Don't Do It Alone!
Engage the Right Partners to Plan for Your ECIDS

Howard Morrison &
Rebecca Valenchis

May 4, 2023 – 11 AM PT / 2 PM ET
SRI Early Childhood State Systems Building
Webinar Series

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Wednesday, March 15, 2023; 9 AM – 10 AM PT: Part 1: Needs Assessment and Strategic Planning: What's Data Got to Do With It?

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Part 3:
Don't Do It Alone!
Engage the Right Partners
to Plan for Your ECIDS

Thursday, May 4, 2023

2 PM – 3 PM EST

Howard Morrison
SRI International

Rebecca Valenchis
SRI International

Register at https://bit.ly/3mizxlf

Welcome

- Share one thing you are hoping to learn today

- Share your name and role in the chat

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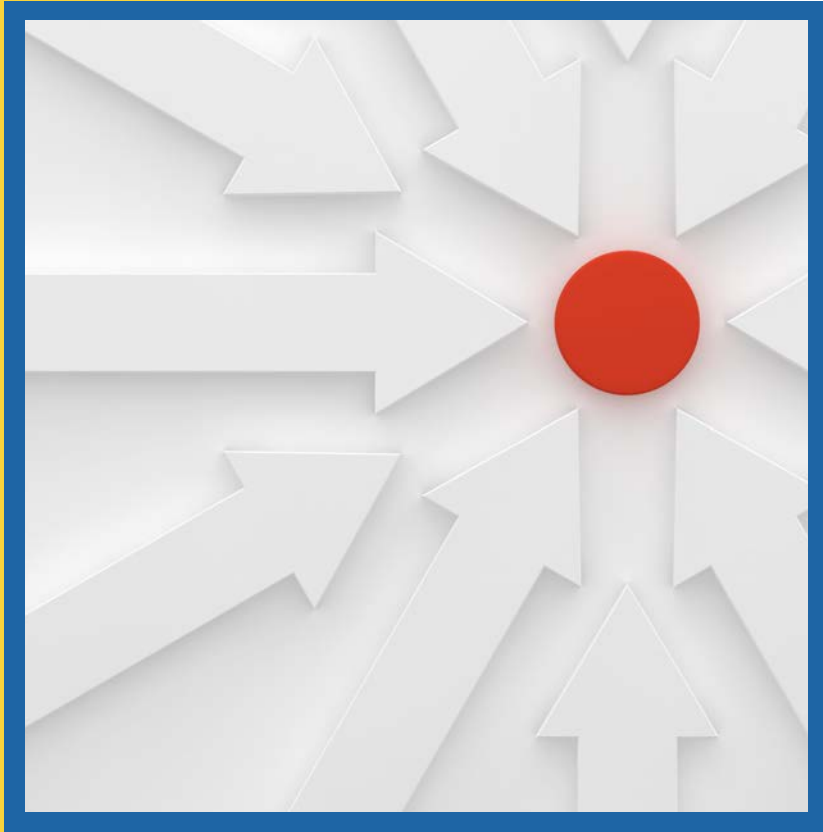
Today's Focus

- How to leverage a **use case** to **engage your partners** in building and expanding your **early childhood integrated data system** (ECIDS)

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What is an ECIDS?

Source. [What Is an Early Childhood Integrated Data System?](#) n.d., by SLDS State Support Team.

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ECIDS as a Systems Building Lever

- Provide integrated, cross-program data to inform decisions about early childhood policies, services, and education

