



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 as well as the baseline 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

1. Previous Build Learn Grow Impact Reports can be on the FSSA: Home and Community-Based Services Spending Plan webpage: <https://www.in.gov/fssa/home-and-community-based-services-spending-plan/>

Investments Made To Date

FSSA is leveraging Build Learn Grow (BLG) funds, which includes CRRSA and ARPA grants, available through 2025 and 2026 to achieve our Agency-Wide BLG Outcome Targets through responsible investments. We recognize the need for immediate financial relief balanced with deliberate sustainability planning.¹

Overview of Total Build Learn Grow Budget

\$2.1B Total Build Learn Grow Budget

- \$1.1B Committed to Early Childhood Programs
- \$701M Committed to Services in the Home and Community
- \$300M Committed to Mental Health Services



75% of the Total Budget has been Invested to Date

\$500M+ Committed to ongoing Early Childhood and Mental Health Services Programs

Early Childhood Ongoing Program Highlights

\$143M committed to **Child Care Voucher payments**



- ↳ Voucher payments to child care providers, supporting their employees and Hoosier families

\$10M committed to **Technology Improvements to improve learning and readiness for Kindergarten**



- ↳ Invests in data systems to support pre-K program enrollment and ease of access for Hoosier families

Mental Health Services Ongoing Program Highlights

\$31M committed to the **Community Catalyst Program**



- ↳ Promotes innovative, collaborative, and sustainable locally and community driven responses to mental health and substance use disorder issues ([see Mental Health Services page for program highlights](#))

\$8M invested to-date in **Peer and Community Readiness Initiatives**



- ↳ Expands the peer support workforce and training in recovery organizations as well as supporting programs aimed at recent DMHA grantees and youth-focused initiatives in schools

1. Available funds have different spending deadlines depending, with most ending in 2025 but some available through 2026.

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 to Aging, which is set to launch in the summer of 2024.¹

Investments Serve Individuals in the Home and Community

Building Provider Capacity for the Community Integration and Habilitation (CIH) Waiver



Provider Sustainability grants and Direct Workforce Retention grants awarded by DDRS ensured **adequate provider capacity available** on the CIH waiver, supporting the **transition of 271 people from an Intermediate Care Facility to the CIH waiver in 2023.**



DA has invested **\$250,000 in Caregiver Way**, an online community dedicated to providing **information and support for Caregivers.**

Innovative Pilot Projects

The Innovation Pilot Project Grant Opportunity provides the opportunity for HCBS providers, community entities, self-advocates, and families to explore new means and methods to support the needs of individuals with disabilities and their families through new service models, private/public partnerships, and investigating new ways to address the needs of Hoosiers.



43 active projects across 40 grantees, serving 92 counties

\$17M+ in active grants supporting individuals with disabilities and their families meet their needs in new service models and partnerships

“I have seen a lot of growth within our team members. This project has given a lot of opportunity for **professional development to many of our **behavior consultants and recreation therapists.**”**

- *Grantee Testimony*

Additional Investments in Home and Community-Based Services



2.1M Home-delivered & congregate meals provided in 2023 to **19,000+** individuals to **improve nutrition services for Older Hoosiers**



Certified Assisted Living (AL) Ombudsman²

Since December 2023:

- Visited **19 AL facilities**
- Attended **3 Resident Councils**
- Created **performance measures on documentation** for local Ombudsmen to **align with national standards**

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

² The provided updates are associated with an Ombudsman Contractor hired using BLG funds. For additional information on the LTCOP program and services, please see <https://www.in.gov/ombudsman/long-term-care-ombudsman/overview/>

Early Childhood Programs

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

Investments Strengthen the Early Childhood Landscape in Indiana

Supply and Demand



495 new child care providers opened in 2023



1,949 child care slots added to available child care provider capacity since March 2023, capacity defined as the sum of reported vacancies and enrollment.¹



240 additional providers rated High Quality Child Care Programs as defined as PTQ 3 or PTQ 4 programs from February 2023 to February 2024²

Workforce



187 Teaching positions filled since March 2023³

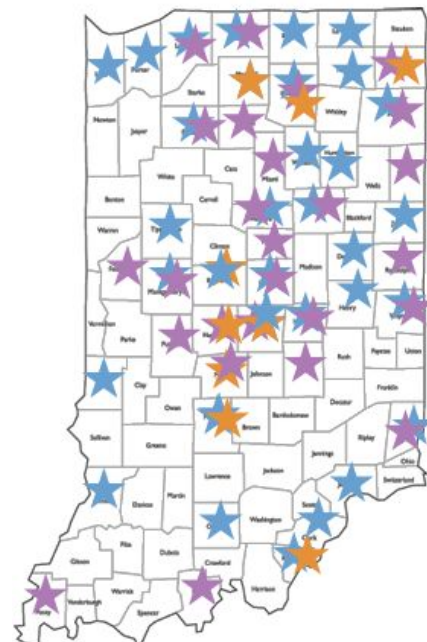
Employer-Sponsored Child Care Grants

\$25M in total was invested in expanding employer-subsidized child care benefits to address growing local child care needs.

86 employers, including businesses, community groups and school corporations, were awarded a grant.

46 of Indiana's 92 counties, or half, were included in awardees. **10** of these counties were rural.

405K Indiana employees' child care needs were supported



Map stars mark counties with at least one awardee.

Employer Size	
★	Small 20-99
★	Medium 100-499
★	Large 500-1,000+

Employer
Sponsored Child
Care County
Awardee Map

1. & 3. Based on 68% provider reporting compliance rate in March 2023 and 2024.

2. Child Care Provider Types included are Licensed Center-Based Program, Licensed Family Child Care, Unlicensed Registered Child Care Ministry, Legally Exempt Center-Based Program, and Legally Exempt Family Child Care.

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



Community Catalyst Grant Program Highlights

Over **\$54M** provided to **37 recipients** to **promote innovative, collaborative, and sustainable locally and community driven responses to mental health and substance use disorder issues.**¹

Grantee Focus: Families Forever (Fathers Forever Coalition)

Families Forever provides services and support to individuals struggling with mental health and substance use disorders in Lawrence and Orange Counties.

Work on **Trauma informed care** with an Indiana University **community-based researcher** under Community Catalyst Grant funding



Partnership with City of Bedford to start rural youth mental health project hiring graduate students to provide **mental health services in schools**



County Focus: Scott County

County stakeholders identified a **shortage of mental and behavioral health professionals in their rural community**



Community Catalyst provided resources for a **High School Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathway program** and integrations with Ivy Tech degree programs

In January 2024, stakeholders noted the **transformative impact of stakeholder connectivity and strategic partnerships** facilitated by Community Catalyst, underscoring its **pivotal role in addressing workforce challenges in rural areas.**



Building Out the 988 Crisis Response System²



92% Average in-State answer rate of 988 call line calls so far in 2024

1. Including \$22M in grant-matching funds secured by grantees.
2. Please visit 988indiana.org for more information on 988.