



Supporting communities to
give every child a Healthy Start.

Healthy Start EPIC Center



The [Healthy Start EPIC Center](#) provides technical assistance and training at no cost to Healthy Start grantees. Funded by the federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau, the [Healthy Start EPIC Center](#) strives to:

- build program capacity to achieve Healthy Start benchmarks and improve health and social service systems for women, infants, and families,
- strengthen HS staff skills to implement evidence-based practices in maternal and child health,
- facilitate grantee-to-grantee sharing of expertise and lessons from the field, and
- support grantees in conducting ongoing evaluation of activities for effectiveness.

HEALTHY START EPIC CENTER SERVICES AND SUPPORT

Website: The primary home for Healthy Start EPIC Center training and technical assistance (TA) resources is the healthystartepic.org website. The website features include a training calendar, grantee directory and profiles, a searchable inventory of evidence-based practices, a TA request system, sign-up for the EPIC Center eNews, Healthy Start screening tools and reference materials, outreach tools and access to online courses.

The resources included on healthystartepic.org are organized under the six tabs below. Essential services and supports have been highlighted below along with the corresponding tab.



[Request TA](#) | [Services](#) | [e-News](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Healthy Start EPIC Center

HEALTHY START

HEALTHY START APPROACHES

TRAINING AND EVENTS

RESOURCES

HEAR FROM YOUR PEERS

ABOUT HS EPIC CENTER

TRAINING AND EVENTS

Webinars: All HS grantee staff has access to live and recorded webinars.

TRAINING AND EVENTS

Online Courses: The [Healthy Start Community Health Worker \(CHW\) Course](#) is designed to provide baseline (introductory) training toward the achievement of core competencies needed to fulfill the roles and responsibilities of a CHW in the Healthy Start program. **New Modules Available!**
Coming soon! Online mini-course focused on [alcohol and substance-exposed pregnancy prevention](#).

TRAINING AND EVENTS

Community Trainings: These in-person trainings provide skills-building learning opportunities to Healthy Start grantees and their community partners, and aim to strengthen the stakeholder and community relationships that are essential to Healthy Start's work.

TRAINING AND EVENTS

Breastfeeding Training Initiative: Each year, the EPIC Center provides scholarships to support Healthy Start program staff to attend an intensive 5-day lactation counselor training certification (CLC) course offered by the Center for Breastfeeding. Information about the course and the scholarship application timeline may be found on the EPIC Center website. Breastfeeding-focused community trainings and materials that support partner engagement in breastfeeding are also offered by the EPIC Center through the breastfeeding training initiative.

HEAR FROM YOUR PEERS

Discussion Groups and Peer Learning Networks: These virtual networks convene HS grantees in smaller groups to engage in peer learning opportunities on various topics. The groups are facilitated by HS EPIC Center staff and other subject matter experts using relevant tools and resources. Topics have included: Collective Impact, Quality Improvement on Healthy Start Performance Measures, Screening Tools Implementation and CAN Talk Tuesday.

Coming Soon! Fatherhood Discussion Group. Be on the lookout in the coming months for information on signing up.

RESOURCES

Project Management Hub: The Project Management Hub and Project Director's Guide provide a dynamic repository of information and resources on Healthy Start program management. The Hub focuses on eight areas of project administration: Scope, Human Resources, Budget, Schedule, Communication, Quality, Contracting, and Risk. Project Director's Guide provides a starting point for newer project leaders on getting organized and managing their Healthy Start Program.

ABOUT HS EPIC CENTER

Technical Assistance (TA): TA provides in-depth professional and organizational development support to an individual grantee or group of grantees that is tailored to their unique needs and contexts. TA is provided with input and approval from the project officers, and coordinated by the Healthy Start EPIC Center Technical Assistance Coordinator (TAC). In general, TA consists of two to three days of a consultant's time, and topics are generally prioritized based on the Division's current programmatic priorities. To maximize TA resources, TA is primarily provided virtually, although on-site assistance is available, if indicated.

Accessing Live Support: In addition, Healthy Start programs may access live support for any training or technical assistance needs by contacting the HelpDesk, staffed Monday through Friday, 8:30a-5:00p ET. The HelpDesk can be reached by emailing healthystartepic@jsi.com, or by calling 1-844-225-3713. The Healthy Start EPIC Center will respond to emails and voicemails within one business day.

Testimonials: Here is some feedback from grantees about EPIC Center services and support.

"Healthy Start EPIC Center is a great program resource. Excellent training tools!"

"The resources provided by the EPIC Center are vital in helping our program meet its goals."

"The info EPIC puts online is a great help to new staff and others of us who have been around a while."

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