- Create a coordinated approach to interagency services

- Provide timely, accurate information to parents/families and providers

- Improve equitable access to programs, supports, and services

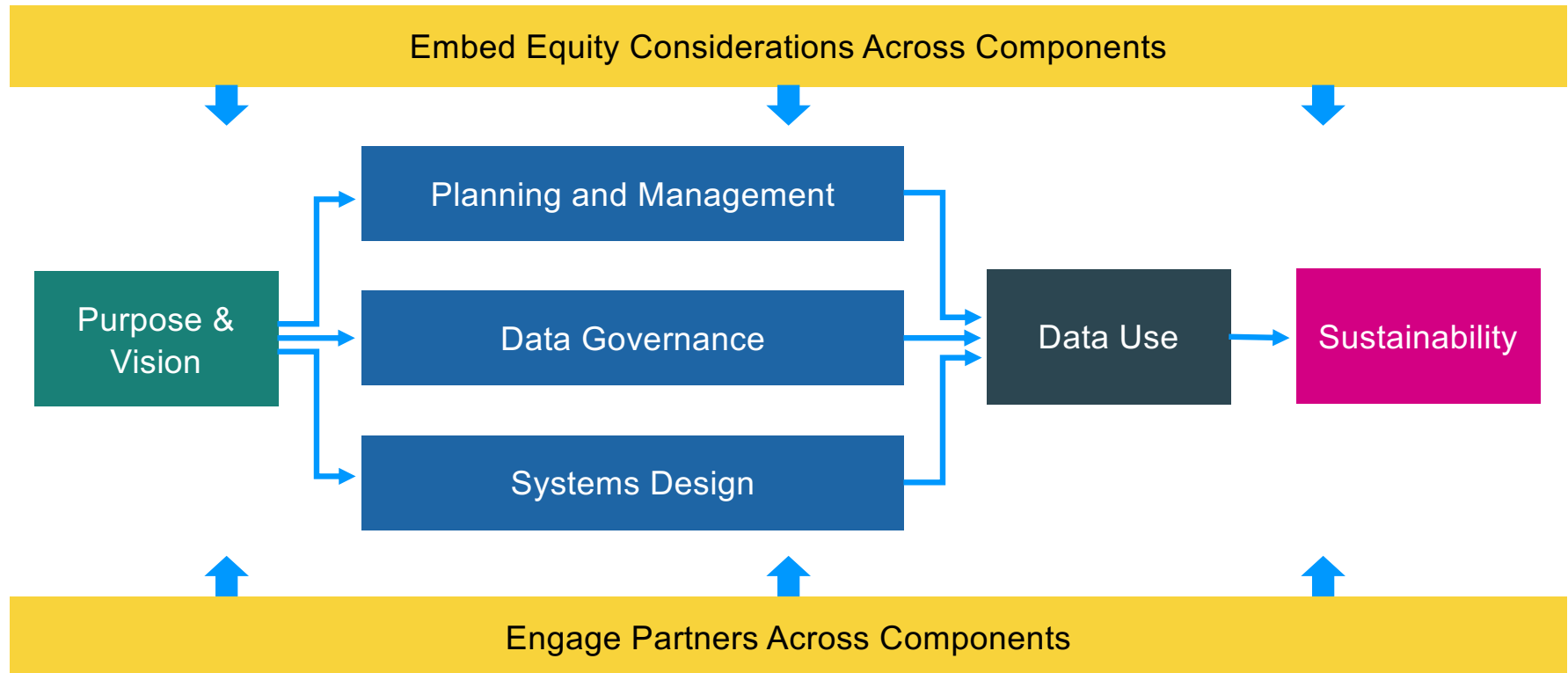- Inform how to prepare all children for academic success

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We want to hear from you!

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Developing an ECIDS Is a Journey

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ECIDS Components

Embed Equity Considerations Across Components

Purpose & Vision

Planning and Management

Data Governance

Systems Design

Data Use

Sustainability

Engage Partners Across Components

Note. Adapted from Early Childhood Integrated Data Systems Toolkit, 2021, by SLDS State Support Team.

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A Few Things to Know Before You Go

- Realize that developing an ECIDS takes time.

- Leverage existing and identify new resources, projects, or initiatives that may be able to support an ECIDS.

- Identify individuals across agencies to champion an ECIDS and create a core team.

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Leveraging a Use Case

Use Case Overview

Why start with a use case?

What is a use case?

