



1

## Agenda

---

- Importance
- Help Me Grow
- The BRIDGE Family Resource Connector Network

The right side of the slide features a decorative graphic composed of several overlapping geometric shapes: a teal parallelogram, a green parallelogram, and two yellow diamonds. These shapes are arranged in a pattern that suggests movement or a network.

2

## Policy Impact

---

- 2019
  - DHHS developed an internal policy
    - All reports from medical professionals involving children 0-5 years of age would be accepted at the hotline.

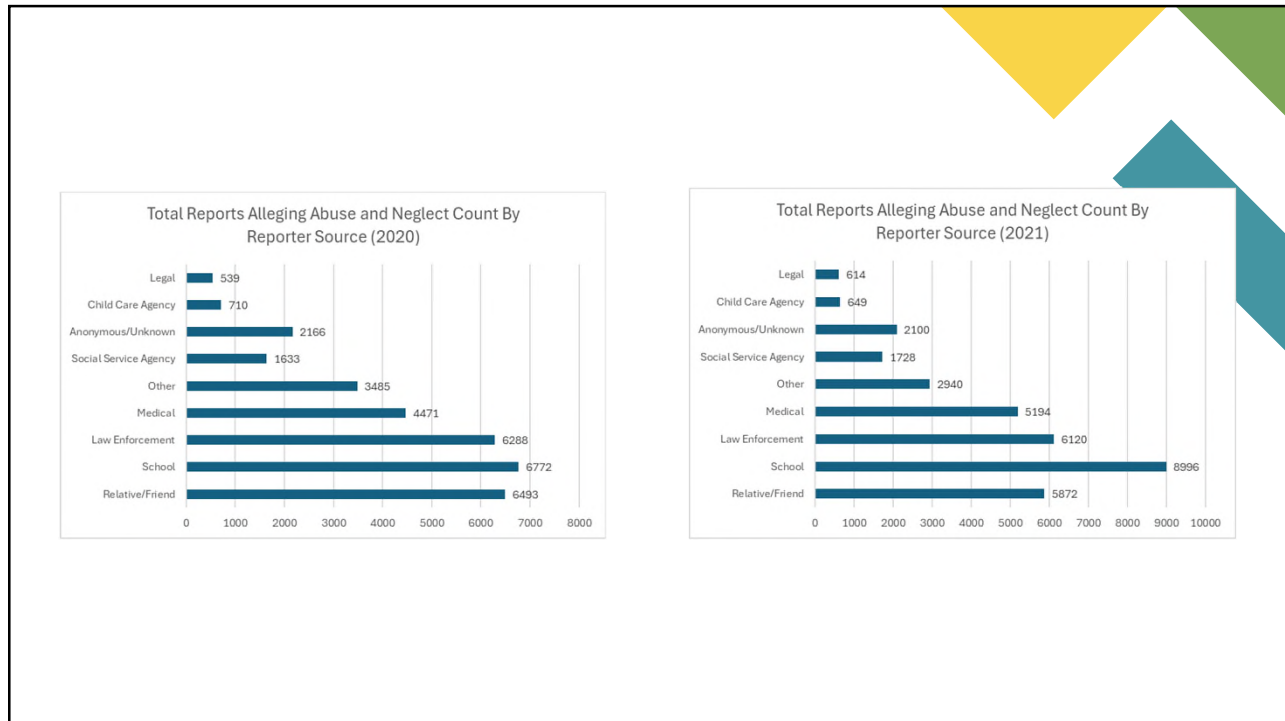
3

## Policy Impact

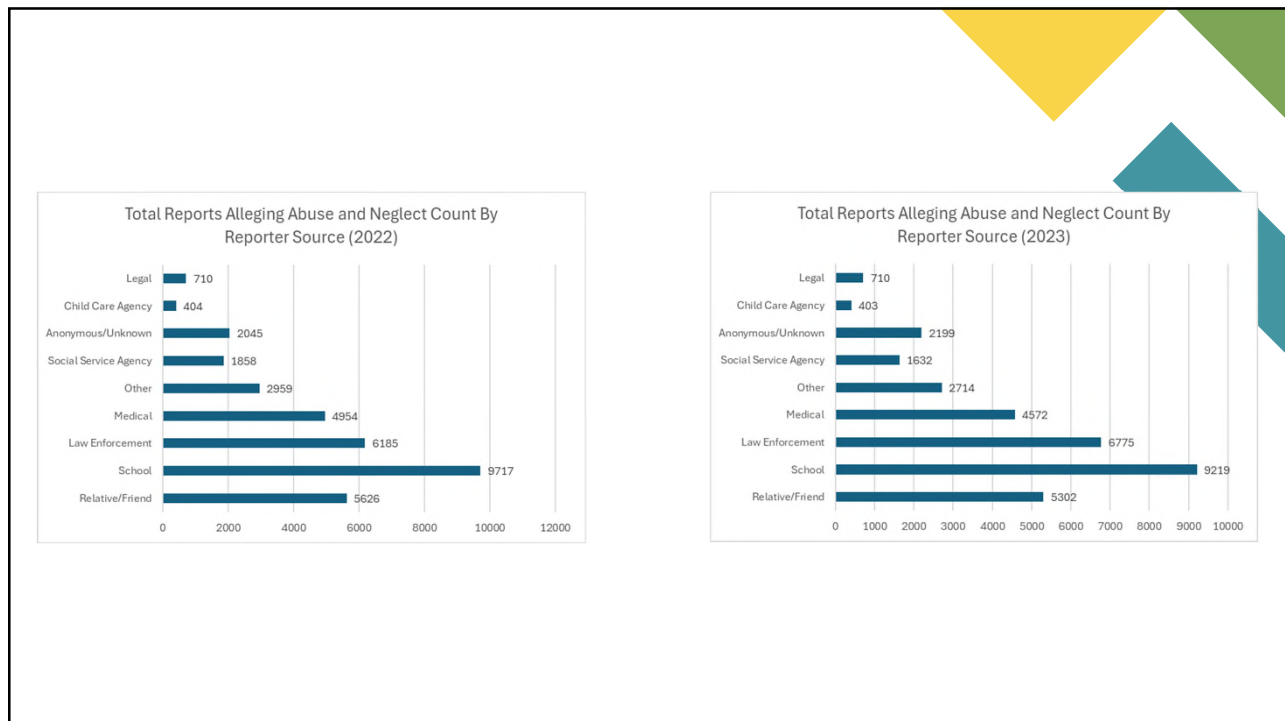
---



4



5



6

## Policy Impact

---

- November 2023
  - DHHS rescinded their “0-5 Policy”
    - Although not all medical providers are aware.

7

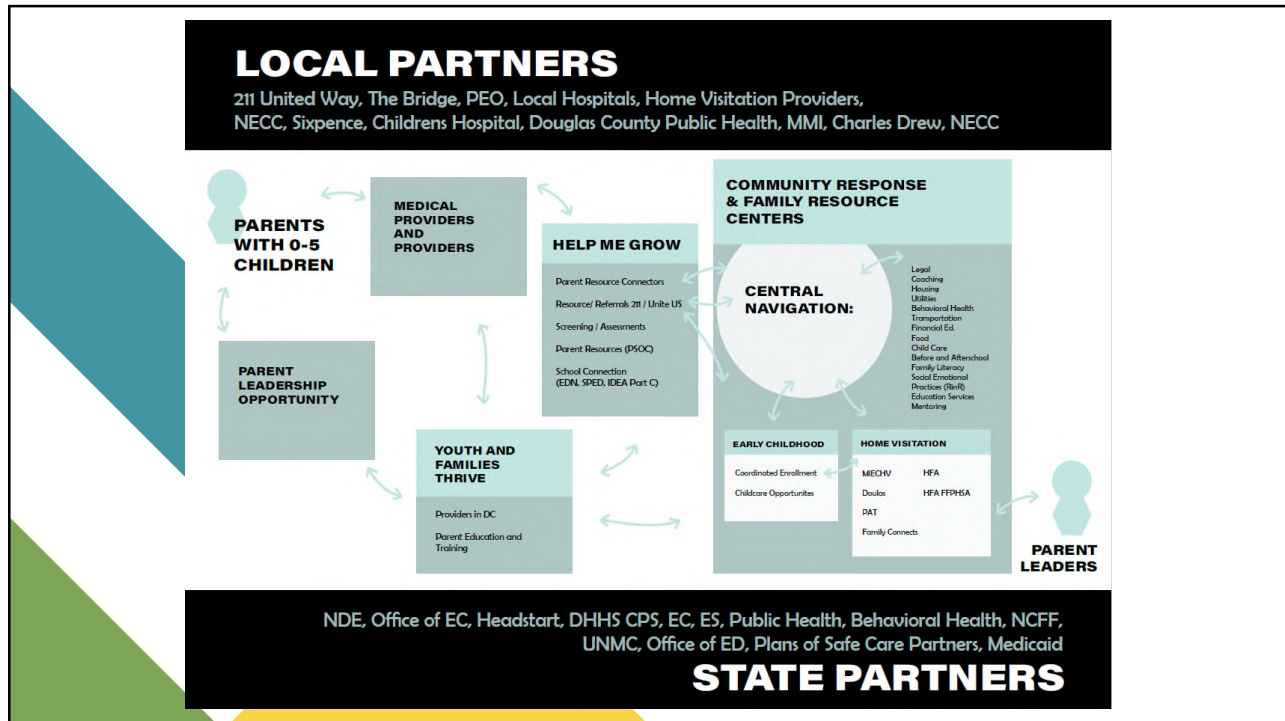
## Policy Impact

---



rs are aware.

8



9

# Help Me Grow


---

- Connecting Nebraska youth and their families so all kids can thrive.

