



FSSA'S BUILD LEARN GROW PROGRAM IMPACT REPORT

The **Build Learn Grow Program (BLG)** are the projects overseen by the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) and funded by federal relief dollars provided through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

*“We are committed to sharing with stakeholders how these investments are improving the health and well-being of Hoosiers in three key areas: **Services in the Home and Community**, **Early Childhood Programs**, and **Mental Health Services**.”*

- FSSA Secretary Dr. Dan Rusyniak

Across the program, FSSA is intentionally investing in three key areas. This report shares the impact these investments are having across a variety of metrics we are focused on.¹

Services in the Home and Community

Early Childhood Programs

Mental Health Services

FSSA Agency-Wide Build Learn Grow Outcome Targets

Six outcome targets we want to achieve with the utilization of funds to best support Hoosier families and the communities they live in.

Access to Services

Grow provider capacity to increase available services while improving public awareness and equitable utilization of these services

Quality of Services

Improve quality of services

Family Caregiver Supports

Support unpaid and informal caregivers and their mental health



Hoosier Experience

Improve the experience and satisfaction of Hoosiers who receive support from FSSA programs

Workforce

Retain and grow the direct service workforce

Provider Experience

Offer clear guidance to support stabilization of provider operations and reduce provider administrative burden

Build Learn Grow Guiding Principles

Foundational considerations that influence our planning and implementation.



Stabilize, Grow, & Improve Service Delivery



Build Bridges, Not Cliffs



Build Data Infrastructure



Promote Evidence-Based Practices



Ensure & Promote Equity



Prioritize Internal & External Transparency

Services In The Home and Community

The Division of Aging (DA), Division of Disability & Rehabilitative Services (DDRS), Division of Family Resources (DFR), and Office of Medicaid Policy & Planning (OMPP) are responsibly leveraging BLG funds to enhance availability and quality of services used by individuals in the home and community in alignment with CMS approved spending plan and activities, including the transition to Indiana PathWays for Aging.¹

Improved Nutrition for Older Hoosiers

The **HCBS CAHPS Survey captures the experiences of adults aged 60+ receiving long-term services and supports (LTSS)** through Medicaid HCBS programs. These programs provide informal supports that provide an alternative to nursing facilities for older adults and individuals with disabilities.

From 2022 to 2023 the survey showed:



33% reduction in the proportion of respondents who reported an unmet need in meal preparation/eating due to lack of help

Build Learn Grow funding also supports the State's total **meals for older Hoosiers** not accessing similar services via waivers.

In January - August 2024:



1.2M home-delivered & congregate meals provided to **15,000+ individuals** to improve nutrition services for Older Hoosiers.

Additional Investments in Home and Community-Based Services

Aging Brain Care (ABC) Community

The ABC Community project supports **informal caregivers** of PathWays participants living with dementia through partnerships between Indiana University and select Area Agencies on Aging.



39% reduction on average in reported caregiver stress between when participants began the program and 3 months later, surpassing the project goal of 25% reduction in caregiver stress²



282 total participant/caregiver pairs active in the program in July 2024

ABC Community Care Coaches develop **individualized Caregiver Stress Prevention Bundle (CSPB) intervention plans** that include:

- Dementia counseling and education
- Crisis plan development
- Weekly caregiver time off
- Support group participation

Transformation Grant

DDRS partnered with employment providers holding 14(c) certificates in sheltered workshop settings to provide **customized competitive integrated employment (CIE)** supports to individuals with disabilities. CIE involves work done alongside non-disabled colleagues and customers for the **same wages and benefits** that employees without disabilities receive for the same work, creating opportunities for **meaningful community employment**.

Hoosier Highlight

Through **person-centered individualized service planning** and **Vocational Rehabilitation discovery services**, one Individual identified a desire to work with their hands. With support from a **job coach**, they began work as a **material handler at a local supply chain management company**, and has secured several workplace accommodations with assistance from their employment support provider.

1. For more information, please see <https://www.in.gov/fssa/indiana-pathways-for-aging/>

2. This information is inclusive of 67 participant/caregiver pairs with complete data, and utilizes the HABC Monitor Total Score. This reduction is a comparison at 3 months compared to baseline. Baseline is defined as when the participant/caregiver began participation in the program.

