

Universal Developmental Screening & Promotion Awardees



Best Starts for
KIDS



Afghan Health Initiative

Afghan Health Initiative (AHI) empowers immigrant and refugee families across King County to build healthy, stable, and connected lives through access to education, resources, and culturally grounded care.

Through the Universal Developmental Screening and Promotion (UDSP): Immigrant and Refugee Parent Champions initiative, AHI will equip trusted caregivers to become peer educators, advocates, and connectors in their communities. Parent Champions will receive training in early childhood development, communication, and navigation of local systems to support other parents through culturally grounded workshops and community circles. This initiative will expand developmental education and reduce stigma around developmental differences, helping families feel confident, informed, and connected as they nurture their children's growth and potential.

[Learn more about Afghan Health Initiative!](#)

Amara

Amara is a nonprofit organization that partners with children, families, and communities impacted by foster care to promote healing, racial equity, and long-term stability.

Through our Universal Developmental Screening Program, Amara will provide caregiver trainings, offer screenings, and resource navigation support. These offerings increase Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) access, reduce stigma around developmental differences, and strengthen relationships with children and caregivers

[Learn more about Amara!](#)

Bridging the Gap WA

Bridging the Gap is a culturally grounded, community-based organization rooted in the Somali community of King County. The organization builds bridges between families and systems, ensuring Somali parents, caregivers, and children are centered in conversations about care, development, and opportunity.

Through the KALSAN initiative, Bridging the Gap will implement three interconnected programs under the Universal Developmental Screening and Promotion (UDSP) strategy: Parent Champions, Learning Opportunities & Developmental Screenings, and Focused Supports for 3–5-Year-Olds. Together, these offerings create a culturally responsive, family-led model that empowers Somali parents as leaders and ensures no child is left behind during the early years.

[Learn more about Bridging the Gap WA!](#)

Chinese Information and Service Center

The Chinese Information and Service Center (CISC) assists over 12,000 clients annually through nearly 40 support services and programs for children, adults, and seniors that address the many challenges immigrants of all ages face as they adjust to their new lives in the United States. Wraparound, multigenerational services use a holistic approach to help families navigate unfamiliar systems and get the support they need to thrive.

CISC's Universal Developmental Screening Program provides free ASQ developmental screening and referral services for Chinese and Vietnamese immigrant families with children ages birth to 5, while also working to increase awareness and decrease stigma related to talking about and addressing developmental differences. In addition, CISC's new Parent Champions Program will engage culturally/linguistically reflective Parent Champions to promote developmental awareness and ASQ screening through their established networks, including friend groups, extended families, and preschool families.

[Learn more about Chinese Information and Service Center!](#)

East African Community Services

At East African Community Services, our early learning initiatives center families as the primary drivers of their children's development.

Through our Universal Developmental Screening & Promotion: Parent Champions program, we will train 8–10 parents on early childhood development, the Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ), facilitation, public speaking, and navigating early learning systems. These Parent Champions will co-lead workshops, serve as cultural liaisons between families and early learning systems, and provide peer mentorship within their communities. They will host small group sessions and playgroups for their peers, creating trusted spaces for connection, learning, and mutual support.

[Learn more about East African Community Services](#)

First Five Years & Beyond

First Five Years & Beyond (FFYB) equips parents with the skills, tools, and resources needed to support their children's healthy development from birth through age 18.

The Developmental Screening and Parent-Child Support Program, serving families with children from birth to five in South King County, combines culturally responsive engagement, in-home developmental screenings using the Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ-3 and ASQ: SE-2), and the Promoting First Relationships (PFR) curriculum to strengthen caregiver-child bonds and ensure early identification of developmental needs. Families also receive individualized support, referrals, and culturally affirming parent education to help them navigate Early Support systems.

[Learn more about First Five Years & Beyond](#)

Harborview Pediatric Clinic

The Harborview Pediatric Clinic provides relationship-centered, holistic healthcare to communities across King County. The diverse families and communities we serve have unique strengths, needs and desires for their children and family. Our role as a multi-disciplinary care team is to listen deeply, learn from the wisdom of families, and support their journey of raising thriving children in a way that honors their culture, celebrates their strengths, and navigates the systemic barriers that get in the way.

In partnership with the community-based early childhood organization, Akin, Harborview started the Early Childhood Developmental Navigator Program in 2018 which continues with ongoing support from Best Starts for Kids. This program centers on building long-term, trusted relationships with families, beginning in infancy through age 5. Throughout a child's first 5 years, bilingual navigators, embedded with the pediatric clinic, provide culturally responsive developmental, behavioral and social stressor screening, strengths-based Promoting First Relationships developmental promotion, and warm connections and case management to community resources.

