

# State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) Target Setting **Early Start**

January 27, 2026



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from [Disabled and Here](#)

# HOUSEKEEPING



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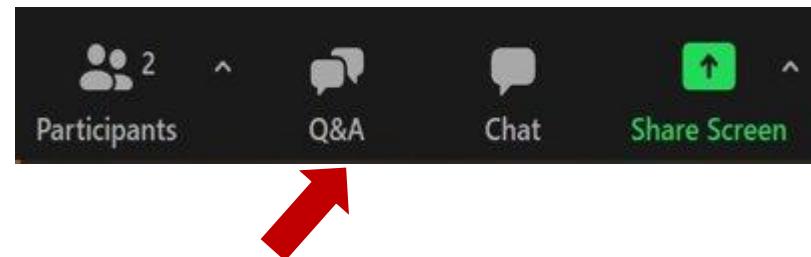
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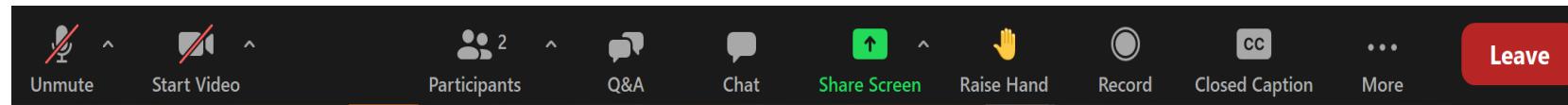


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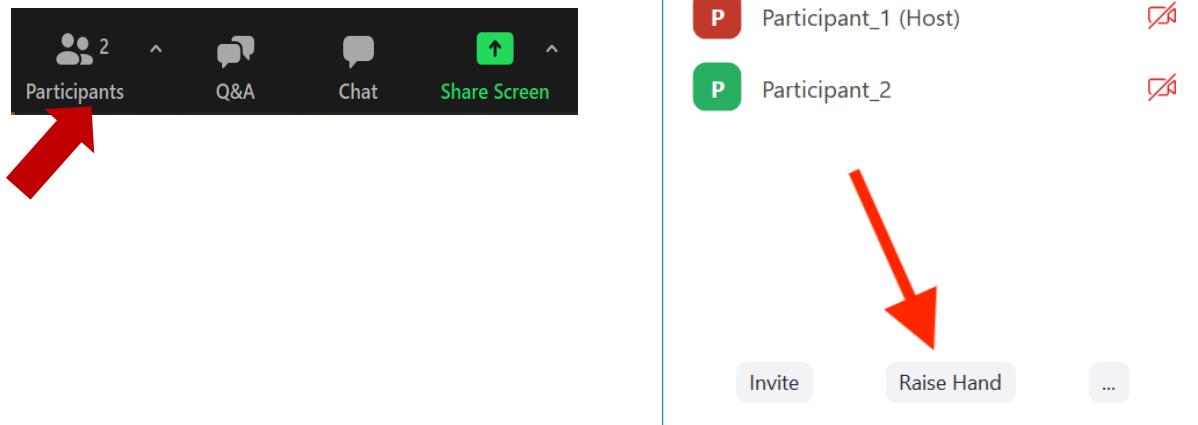


# PROVIDING COMMENTS – PARTICPANTS

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# Team Introductions



Latonya Harris, Manager, Children & Youth Services Branch

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# Agenda

- SSIP Overview
- Purpose, Goal, Activities
- Data Reporting and Achievement
- Trends, Targets, Considerations
- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Next Steps

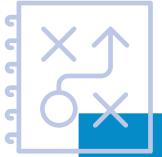


# SSIP Overview



# Part C SSIP Components

## SSIP



- State systemic improvement plan
- Multi-year
- **Build state capacity**
- **Improve state outcomes**