Early Childhood Programs

The Office of Early Childhood & Out-of-School Learning (OECOSL) is responsibly leveraging BLG funds to enhance accessibility, expand capacity, and improve quality of early childhood and out of school programs.

Investments Strengthen the Early Childhood Landscape in Indiana



190 new child care providers opened in July - September 2024.



18,200 child care slots added to available child care provider capacity from June to September 2024, capacity defined as the sum of reported vacancies and enrollment.¹



67 vacant teaching positions filled from July - September 2024.²

Spotlight: BLG Funds Increasing Access to Child Care

Child Care Support for Ivy Tech Students

To support parents pursuing post-secondary education, OECOSL partnered with Ivy Tech to provide streamlined access to child care assistance vouchers.³

As of October 2024, the Ivy Tech partnership has supported:



200 children



9,250 weeks of child care

Build, Learn, Grow Scholarship Program

To support families working in essential businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic in May 2021 - June 2022, BLG scholarships were awarded to cover up to 80% of a child's early education, summer learning or out-of-school program tuition for children ages 0-12.

\$76M awarded in scholarships

↳ **17,177** Children (ages 0-5) Served & **1,659** Providers Participating

↳ **2,691** Children (ages 6+) Served & **648** Providers Participating

Waived Co-Pays for CCDF Families



9,200 families were supported by waived CCDF co-pays during March 2021 - March 2022, saving families an average of \$50 per week.

1. & 2. Based on 67% provider reporting compliance rate in July - September 2024.

3. Ivy Tech students who need child care assistance and meet Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) eligibility guidelines

Mental Health Services

The Division of Mental Health & Addiction (DMHA) is responsibly leveraging BLG funds to enhance the quality and capacity of mental health and addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery services.

Investments Enhance Mental Health Services in Indiana

Highlights from a selection of BLG-funded Mental Health Services initiatives:

Workforce Recruitment & Retention Innovation Grant



DMHA's **Recruitment and Retention Innovation Grant** aims to enhance the **recruitment, retention, and quality of the behavioral health workforce** by funding a variety of workforce initiatives through October 2026.

Grantee Program Highlights



100% of Grantees plan to implement or expand **training, internship, or credentialing programs**

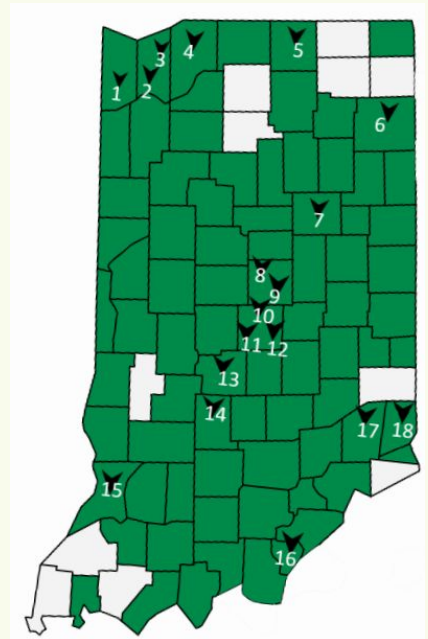


78% of Grantees plan to support programs for **staff satisfaction, retention, or career advancement**

Grantees proposed many innovative strategies to support **behavioral health staff recruitment**, including:

- Scholarships for youth workers to pursue mental health-related fields
- Recruitment and training for prior justice-involved individuals
- Pathways program to introduce career opportunities to high school students

18 Grantees serve 81 Counties



County served by Grantee
Grantee location

988 Crisis Response System¹ and CCBHC²

Indiana is fostering integration between the 988 and CCBHC programs

Through a competitive process, DMHA selected **8 CCBHC Demonstration pilot sites**. All 8 offer Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) and Crisis Receiving and Stabilization Services (CRSS) and **will have agreements with all five 988 Contact Centers in Indiana**.

The State is working to launch Mobile Crisis Dispatch Software that will **connect all designated MCTs to Indiana's five 988 Contact Centers**.



93% Average in-State answer rate of 988 call line calls in 2024

1. Please visit 988indiana.org for more information on 988.

2. Please visit <https://www.in.gov/fssa/dmha/certified-community-behavioral-health-clinic/> for more information on Indiana's CCBHC program.