

This strategy invests in:

Investing Early (prenatal - 5)
so that babies are born healthy
and establish a strong foundation
for lifelong health and well-being

Sustaining the Gain (ages 5 - 24)

Communities of Opportunity

Other investment area

Funding Estimate (2022-2027):

\$19,020,000

Estimated reach:

1,000 children



Universal Developmental Screening (UDS)

Best Starts' UDS strategy provides information, training, tools, and connections among providers to ensure all King County children receive culturally appropriate, high-quality developmental screening throughout early childhood. Early childhood practitioners use developmental screening to celebrate milestones, and monitor signs that a young child may be delayed in one or more areas of development. Families are supported in understanding child development and connecting with a wide range of resources to support their growth and wellbeing.

Identifying developmental delays is critical to connecting children to Early Support for Infants and Toddlers services, which can have a big impact on a young child's success in school and life. Screenings are offered in any context where a family and child interact with an early childhood practitioner, including healthcare, early learning, and community settings. Community-based partners implement the core components of this work, and customize education on early childhood milestones, developmental screening tools, and delivery of UDS for Black/African American, Chinese, Pacific Islander, Somali, and Latinx communities.



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