

# GROWN IN DURHAM

## ECAP

### Durham County's Early Childhood Action Plan

There are nearly 35,000 children from birth through age 8 in Durham County. We believe each and every child deserves to grow up in a community where they can **THRIVE**.

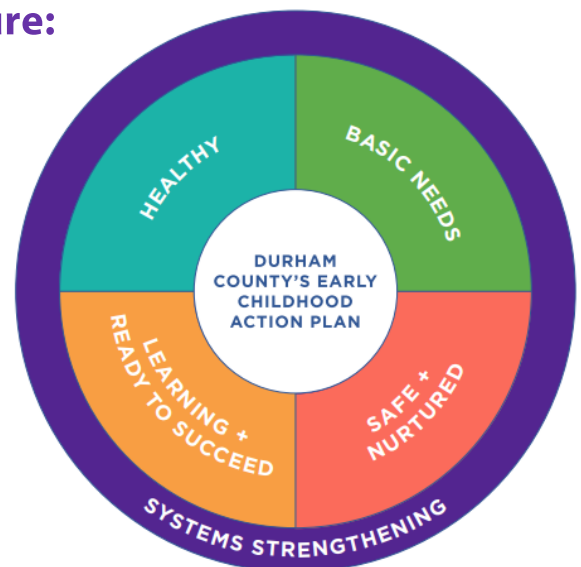
#### WHAT IS THE DURHAM ECAP?

##### "Grown in Durham" describes:

- HOW we as a community of parents, families, community members, early childhood providers, and early childhood systems leaders have worked together over the past year to create this plan.
- WHY we must do more to ensure all children in Durham can thrive.
- WHAT we need to do to in order for all children to thrive.

##### "Grown in Durham" has 5 goals to ensure:

- Our early childhood system is **STRONG**.
- All children and families have their **BASIC NEEDS** met.
- All children are **SAFE AND NURTURED**.
- All children are **HEALTHY**.
- All children are **LEARNING and READY TO SUCCEED**.



**There are 21 recommendations for our Durham community; 58 strategies for action; and proposed action plans to bring each of the recommendations and strategies to life.**

## **WHO CREATED THE PLAN?**

- Over 150 parents, early childhood providers, and systems leaders teamed up to identify areas for action in support of Durham's young children, birth through age 8, and families.
- Over 1,000 parents, caregivers, and guardians shared their ideas.

## **WHY IS THIS PLAN IMPORTANT?**

In Durham, not all children and families have the same opportunities to thrive. We believe all children deserve to grow up healthy, in safe and nurturing communities, where they can play, learn, and be ready to succeed in school and life.

## **HOW WILL WE ENSURE ALL CHILDREN THRIVE?**

- Value the voices and experiences of families in our community.
- Ensure there is a set of universal, family and child-focused supports that promote thriving for all.
- Address root cause issues in an upstream way that prevent acute stress and trauma for families.
- Ensure there is a set of culturally-affirming, anti-racist, affordable supports that are responsive to and address family stress and trauma.
- Change harmful mental models that prevent systems from changing in necessary ways.
- Break down silos and build intentional cross-sector collaboration so we can strengthen our early childhood system as a whole.

**CHECK OUT DURHAM  
COUNTY'S EARLY CHILDHOOD  
ACTION PLAN TO LEARN MORE  
AND GET INVOLVED!**

