

Get Ready Guilford

Guilford County, NC

Background

In 2018, Ready for School, Ready for Life, The Duke Endowment, and their partners received an investment from Blue Meridian Partners that helped them launch the Get Ready Guilford Initiative. Since that time, Get Ready Guilford has worked to plan, design, and implement a system that will ultimately seamlessly connect a wide array of services for the 6,000 children born in Guilford County each year.

Get Ready Guilford's core strategy is to proactively assess these children and families at key points in time, and connect them to effective services through an integrated data system. Because children have many needs, the universal assessments cover several domains of well-being. Get Ready Guilford has established several priorities for its work:

- Implement a Navigation System
- Expand Proven Programs
- Drive Continuous Quality Improvement
- Build Enabling Technologies
- Evaluate for Learning & Impact

Network Partners in the Integrator Learning Lab

- The Get Ready Guilford initiative is a network that includes dozens of partners from a range of sectors, including The Duke Endowment; *Ready for School, Ready for Life; and *The Guilford County Department of Health (Coalition on Infant Mortality). For a full list of network partners, please click [here](#).

*Network representatives in the 2020 Integrator Learning Lab



For more information:

Website: <https://www.getreadyguilford.org/get-ready-guilford-initiative/>

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Near-Term, Lab-Related Goals

- As a network, complete a Theory of Action with an equity lens for Get Ready Guilford
- Develop a plan for infusing equity impact assessment tools into Get Ready Guilford work flows (e.g. train-the-trainer module for stakeholders and partners)
- Map current and future alignment/engagement with other networks working the early childhood/prenatal-5 and population health spaces

Achievements Supported by Technical Assistance from the Learning Lab

- Established a bold goal for “ending” disparities in Guilford, as opposed to reducing them
- Hosted several trainings for network partners and the broader field related to health and racial equity, inclusive of how to apply an equity impact assessment tool to real-world strategies
- Formally incorporated use of the equity impact assessment tool into network decision making processes and initiated network-wide strategy for communicating the need for equity to a range of stakeholders in Guilford County



Integrative Areas of Future Focus

Though the 2020 Integrator Learning Lab has drawn to a close, Get Ready Guilford will continue to be deliberate and strategic about deploying integrative activities in support of the goals of the network. This will include a focus on ending disparities in healthy births and early childhood outcomes, with such actions as:

- Creating a county-level plan of action for ending birth and developmental disparities for children and youth in Guilford County
- Building a system of navigation to ensure that children and families in Guilford County have easier access to the resources they need to thrive
- Bringing in local and national experts to advise Get Ready Guilford partners regarding infusing a health equity approach into all aspects of network activities

The 2020 Integrator Learning Lab was made possible through the support of The Kresge Foundation. To learn more about the Learning Lab, please email MHCUC@Nemours.org or visit the project web pages at www.movinghealthcareupstream.org/2020-integrator-learning-lab/