



PANDEMIC RECOVERY OFFICE

Pediatric Provider Relief and Recovery Final Report

Submitted by State of Rhode Island Pandemic Recovery Office

Paul L. Dion, Ph.D., Director

Nicholas R. Fanuele, Project Lead

Ross Lancaster, Data Analyst III

Derek Gomes, Chief Public Affairs Officer

<https://pandemicrecovery.ri.gov>

This project was supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number SLFRP0136 awarded to the State of Rhode Island by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

Pediatric Provider Relief and Recovery

Project Identification Number: 10004

Pandemic Recovery Office Approval Date: February 9, 2022

Project Completion Date: March 29, 2023

Funding Amount: \$7,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 1.14 Public Health: Other Public Health Services

Problem Statement: Healthy child development and infant/child mental health are essential to positive academic and health outcomes. Throughout the public health emergency (PHE), many children and their families with behavioral health conditions and related developmental delays were unable to access services and family supports. Early data demonstrated the significant negative impacts on child development and early childhood mental health.

According to a *Journal of the American Medical Association* article, “The COVID-19 pandemic may worsen existing mental health problems and lead to more cases among children and adolescents because of the unique combination of the public health crisis, social isolation, and economic recession.”¹ Furthermore, COVID-19 threatens the healthcare system’s ability to effectively screen for and identify behavioral health needs that cause and/or co-occur with developmental delays to initiate referrals for critical services, such as Early Intervention (EI), Family Home Visiting, and Early Childhood Special Education.

Children in Rhode Island experienced delayed healthcare and developmental supports and were exposed to trauma due to the PHE, which could have a devastating long-term impact on development. Addressing the delayed access to supports and services is critical so that children enter the education system ready to learn.

Project Overview: The project, which provided payments to pediatric and family practice primary care providers who serve Medicaid-covered children, had two components:

1. The *Stabilization Grants* created an incentive for pediatric primary care providers to improve access to care and drive investment into their practices. Support was provided for staffing and infrastructure to help pediatric practices rebound from COVID-19-related delays in care. Payments were contingent on practices reporting baseline data and either meeting targets or demonstrating measurable improvement in the Child and Adolescent Well Care Visit measure. The Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) tracked additional measures related to immunizations, including COVID-19 immunizations, and lead screening rates, which are expected to be closely tied to performance on the Child and Adolescent Well Care Visit measure.
2. The *Performance Bonus Grants* provided an additional round of grants to pediatric and family practice primary care providers who participated in the technical assistance program. The grants were distributed to providers who engaged with the technical assistance vendor, the Care Transformation Collaborative of Rhode Island (CTC). CTC

¹ <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapediatrics/fullarticle/2764730>

provided *Technical Assistance* to support training and workflow redesign, data collection and reporting, and best practice sharing to aid providers in improving performance. CTC assisted in evaluating practices' performance.