What are the benefits of a use case?

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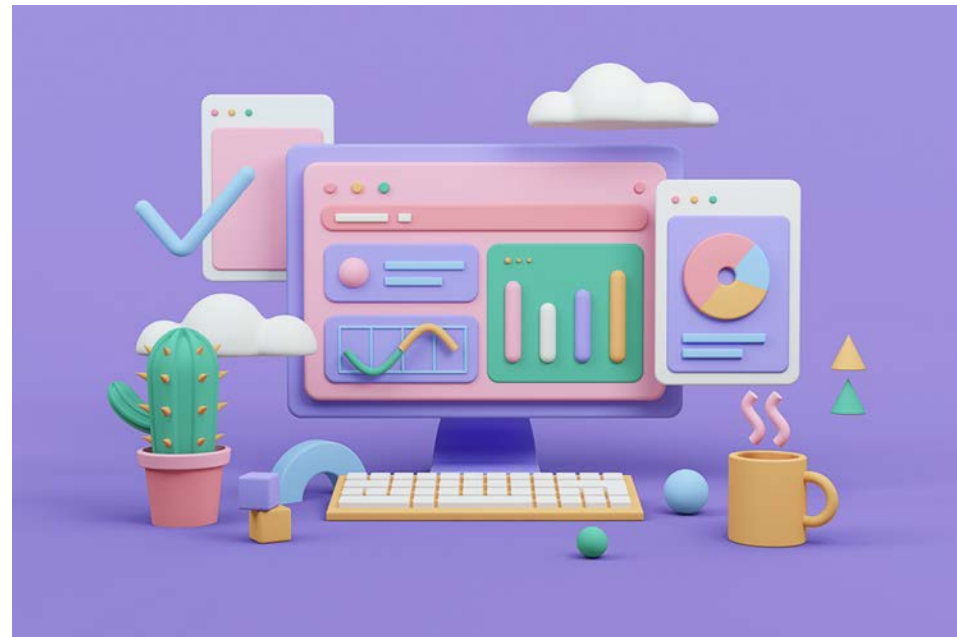
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Use Case Components – Information Needs

- Background information

- State priority/goal

- Key programmatic or policy questions

- Primary audience/user

- Expected actions
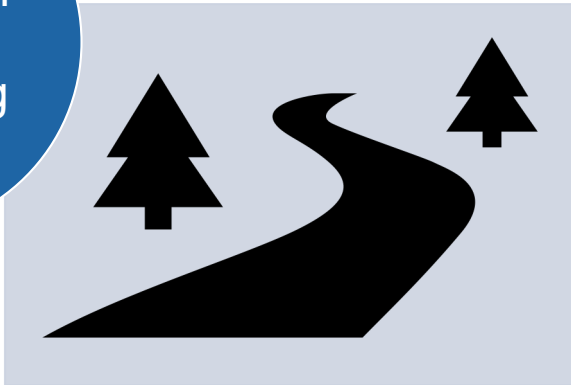
- Impact

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Use Case Components – Analytic Design

- Functionality

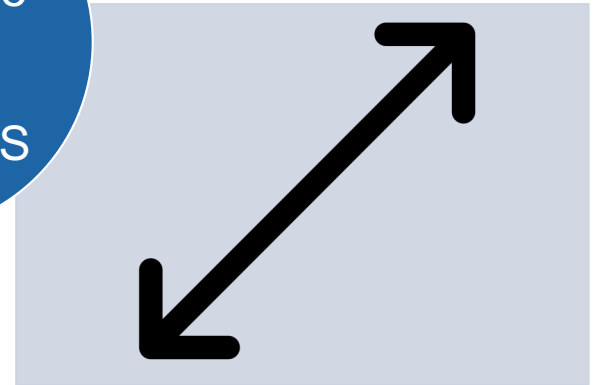- Access level

- Frequency

- Data elements required

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Two Ways to Utilize a Use Case

