

LOCAL DATA-INFORMED STRATEGIC PLANNING REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

The NC Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE) is partnering with [The Hunt Institute](#) to develop, implement, and evaluate a training and technical assistance strategy designed to support diverse **county-level** cross-sector human services leadership teams in developing or enhancing scalable and sustainable local **strategic plans** informed by **early childhood data**.

This [activity](#) is based on a recommendation from the University of North Carolina's Jordan Institute for Families [2019 Report on Early Childhood Education Data Users](#) to build internal capacity in early childhood settings at the local/county level to collect, manage, and use quality data to support data-informed decision-making about programs, policies, and practices.

This Request for Applications is for cross-sector, county-level human services leadership teams to receive support in identifying sustainable and scalable strategies to support community-based data-informed strategic planning. Support includes:

- **Training on data utilization.** Over the course of two webinars and two regional in-person meetings (between January and April 2022), participants will learn best practices concerning data, including but not limited to how to access and evaluate data, how to protect data privacy, and how to effectively communicate data.
- **Creating or enhancing a local data-informed strategic plan.**
- **Ongoing technical assistance.** Participants will have access to continued technical assistance and coaching through 2022 to create or enhance, update, and evaluate their local data-informed strategic plans.

Please note:

- Teams should include 8 to 12 interested stakeholders. Stakeholders may include:
 - Smart Start Local Partnerships
 - Head Start and Early Head Start
 - Early Intervention
 - School Districts
 - Child Care Resource and Referral
 - Private Child Care
 - NC Pre-K
 - Social Services
 - Local Health Departments
 - Maternal And Child Health
 - Home Visiting
 - Mental Health Agencies
 - Business and Faith Communities
 - Community Services
 - Philanthropic Organizations
 - Local Policymakers and Elected Officials
 - Family Members and Caregivers
- Only one application per county may be submitted.
- Applications can be submitted by any organization, provided that all team members have agreed to participate.
- Applications are due by **Wednesday, December 10, 2021**.

Apply Here: [Request for Application: Local Data Informed Strategic Planning Support](#)

APPLICATION FOR LOCAL DATA-INFORMED STRATEGIC PLANNING (SAMPLE)

County _____

Individual submitting the application:

Name _____
 Title _____
 Organization _____
 Email _____
 Phone Number _____

Participating Team Members

Note: Teams should include **8 to 12 interested stakeholders**, including yourself.

Name	Organization	Email

Please answer the following questions:

1.	How frequently is data being used to inform early childhood planning in your county?				
	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
2.	What types of early childhood collaborative/strategic planning efforts, if any, have occurred in your county? What were those efforts and who were the stakeholders? What is the status of the collaborative/strategic planning efforts?				
3.	What does your team hope to gain from participating in this local data-informed strategic planning initiative?				
4.	What challenges or opportunities do you anticipate when creating and implementing data-informed strategic planning in your county?				
5.	Please use the space below to share any additional information about your collaborative efforts that may help inform our selection process.				

Assurances:

By submitting this application, your team agrees to:

- ✓ Ensure all stakeholders listed in this application participate on the team.
- ✓ Attend two virtual training sessions and one in-person training session.
- ✓ Develop or enhance a strategic plan that uses early childhood data to guide improvements to services, policies, or practices.
- ✓ Provide input on trainings/resources created.