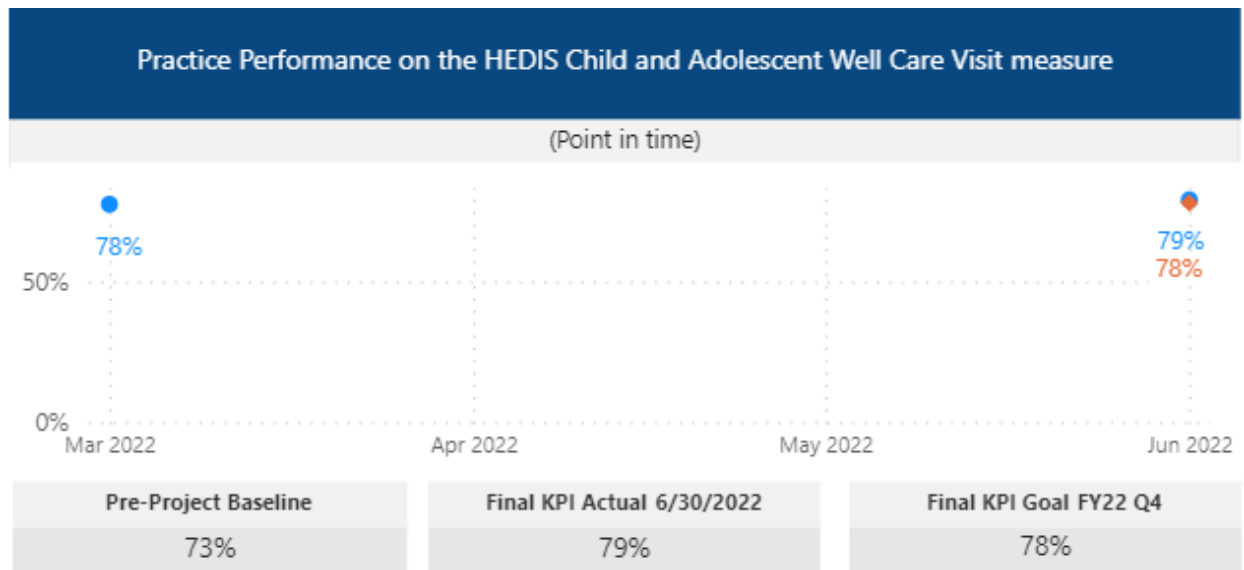
Pediatric providers across the state were made aware of the program, but only those who applied to participate received funds.

Financial Overview: The \$7.5 million project budget included \$6.0 million in *Stabilization Grants*, \$1,266,993 in *Performance Bonus Grants*, and approximately \$233,008 in *Technical Assistance* provided by CTC. All program payments, including by grant type, can be found on the [Pandemic Recovery Office's website](#) by filtering the "Project" box for "Pediatric Provider Relief and Recovery." The table below shows planned expenditures by fiscal quarter and actual expenditures by fiscal quarter:

Fiscal Year Quarter	Planned Expenditures	Actual Expenditures
FY 2022 Q3	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
FY 2022 Q4	\$2,900,000	\$3,000,000
FY 2023 Q1	\$1,600,000	\$1,500,000
Total	\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000

Key Performance Indicators: The following are the key performance indicators based on quarterly goals and monthly data collections, except for *1. Child and adolescent well visit*, which has quarterly goals and quarterly data collections.

1. Child and adolescent well visit



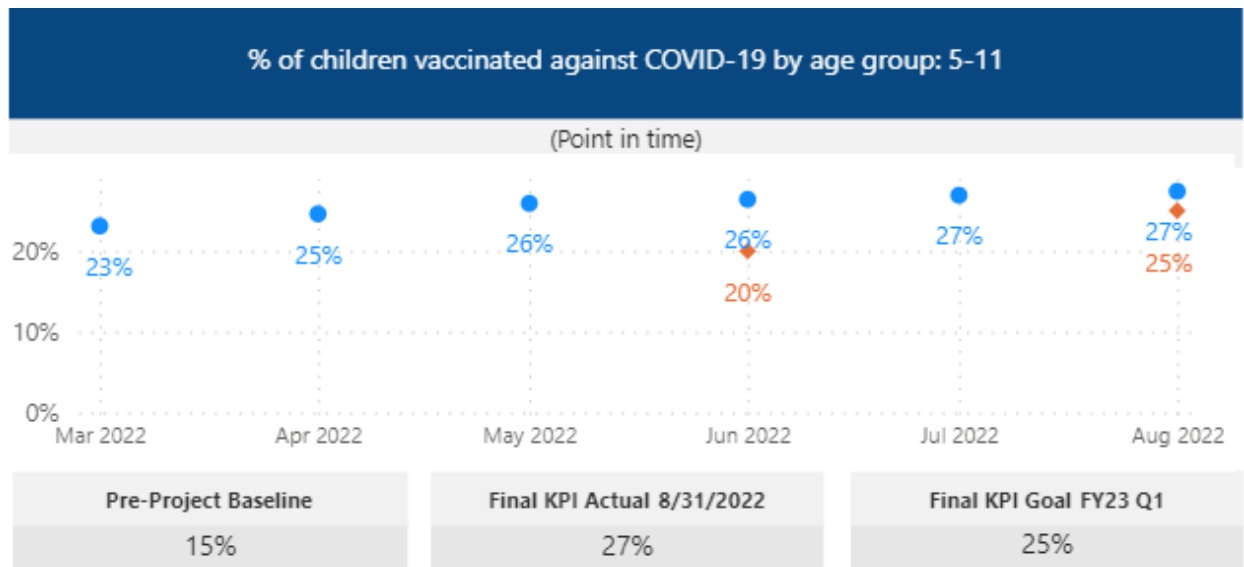
* The baseline for this key performance indicator is from calendar year 2019, when 73.2% of children ages 3-17 in these practices received at least one well-care visit.