## SiMR



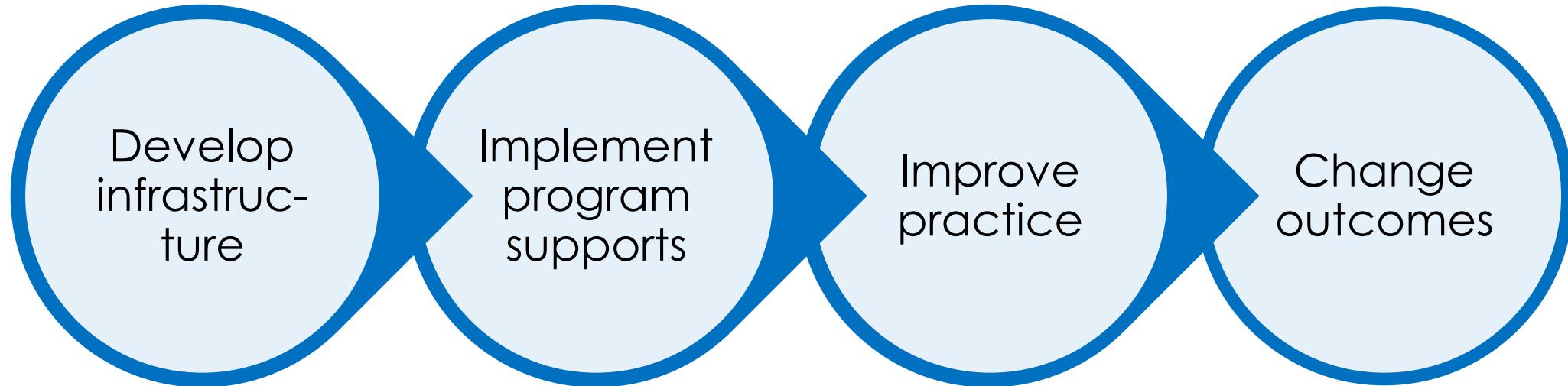
- State-identified measurable result
- Child or family outcome
- Holistic or targeted population

## Phases



1. Analysis and theory
2. Design and planning
3. Plan implementation and reporting

# The SSIP is a plan for how the state will:



# Why Change the SSIP

- A. By 2024, the plan was ten years old, without updates
- B. SiMR was too broad: all children across the state were included, while interventions were localized
  - Could not attribute outcome gains to improvement activities
- C. Implementation had waned:
  - Evidence-based strategies were not monitored
  - No fidelity data were available
- D. The evaluation plan was inadequate to measure improvement toward the SiMR targets

As a result: The advisory group decided it was time to update the SiMR and the SSIP. Convened members of the public over the course of several meetings in 2024 to set a new course.

# Public Engagement and Input

Since April 2024:

- SSIP Advisory Group: five meetings
  - Diverse membership
- Constituency Groups: two series of meetings, and two combined with AG
  - Families and advocates
  - State colleagues and higher education
  - Regional centers and providers

2022: Original SSIP Advisory Group held discussions on improving the SSIP

# Family Outcomes in IDEA Part C

Families report whether the program helped them:

1. Know their rights
2. Effectively communicate their children's needs
3. Help their children develop and learn

**Until 2025, California has been 8 –12% below the national average of about 91% for the three family outcomes.**



# Public Comments: Selecting a Family Outcome



Families are mediator for their child and the ones that need support as they are wedged between providers and child. We could improve in this outcome if we focus on them.

**I am having a hard time separating child and family outcomes since the child cannot progress and function without the support of their family.**

Family outcomes is where one would hope to see change so I would expect to see biggest impact for this work. Given different criteria there may be changes in child outcomes, but they are so interrelated it is hard to tease them out at times.

**I agree about the focus on a family outcome, it could drive services more toward a family coaching model as well as more considerations of the data collection methods.**

It is the provider's responsibility to help parents. We work with families, not just children. The family needs to be the focus.





## **Statement:**

**“There will be an increase in the percentage of families that report early intervention has helped them help their child develop and learn.”**

**Question: How is Early Start helping families help their children develop and learn?**

## **Why it matters:**

In early intervention, a child's outcomes depend on family engagement and participation in the child's development.

Providers' practices impact families first, so the measurement is closer to the intervention.

Families need support, and the SSIP focus can draw program and public attention to their needs.

# Early Proposals for Improving the SiMR



Practice oriented:

- Family coaching
- Standardizing assessment tool(s)
- Improving providers' understanding of family needs and goals
- Coordinating service provision to support families
- Increasing family goals in the IFSP

Infrastructure oriented:

- Improving the referral and intake processes
- Improving data collection

Other:

- Helping families understand community opportunities

# Part C SSIP Theory of Change

## If Early Start...

**Improves** conditions and incentives for providing high quality EI, **and**

**Builds** its infrastructure to support high quality implementation and data analysis to:

-Standardize family-directed assessments, the IFSP, and goal expectations, and

-Provide TA, PD, and coaching to build the capacity of staff, families, and the community to understand and practice high quality EI,

## Programs and staff will...

- 1) Uniformly conduct high quality family-directed assessments,
- 2) Develop high quality IFSPs,
- 3) Implement family coaching universally and consistent with recommended practice, and
- 4) Monitor progress validly and consistently.