A use case is one path to developing an ECIDS

A use case can also be used to expand your ECIDS

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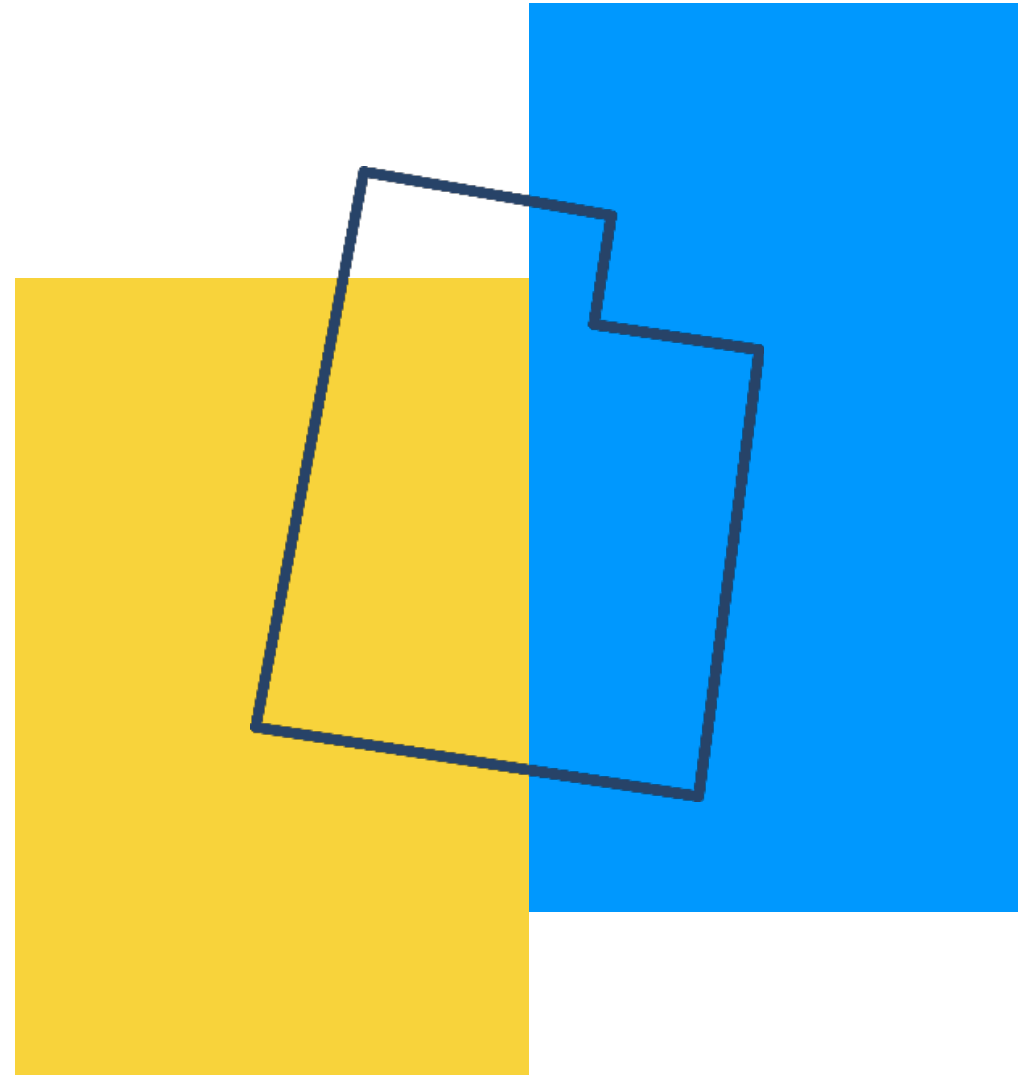# We want to hear from you!