2. Childhood vaccinations



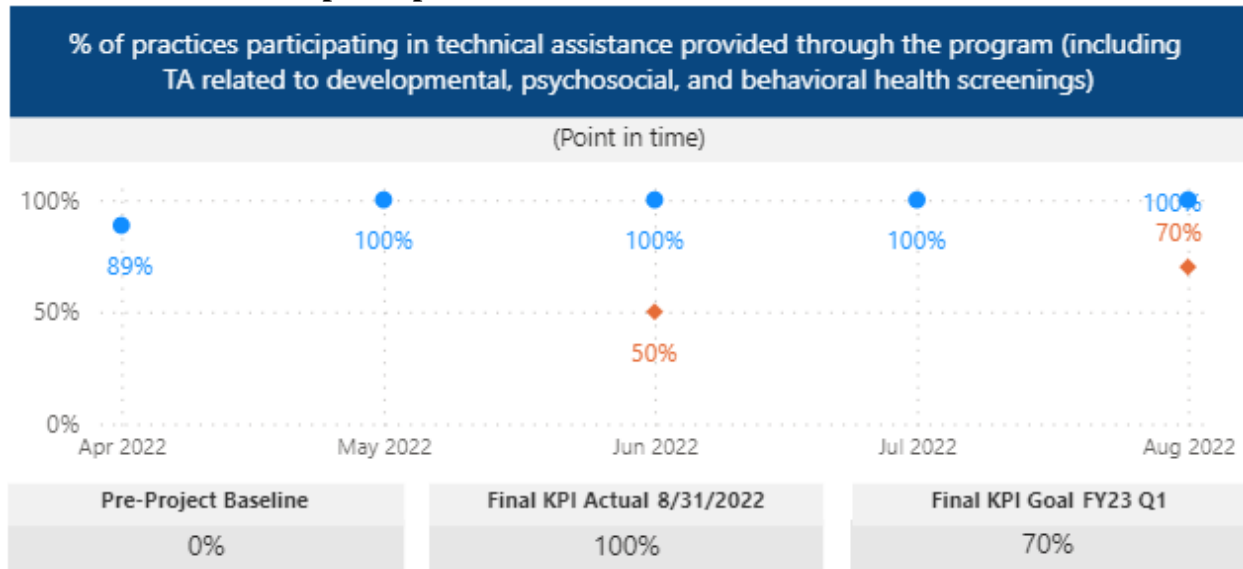
* The baseline for this key performance indicator is from December 2021, when 73.6% of children met kindergarten immunization requirements.

