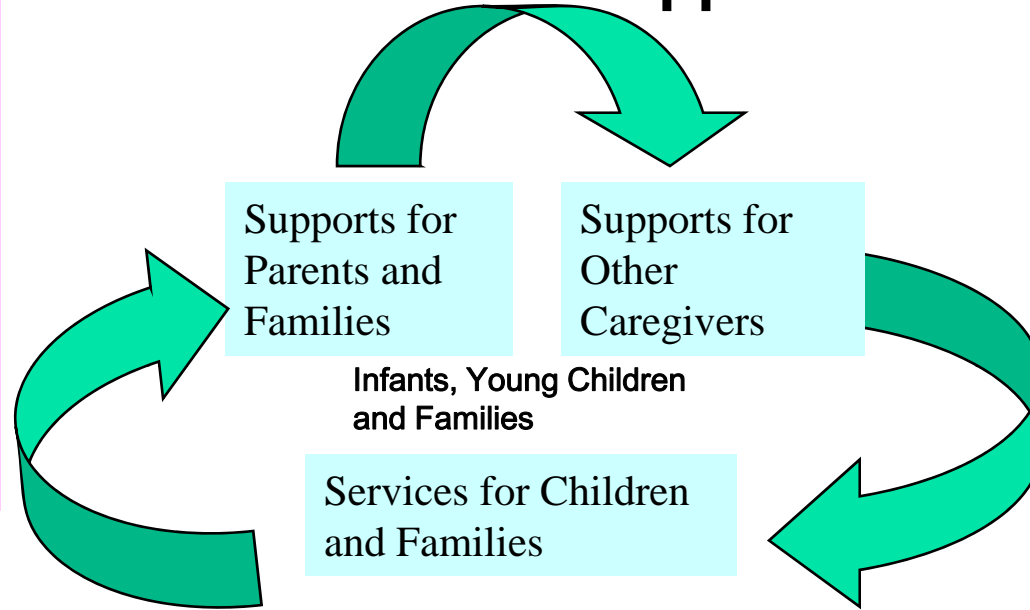
# Early Childhood System of Care

*Fosters the social and emotional well-being of infants, toddlers, preschool-aged children and their families*

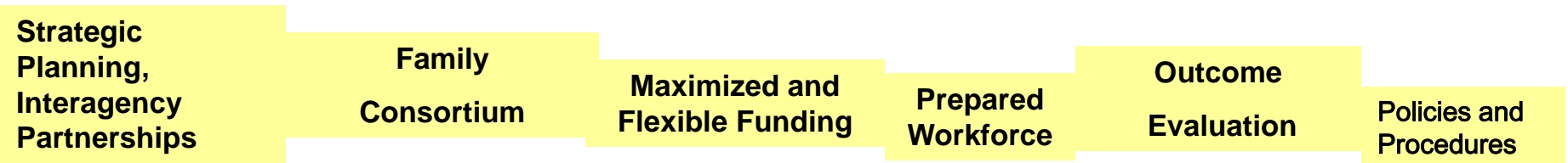
## VALUES

- Family Voice
- Child and Family Centered
- Relationship Based
- Culturally Competent
- Infused into Natural Settings and Services
- Grounded in Developmental Knowledge

## Services and Supports



## Building Blocks



**Promotion** → **Prevention** → **Intervention**

Developed by Roxane Kaufmann, GUCCHD

# Next Steps

- Recommendations of Policy Strategies that Scale-up and Promote the Use of Evidence-based Practices, Services and Programs in the Context of a System