State Example

Utah

- Created its Community Assessment Tool as part of its ECIDS

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The Process For Determining Your Use Case

2 Validate with leadership and governance bodies

3 Align research agenda or list of questions to policy priorities

4 Create topic areas for potential use cases based on similar sets of questions or research priorities

5 Prioritize the topic areas to help focus the use case

6 Develop one or more use cases

1 Develop a list of state early childhood policy priorities

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# Engaging Partners – A Closer Look

Engage partners to:

- Identify policy questions

- Align policy questions to topic areas

- Prioritize policy questions and/or topic areas

- Develop the content for the use cases

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State Example

California

- Received support from the PDG B-5 TA Center to prioritize its policy and topics and plan for its use case development and partner engagement

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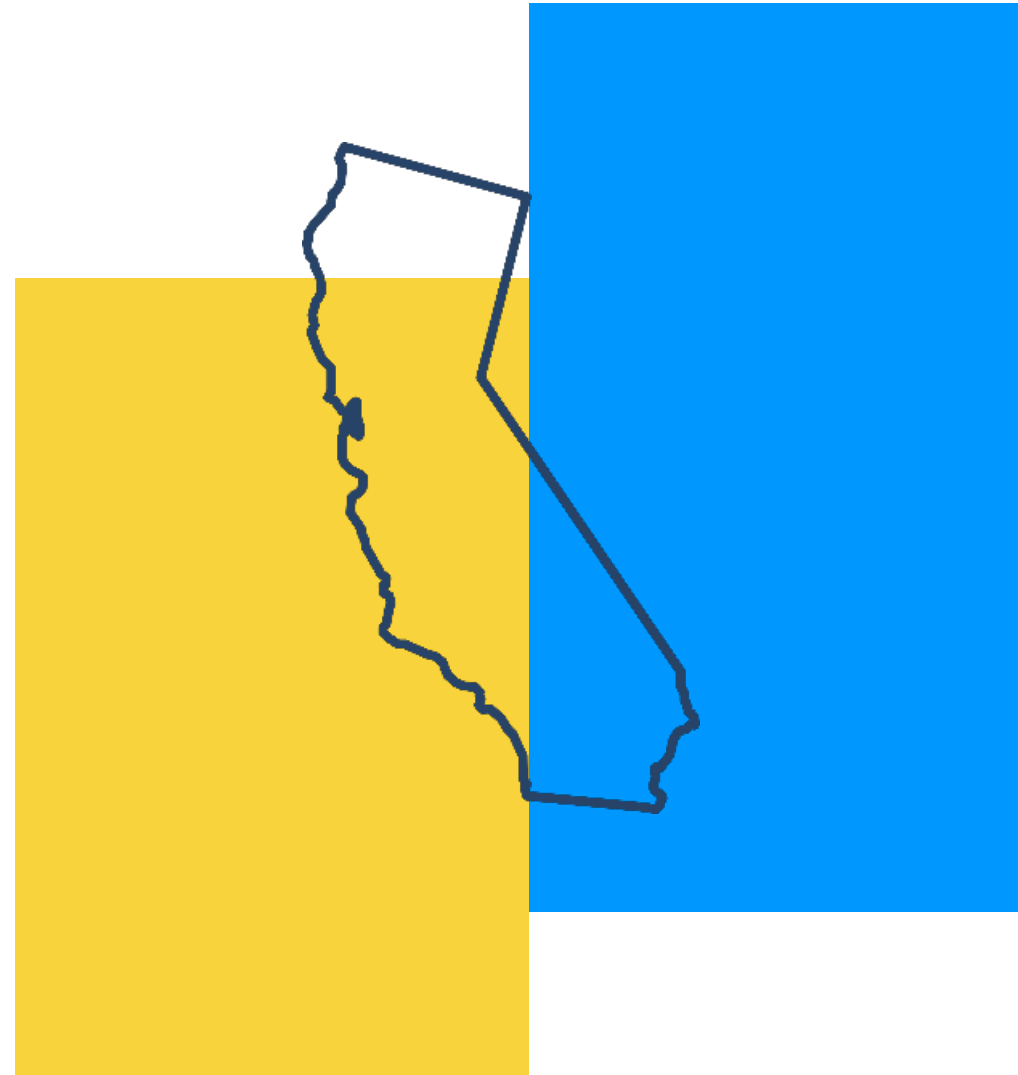
Develop a Use Case

Let's unpack that ...