3. COVID-19 vaccinations



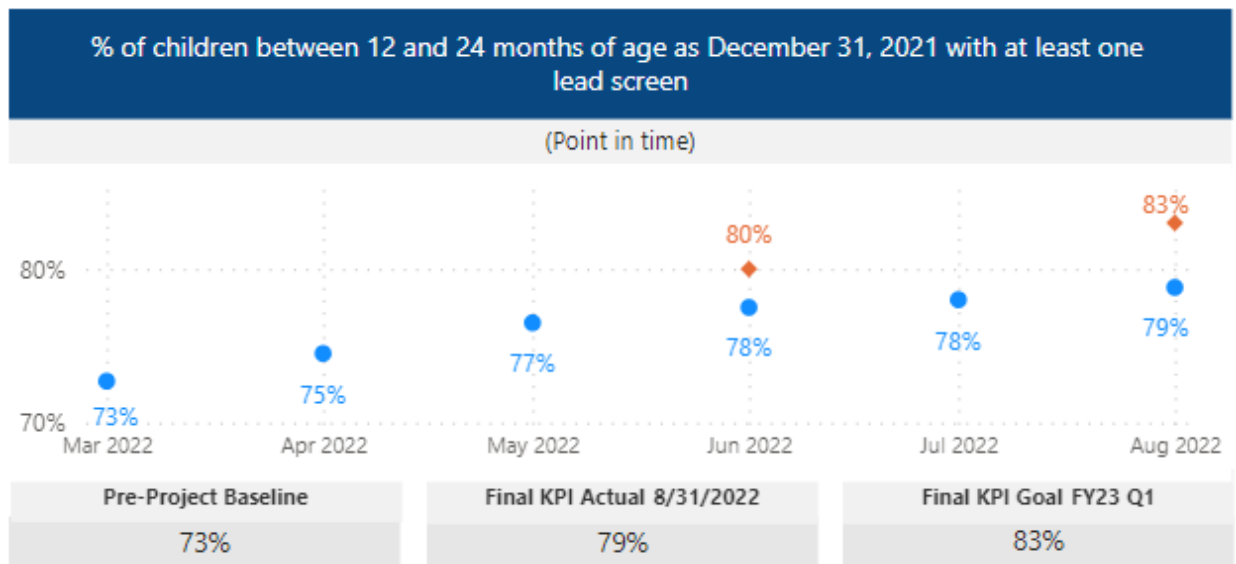
* The baseline for this key performance indicator is from January 2022, when 14.8% of Medicaid-covered children ages 5-11 were vaccinated against COVID-19.

4. Technical assistance participation



* The key performance indicator measures the percentage of pediatric providers who participated in technical assistance to stand up development, psychosocial, and behavioral health screenings.

5. Lead screenings administered



* The baseline for this key performance indicator is from December 2021, when 72.7% of children between 12 and 24 months had at least one lead screening.

Demographics: The table below shows the distribution of Medicaid-covered patients across the practices, the municipality where the practice is based, and the total grant amount provided to each practice. Of the 44 providers, 18 are located within a 1-mile radius of a qualified census tract (QCT). QCTs, as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, must have 50% of households within incomes below 60% of the area median gross income or have a poverty rate of 25% or more.