## Then...

More families receiving early intervention will help their children develop and learn.

Children will demonstrate better outcomes.



# Data Reporting & Achievement



# Why Set Achievement Targets

Every state Part C lead agency must:

- Have in place a performance plan, reviewed and updated every six years, with measurable and rigorous targets for indicators established by the Secretary of Education.
- Collect and report annually valid and reliable data on the state's performance on these indicators based on the OMB approved measurement table.
- Report annually to the public on the performance of each local EI program on these indicators (12 indicators in FFY 2023).

# Measuring SSIP Progress

**SiMR Statement:** *There will be an increase in the percentage of families that report early intervention has helped them help their child develop and learn.*

- **Source:** Family Outcomes Survey (4C - Help their children develop and learn)
- **Measure:** The percentage of families who report in the family outcomes survey that Early Start has helped them help their children develop and learn.
  - This is calculated using the standard procedure for calculating the reported percentage for Indicator 4C (number of those who report yes divided by all responses).
- **Purpose:** Intent is to assess whether the SSIP activities are leading to change in the population receiving the intervention.

# Setting New Targets

## CA SSIP Data

- Using statewide data for now
- Setting targets for two years – FFY 2024 & FFY 2025
- Expect minimal annual gains as the State ramps up improvement activities

## Requirements

- Targets must be set with ICC & public input
- When a new measure is adopted, a “baseline” value must be set for comparison over time
- The final target in each cycle must be above baseline

