Infants and young children with prenatal substance exposure have an increased risk of physical and developmental challenges. Communities and families can work together to build skills that help substance-affected children, giving them the foundations they need to thrive throughout their lives. Early Childhood Consultants (ECCs) provide training and coaching to families of infants and young children impacted by opioid and other substance use disorders.

**Services for Families and Communities**

- Family-centered training that helps build and strengthen parenting skills, parent-child bonding, healthy attachment, and family resilience.
- Coaching for families, child welfare and treatment facility staff, healthcare providers, and other community partners on the impact of substance use on infants, early childhood development, and healthy attachment.

**Working Together to Help Children Thrive**

- Healthcare providers, child welfare workers, treatment providers, peer support specialists, and those who work with pregnant or parenting women play important roles in ensuring the health of infants in our communities and can work with ECCs.
- Any at risk pregnant or parenting woman or anyone who knows a pregnant or parenting woman using or at risk of using opioids can make a referral with an ECC to help families get the resources they need.
- The ECC can also refer children ages 0-5 to Early Childhood Mental Health Specialist for early interventions.

**How to find an ECC in the community**

- Early childhood consultants are located in each of the 14 Community Mental Health Centers and provide services to families statewide.
- Contact Brittany Barber, program liaison, for more information. (502) 782-7999 or Brittanya.Barber@ky.gov

The Kentucky Opioid Response Effort (KORE) implements evidence-based prevention, treatment, and recovery support services to address opioid use disorder in communities across Kentucky.