Provider Name	Distribution of Medicaid Enrollees under 18 across Participating Providers*	Location	Total Grant Amount Received
Affinity Physicians LLC	4.7%	Providence	\$338,192.09
Alla Matsievskaya, MD	1.3%	Warwick	\$91,918.87
Anchor Medical Associates	4.8%	Lincoln	\$348,226.35
Anchor Medical Associates	0.4%	Warwick	\$27,253.58
Aquidneck Pediatrics, LLC	5.1%	Middletown	\$370,772.49
Barrington Pediatric Associates, Inc.	2.4%	Barrington	\$176,776.60
Blackstone Valley Pediatrics PC F/K/A Peter T Yasigian MD PC	2.2%	Cumberland	\$156,831.93
Carine Leconte, MD, Inc.	0.7%	Cranston	\$52,896.71
Chad P. Nevola, MD, Inc.	0.4%	Providence	\$32,332.65
Charles J. DeAngelis MD Ltd	0.6%	Cranston	\$41,375.88
Children First Pediatrics, Inc.	2.3%	Lincoln	\$163,893.09
Children's Choice Pediatrics, LLC	1.8%	West Warwick	\$131,560.44
Children's Healthcare, Inc.	3.2%	Providence	\$234,752.38
Coastal Medical Physicians, Inc.	10.5%	Providence	\$759,507.57
Concilio Pediatrics	1.7%	Lincoln	\$123,879.88
Cranston Pediatrics, LLC	3.0%	Cranston	\$217,656.96
Drs. Concannon & Vitale LLC	0.8%	Cranston	\$59,833.99
East Bay Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine	1.1%	Barrington	\$79,778.65
East Side Pediatrics, PC	3.7%	Providence	\$268,695.47
EGP, Inc.	1.8%	East Greenwich	\$129,578.36
Encompass Pediatrics, LLC	1.1%	Pawtucket	\$82,256.25
Family Health and Sports Medicine, LLC	0.1%	Cranston	\$8,299.95
James R. Bonner, MD, Inc.	0.7%	Cranston	\$53,144.47
Jenks Park Pediatrics, Inc.	1.2%	Central Falls	\$87,459.20
John McGonigle MD LLC	1.0%	East Providence	\$72,841.37
Kingstown Pediatrics	0.8%	North Kingstown	\$60,453.38
Medical Associates of Rhode Island, Inc.	0.5%	Bristol	\$36,916.20
North Providence Pediatrics, Inc.	0.4%	North Providence	\$25,890.90
NRI Pediatrics, PC	1.3%	Cumberland	\$92,662.16
Ocean State Pediatrics	1.4%	East Greenwich	\$99,475.55
P.R.I.M.A. Inc.	2.2%	Cumberland	\$156,584.18
Partners in Pediatrics	1.0%	Providence	\$75,318.97
Pediatric Associates, Inc.	3.1%	East Providence	\$224,718.11
Rhode Island Hospital/ Hasbro Primary Care	14.1%	Providence	\$1,025,725.44
Richard Ohnmacht, MD, Ltd	0.3%	Cranston	\$20,935.69

Provider Name	Distribution of Medicaid Enrollees under 18 across Participating Providers*	Location	Total Grant Amount Received
Santiago Medical Group, Inc.	5.3%	North Providence	\$386,876.88
Smithfield Pediatrics, Inc.	0.6%	Smithfield	\$41,499.77
Snow Family Medicine, LLC	0.2%	Cranston	\$12,759.63
South County Pediatric Group	1.8%	Narragansett	\$131,684.32
Sunshine Pediatrics, LLC	4.5%	Providence	\$329,024.97
University Family Medicine Inc.	0.1%	East Greenwich	\$8,176.08
University Pediatrics Inc.	1.9%	Providence	\$140,232.03
Wakefield Pediatrics	1.6%	South Kingstown	\$113,350.10
Yen Longobardi, MD	2.4%	Central Falls	\$172,812.45
Total			\$7,264,811.99

**The percentages account for the distribution of Medicaid-enrolled children across all participating practices. Not all practices serving Medicaid-enrolled children applied to participate.*

Distribution of Pediatric Grant Amounts by Location



Location	Sum of Grant
BARRINGTON	\$256,555.25
BRISTOL	\$36,916.2
CENTRAL FALLS	\$260,271.65
CRANSTON	\$466,903.28
CUMBERLAND	\$406,078.27
EAST GREENWICH	\$237,229.99
EAST PROVIDENCE	\$297,559.48
LINCOLN	\$635,999.32
MIDDLETOWN	\$370,772.49
NARRAGANSETT	\$131,684.32
NORTH KINGSTOWN	\$60,453.38
NORTH PROVIDENCE	\$412,767.78
PAWTUCKET	\$82,256.25
PROVIDENCE	\$3,203,781.57
SMITHFIELD	\$41,499.77
SOUTH KINGSTOWN	\$113,350.1
WARWICK	\$119,172.45
WEST WARWICK	\$131,560.44
Total	\$7,264,811.99