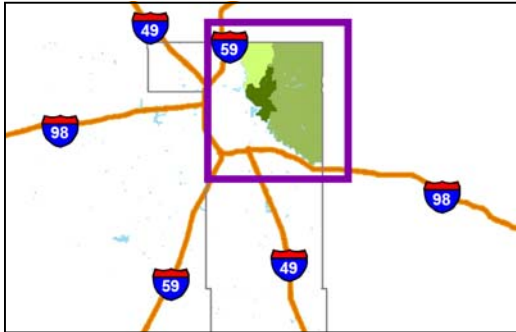


TECCS in Action

Case Study: Southeast MS

Mississippi



Early Development Instrument (EDI) Statistics

Year of EDI collection:	2010-2011, 2011-2012
Number of Schools:	11
Number of Teachers:	74
Number of Children:	1,463

Communication of EDI Results

United Way of SE Mississippi has held in-person presentations for the Chamber of Commerce, the Area Development Partnership, the Excel by 5 board, Head Start, mayors, the Board of Aldermen, the Early Childhood Advisory Council, Rotary Clubs, the Optimist Club, resident associations, school district volunteer organizations, kindergarten teachers, the Shared Decision Council, the provost and deans of the USM and staff at MSU Social Science Research Center. They also did press releases, newspaper articles, paid advertisements and TV interview to achieve widespread media coverage and held discussions with various groups including the Mississippi Power Education Foundation, the Children's Defense Fund, parent leaders at public housing developments and parents through home visiting programs.

Community Use of the EDI Results

Informing Strategic Planning and Decision Making

EDI data were used by the Excel by 5 coalition as part of the strategic planning process to develop a 3-year continuation plan of action. As a result, program planning and community events focus on the areas of greatest vulnerability. EDI data were also informative in updating the Petal school district's strategic plan and in developing a Pre-K Plan of Improvement. In Hattiesburg, the EDI data have been used to prioritize programming and resources to the areas with greatest needs and in developing the Hattiesburg Excel By 5 plan of action.

Developing New Strategies

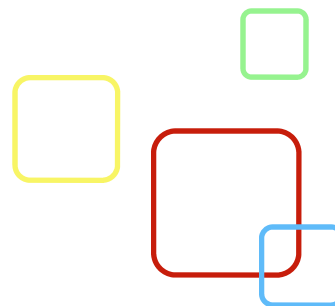
In Hattiesburg and Petal, there is increased community awareness of the impact of a child's social/emotional development on their academic and overall success. Parent educators who do home visits with families with children 0-3 years, early educators, Head Start and public school teachers and administrators have been trained in "Conscious Discipline". This approach, based on helping children self-regulate, is being shared with all these groups, which will improve the social/emotional domain.

Improving Collaboration

There has been improved collaboration among parents, early childhood educators and primary school leaders/teachers as there are now intentional strategies developed to address areas of greatest vulnerability. While the Petal School District and the Excel By 5 coalition have been focused on school readiness for some time, there has been little effort directed toward children's social/emotional development. The EDI data has shown that this is an area that needs more attention, which has led to more emphasis on the development of the "whole child" among the local early childhood stakeholders.

Funders

- United Way of South East Mississippi
- W. K. Kellogg Foundation



United Way of South East Mississippi

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For more information about TECCS go to www.TECCS.net