

Birth Through Eight (B-8) Family and Community Advisors

- The B-8 includes parents and caregivers of children under the age of eight years old, along with early childhood providers, advocates, and public and private stakeholders.
- The vision of the B-8 is to ensure NH's early childhood systems, services, and resources are informed by the families and children they serve and the professionals who support them.
- The B-8 functions as a formal feedback mechanism for the Council for Thriving Children and other early childhood stakeholders. It gives family and community members an opportunity to deliver their insights about what New Hampshire families and children need to thrive.
- The parents, caregivers, and professionals who make up the B-8:
 - Advise the Council for Thriving Children and all levels of the early childhood system on issues, initiatives, and policies
 - Help make sure resources and information are accessible and easy to understand
 - Raise awareness of the wants, needs, and ideas of historically underrepresented families caring for young children
 - Clarify the opportunities and barriers that arise as policies are implemented in the community



The Council for Thriving Children

The Council for Thriving Children serves as New Hampshire's Advisory Council on Early Childhood Care and Education under the federal Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2003, Public Law 110-134. Co-led by the New Hampshire Education Department and Department of Health and Human Services, council membership includes a cross-section of state leaders, legislators, higher education, parents, and early childhood stakeholders appointed by the Governor.

Established in 2020 by Executive Order 2020-03, the Council advises and makes recommendations on New Hampshire's Early Childhood Care & Education (ECCE) governance system with the vision that every child in NH has the best possible opportunity to live, grow, learn, play, and thrive. The Council is informed by four main quadrants: New Hampshire Education Department, Department of Health and Human Services Early Childhood Integration Team, Birth-8 Parent and Community Advisors, and the Early Childhood Scientific Advisory Panel.