[Learn more about Harborview Pediatrics Clinic!](#)

Hummingbird Indigenous Family Services

Hummingbird Indigenous Family Services was born out of a need for more services specifically directed toward AI/AN/NH/PI families during the critical perinatal and early parenting years with the commitment to offer their services with flexibility, focus, and a deep love and appreciation for culture and community. Hummingbird's approach, using culturally specific interventions, addresses not only physiological and medical disparities but also in healing past and current systemic and institutional harm.

Our Pilimakua IFCC Events & Pilimakua IPGs in our Pilimakua Family Connections Department offer culturally rooted and responsive services that include developmental education/monitoring and strategies to reduce stigma, promote belonging, and address misconceptions about developmental delays.

[Learn more about Hummingbird Indigenous Family Services!](#)

Indian American Community Services

Indian American Community Services (IACS) serves Asian Indians through programs, services, and advocacy for people of all ages and life stages so that everyone feels they've found a place where they truly belong.

Through UDSP funding, IACS provides a platform for Parent Champions to offer peer-based support on developmental milestones, provide ASQ screening, and help families access early learning resources and interventions. Programs are culturally responsive and work to reduce shame and stigma around screening by offering services that honor community values and remove practical barriers. With navigators and Parent Champions working together, outreach focuses on Asian Indian children birth to five in King County, helping families receive timely screenings and connect to the supports that can help their children thrive.

[Learn more about Indian American Community Services!](#)

Intercultural Child & Family Services

Intercultural Child & Family Services (ICCFS) is dedicated to strengthening families and promoting child well-being through culturally rooted programs and community partnerships. ICCFS provides a range of services, including maternal health, early intervention, kindergarten readiness, fatherhood, kinship, and youth programs.

ICCFS proudly introduces the 1..2..3 Jump: Development First Program, offering Universal Developmental Screening & Promotion (UDSP) training for Black, African American, and Hispanic/Latino/a parents/caregivers of children birth to five years old. Through culturally rooted workshops, sensory-friendly events, and practical teaching strategies, this program helps families nurture early learning to ensure children are developmentally ready for kindergarten and beyond.

[Learn more about Intercultural Child & Family Services!](#)

Korean Community Service Center

The Korean Community Service Center is a mutual aid association that has served Korean American families for over 40 years in the Puget Sound region. KCSC supports families by bringing families together to play, learn, share and connect through the Ottuki Parent Training Program, Ottuki Support Groups, Play With Me Workshops and Play Groups, Expectant Parents Classes, Appa Hour Father's Support Groups and the Toy Library.

Through UDSP funding, KCSC will integrate universal developmental screening and education into its programs for Korean American families. Parents and caregivers will receive ASQ-3 screenings in Korean or English, guidance on developmental milestones and neurodevelopment, and opportunities to celebrate traditional milestones like the 100-day “Baek-il” and first birthday “Tol.”

[Learn more about Korean Community Service Center!](#)

Manos Unidas International

Manos Unidas International is a nonprofit organization dedicated to building inclusive communities by providing culturally responsive education, health navigation, and advocacy services for Spanish-speaking families of children with disabilities and developmental delays across King County.

Launching in 2026, the Universal Developmental Screening & Promotion program will expand access to developmental screening for Hispanic children ages 0–5 across King County and enhance community education on healthy child development, milestone tracking, and early learning. Manos Unidas International will provide culturally adapted home- and community-based developmental assessments, family workshops, and referrals to community partners for identified health and educational supports. The UDS 3–5 Program will strengthen early identification, service navigation, and school readiness for children throughout King County.

[Learn more about Manos Unidas!](#)

Mary's Place

Founded in 1999, Mary's Place has consistently provided effective programs for women and families experiencing homelessness. Our mission is to ensure that no child sleeps outside by promoting equity and opportunity for women and families. Our vision is a community where all families have safety, stability, and housing.

We aim to reduce the fear and stigma surrounding developmental screenings and empower our families to feel more engaged and educated about their child's development. To achieve this, we will use this grant to offer the following supports and services: connecting families with culturally appropriate developmental resources, helping families reach their health-related goals through behavioral health services, providing age-specific programming for infants, toddlers, and preschool-aged children, and offering onsite Early Head Start in partnership with Denise Louie Education Center.