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Identify Your Core Team

- At least one person from each program or agency represented

- Ensure individuals with decision-making authority are involved

- Identify individual with technical expertise

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Complete a Draft of the Information Needs

Background	• The state has four strategic priorities for early childhood, one of which ensures all children enter school ready to learn
State Priority/Goal	• Provide schools/programs and families with greater insight into the specific strengths and needs of the incoming kindergarten cohort and professional development supports
Key Programmatic or Policy Question(s)	• Are schools ready to meet the needs of incoming kindergarteners? • Are children entering school ready? • Are communities prepared to offer opportunities to promote readiness for early learning supports?
Primary Users/Audience	• District early learning director • K-3 district principals • K-3 community partner providers
Actions Expected	• Determine appropriate professional development opportunities for educators/staff to meet the needs of the incoming kindergarten cohort • Identify potential shared professional development opportunities between early care and education programs • Identify targeted family/parent outreach strategies that support families at home
Impact	• State and community leaders are able to make a decision around allocation and provisions of training • District and community-based providers work together to provide shared professional development and training (avoiding duplication of effort) • District leaders and practitioners are aligning their training and practice across systems • Advocacy organizations are able to increase public support for systems serving children that promote successful school readiness and transitions for all children

ECDataWorks Programmatic Use Case for the Development of an Analytic Tool

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Complete a Draft of the Analytic Design

Functionality	• Filter by state, region, district • Filter by data elements • Graphs, charts, maps
Access Level	• State • Region • District • School level
Frequency	• Quarterly • Annually
Data elements required	• Program type (e.g., child care, Head Start, public/private PreK) • Child attributes (e.g., race/ethnicity) • Program curriculum • Family supports • End of year prekindergarten data • Beginning of year kindergarten data (KEA)

ECDataWorks Programmatic Use Case for the Development of an Analytic Tool

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Engaging Partners in the Use Case Development

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Potential Partners

- Program and technical subject matter experts at the state, regional, or local level

- Users of the analytic tool or ECIDS

- Advocates and leaders at early childhood organizations

- Researchers at institutions of higher education

- Parents or family organizations

- Policymakers

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Lessons for Engaging Partners

Create strategic goals for engagement

Differentiate engagement opportunities

Create feedback opportunities

Maximizing Appropriate Involvement of ECIDS Community Members

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How to Put This Into Practice

Engage partners to:

- Review and provide input on the information needs

- Review and provide input on the analytic design

- Review and provide feedback on the conceptual mock-up

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Final Steps for the Core Team

- Finalize the use case

- Finalize the conceptual mock-up

- Obtain signoff from leadership (program and IT)

- Begin meeting with IT partners (including leadership) for product development

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How to Use and Apply

- Agency leadership

- Data governance bodies

- Partners

- Policymakers

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Hot Takes

- Having multiple champions

- Building relationships

- Communicating with partners and leadership

- Coordinating with your core team and partners takes time

- Build partner capacity in the use case development process

- Make informed decisions about early childhood policies, services, and education

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Resources

- [Developing Programmatic Use Cases (Webinar)](#)

- [Developing Use Cases to Support Your EI and ECSE Data Analytics](#)

- [ECDataWorks Programmatic Use Case for the Development of an Analytic Tool](#)

- [Center for IDEA Early Childhood Data Systems (DaSy) Data Linking Toolkit](#)

  - [Step 2 Packet: Assess Partner Readiness](#) (use case template)

- [ECIDS Toolkit](#)

- [ECDataWorks Community – Blogs and Podcasts](#)

- [What Is an Early Childhood Integrated Data System?](#)

- [Early Childhood Policy Matters Podcasts](#)

Contact Us

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