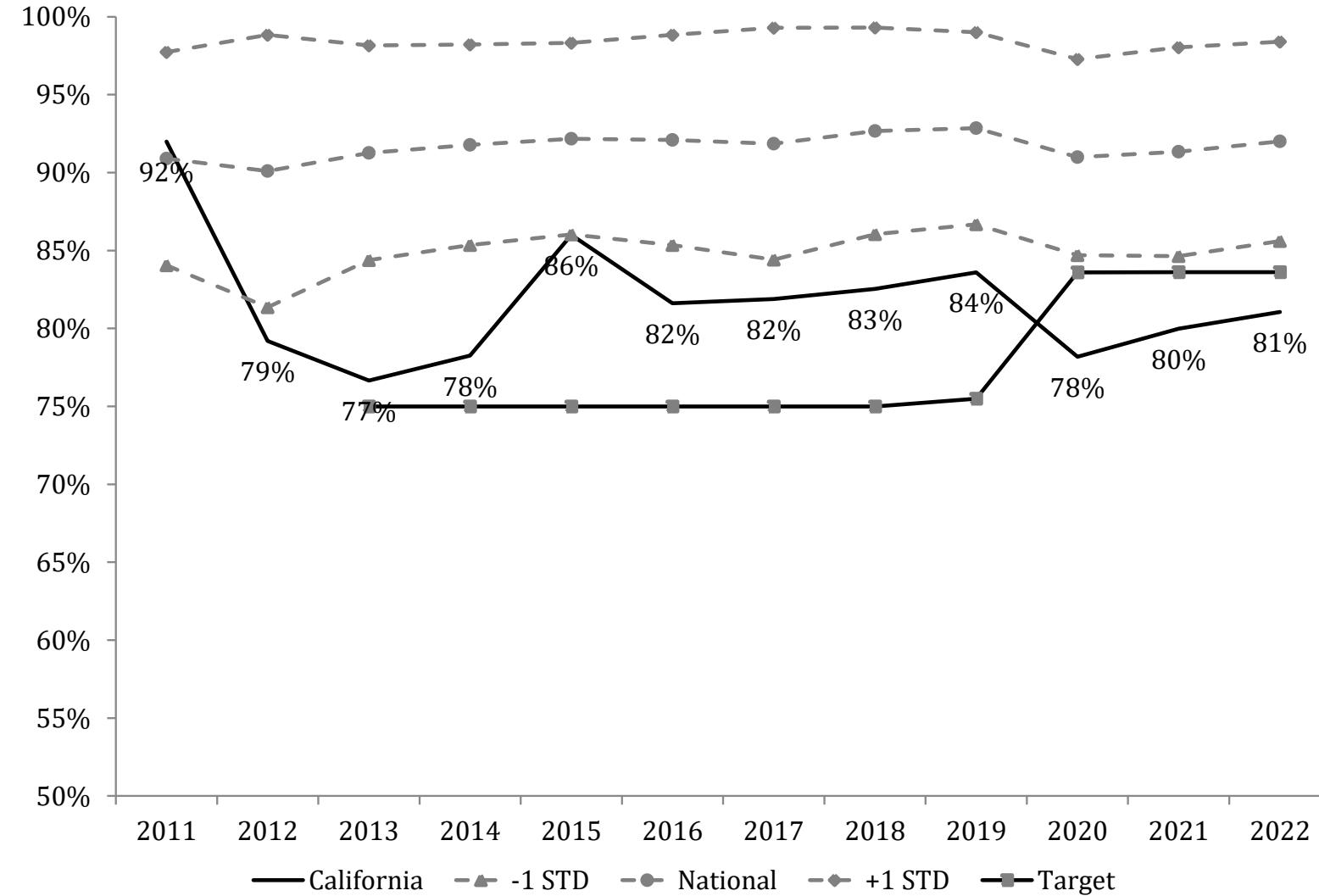
# Family Outcome C: CA in Comparison

Percent of families who report:

Early Start helped them help their children develop and learn

FFY 2022:  
California: 81%  
National average: 92%

Figure 4. Part C Indicator 4C: Develop and Learn



# Proposed Targets

Potential Targets	Percentage
Year 1 FFY 2024 Baseline	87.72%
Year 1 FFY 2024 Target	87.72%
Year 2 FFY 2025 Target	87.73%

- Source: FY 2024-25 - Family Outcomes Survey Results
- Surveys sent to families sampled across five CA regions: Northern California, Bay Area, Central California, Southern California, and the Los Angeles area.
- Total Surveys Distributed – 10,176
  - Completed Surveys – 742
  - Response Rate: 7.29%

# Data Considerations

- Need consistency over time to ensure that the data reported reflect the impact of the SSIP improvement activities
- Measurement pool must be large enough to have valid and reliable results
- Future measurement options
  - May consider change in measurement approach for SSIP as pilot sites are established
  - Survey distribution process – statewide survey vs. pilot site surveys
  - Compare pilot results to similar sites where the interventions are not piloted to assess differential impact

# Discussion



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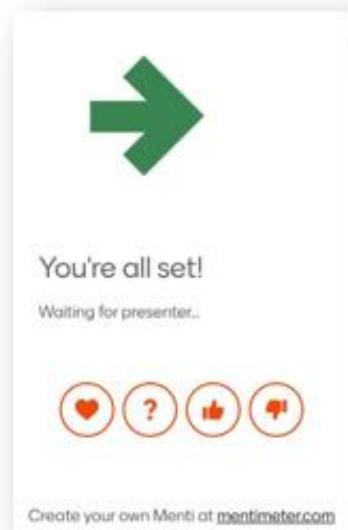
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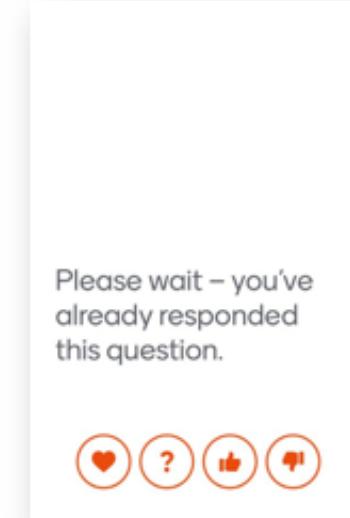


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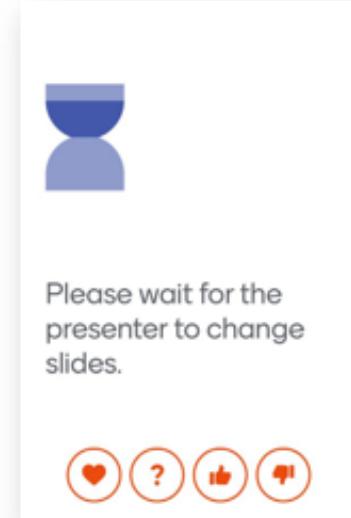


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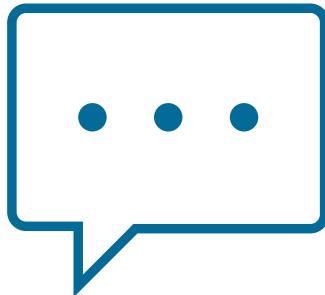
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# Public Comment



## Next Steps

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- Pilot Site Selection
- Advisory Group & Constituency Group Meetings
- State Leadership Team Recruitment
- Update Evaluation Plan
- Further develop the Implementation Plan for family-directed assessments

## QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Please contact:

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