[Learn more about Mary's Place!](#)

Mother Africa

Mother Africa advances racial equity through supporting African refugee and immigrant women and their families to reach their highest potential. Our-prenatal-to five program, Flourishing Under Five, works across a variety of program approaches to offer individual and group support to enrolled caregivers, babies, children and families in six language groups: Arabic, French/Lingala/Kinyarwanda/Kirundi, English/Swahili/Kikuyu, Amharic/Tigrinya, Maimai, and Dari.

Every child deserves the chance to grow and thrive. Since 2019, our Flourishing Under Five program Screening track has offered early ASQ-2 and ASQ-SE developmental screenings to African and Middle Eastern families in over a dozen languages, along with parenting education that demystifies community myths and misconceptions on the growth of and development of babies. Our team helps parents understand their child's needs and provides gentle, culturally informed guidance when extra support is needed, reducing stigma and helping families celebrate every milestone.

[Learn more about Mother Africa!](#)

No Limits Therapeutic Services

No Limits Therapeutic Services promotes the early identification of children with developmental differences promote developmental screening. Our learning opportunities centers cultural/linguistic understanding and child rearing practice when discussing developmental differences. We aim to create space for community dialog and learning from togetherness to reduce stigma associated with developmental differences. We provide individualized support strategies and resources for childcare providers to caring for children birth-5 years old with additional needs.

St. Vincent de Paul

Since 2013, Centro Rendu of St. Vincent de Paul has been serving Latinx families with education and social services for the whole family. Thanks to Best Starts for Kids funding, De Colores, our home-based services early learning program, was established in 2018 to respond to a need within our Latinx communities for linguistically and culturally accessible services for parents/caregivers with children ages 0-5. For the past 105 years, home visits have been a central tenant of the work and service delivery model of St. Vincent de Paul Council of Seattle/King County (SVdP). SVdP believes that through home visits, trusting relationships are built that allow for authentic engagement to take place, where families who often feel isolated can find comfort and the support of a community of shared values.

With continued funding from Best Starts, we are now able to expand our home-based services to include Universal Developmental Screening and connecting Latinx families across King County with resources for the growth and wellbeing of their children.

[Learn more about St Vincent De Paul!](#)

The Vietnamese Family Autism Advisory Board

The Vietnamese Family Autism Advisory Board (VFAAB) is a coalition of families, community members, and medical and social service providers working to support Vietnamese children with autism and developmental delays and those who care for them. Our mission is to build an inclusive community, increase awareness while reducing stigma, and strengthen providers' ability to serve Vietnamese families. Founded in 2017 to address the lack of culturally responsive autism services in Seattle's Vietnamese community, VFAAB connects families to resources, education, and supportive services.

VFAAB was awarded Universal Developmental Screening and Promotion (UDSP) funding to expand our Parent Champions, Learning Opportunities & Developmental Screenings, and Focused Supports for 3- to 5-year-olds programs. These programs train Vietnamese parents of children with autism to lead peer support, provide developmental education, and facilitate culturally relevant screenings and referrals through our Little Smiles and Small Steps classes. By offering these services in Vietnamese and within a culturally responsive framework, the programs empower families, reduce stigma around developmental differences, and support children's early development.

[Learn more about Vietnamese Family Autism Advisory Board!](#)

Villa Comunitaria

Villa Comunitaria's Jardín Infantil Cooperative Preschool is a trusted, no-cost early learning program rooted in the South Seattle community. Designed to serve Spanish-speaking and Latine families, the preschool is grounded in culturally responsive care and has three years of experience delivering supports through the Universal Developmental Screening Program (UDSP).

Through its Universal Developmental Screening & Promotion initiative, Jardín Infantil provides Spanish-language developmental screenings, educational workshops, and individualized support for families with children ages 0–5. The program is designed to reduce stigma, enhance caregiver knowledge, and improve developmental outcomes for children. Core activities include the use of the Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ) to assess developmental and social-emotional milestones, culturally attuned parent education, and warm hand-offs to additional services.

[Learn more about Villa Comunitaria!](#)

Voices of Tomorrow

Voices of Tomorrow (VOT) is a community-rooted nonprofit serving immigrant and refugee families in King and Pierce counties through culturally and linguistically responsive early learning, family support, and workforce development. We act as a bridge between systems, families, and childcare providers to strengthen children's wellbeing and educational pathways.

Through the Universal Developmental Screening & Promotion (UDSP) award, VOT will expand access to developmental screenings, family education, and follow-up support in communities that often face barriers to early identification, ensuring children receive timely guidance and connection to resources.

[Learn more about Voices of Tomorrow!](#)