Serving Nebraska and Iowa

# 2·1·1

**Get Connected. Get Help.™**

Powered by  **UNITED WAY**  
of the Midlands

10

## Check Out 211: Option 2 = Help Me Grow

<https://ne211.org/>



**Call**

Dial 2-1-1



**SMS**

Text your zip to:  
898211



**Email**

Send Email Form



**Chat Now**

Launch Online Chat



**Mobile App**

Download for Apple  
and Android.

11

## 211: Central Access Point

- 211 Call Center serves as the central access point for Help Me Grow NE
- It's focus is to conduct intake and then refer to resources.
  - Per the caller's permission, 211 can also follow-up with the caller to ensure that their need is met.
- The 211 database is vast for Douglas County, and UniteUs technology is used to conduct the brief intake and then see system updates through the closed-loop journey of the client.

12

## Help Me Grow Model

### Centralized Access Point

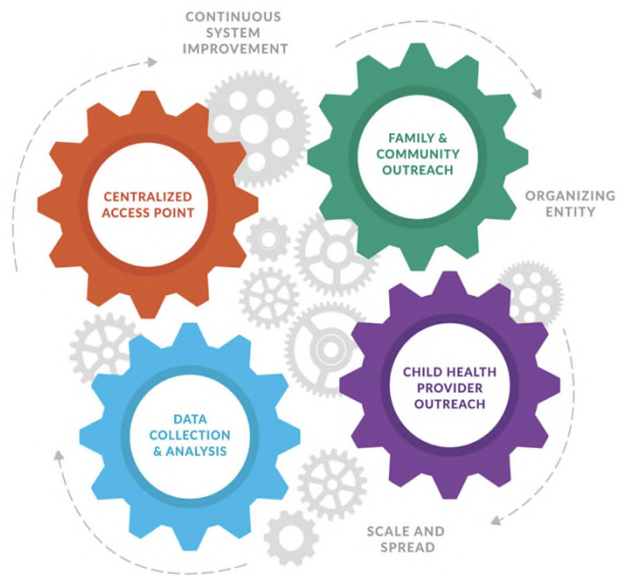
- 211 and The BRIDGE

### Family & Community Outreach

- Help Me Grow Coalition
  - Statewide agencies, health systems, community partners

### Closed Loop Referral Technology

- UniteUs
- 211 Directory
- The Bridge/Community Collaboratives



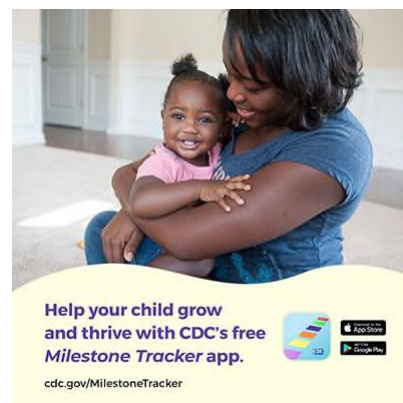
13

## Share CDC Learn the Signs, Act Early

Free App for families to download to monitor infant, toddler, or youth's development

Providers can download for free materials to distribute.

<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/freematerials.html>



14

## The Help Me Grow Difference

The network of community resources works like a power grid. When the grid functions well, families can plugin to an organized flow of resources and easily access the ones they need. Help Me Grow strengthens the grid by maintaining a current directory of available resources and connecting service providers to each other to create an interconnected system.

15

## Navigator Responsibilities

Work with external partner agencies to coordinate referrals for developmental, behavioral, or educational needs. Identify basic need(s) and provide appropriate resource(s).

Research and identify appropriate referrals

- Provide appropriate and family-specific community and information resources

Complete Referral to Early Development Network

- Review concerns with Parent/Caregiver

Enter referral into Unite US Platform

Follow up

- With Parents physicians, Caregivers other social service agencies.

16



## The BRIDGE Family Resource Connector Network

---



Family Resource  
Connector Network

17

## Bridging the gaps between community support & families

---

- Central Navigation at The BRIDGE Family Resource Connector Network, serves as a vital link between clients and essential resources, offering tailored support to young individuals aged 14-25 and adults 26 and older with families.
- The navigation process is completely voluntary, and client led.
- Navigators prioritize referrals to our 15 collaborating agencies which helps to strengthen our network, optimize resource utilization, and provides better support to individuals and families in need.

18

## Guidance, Advocacy, Education and Empowerment

- Navigators provide clear information about available resources and services to empower clients to make informed decisions independently.
- Navigators connect clients with relevant services and resources, such as job training, educational opportunities, life skills, healthcare access, financial counseling, parent supports, housing options and building self-sufficiency.
- When necessary, navigators can advocate on behalf of clients addressing any challenges they may face in accessing services or benefits.

19

## Three strategies for prevention



20

# Thank you

Mikayla Wicks  
Nikia Gunn-Abdulai  
Kaitlyn Smith

---



nebraskachildren  
AND FAMILIES FOUNDATION



Help Me Grow  
Nebraska