



The Early Childhood Mental Health Partnership is pleased to release a new toolkit for programs and providers interested in integrating child mental health into pediatric primary care.

Available at [ecmhatters.org](http://ecmhatters.org), the *Early Childhood Mental Health Toolkit: Integrating Mental Health Services into the Pediatric Medical Home* is a comprehensive collection of tools and tips for incorporating early childhood mental health personnel and practices into the pediatric primary care setting.

Topics addressed include:

- [Building a Core Team to Champion Children’s Social and Emotional Health](#)
- [Providing Family Centered Care for Children’s Social and Emotional Health](#)
- [Creating Medical Home Systems to Support Mental Health Integration](#)
- [Financing and Sustaining the Early Childhood Mental Health Model of Integrated Care](#)

In 2009, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and the Boston Public Health Commission received funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to create a model of early childhood mental health services integrated in the pediatric medical home.

The model is based on a partnership between a family partner and early childhood mental health clinician. Knowing many practices may not have the capacity to create or fill these positions in the current healthcare environment; BPHC has structured the toolkit to be used by primary care practices with or without dedicated early childhood mental health staff.

We encourage you to share this resource, and other resources found on [ecmhatters.org](http://ecmhatters.org) with your provider network. In the *Families & Friends* section are Social Marketing resources, including printable posters and flashcards to help engage parents and providers in conversation about social and emotional health. A small change at the pediatrician’s office can make a large difference for a child. Integrating early childhood mental health concepts, services, and systems into the pediatric medical home helps to transform primary care; making the medical home a resource for the physical and mental health of a young child and a source of support for the entire family.

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