



## **Guidelines for collaborating with Head Start/Early Head Start and school systems to provide community wide implementation of Pyramid Model practices**

Rooted in Relationships encourages communities to collaborate with all who are involved or have a stake in the social emotional development of children ages 0-8. While a part of the work involves developing and implementing a long-range plan to influence early childhood systems of care, the other component supports communities as they implement the Pyramid Model in family child care homes and child care centers. Each community has the opportunity to select which providers in their area will receive the support necessary to implement this model. If they decide they would like to include Head Start/Early Head Start and/or school providers in this group, there are some important factors that should be considered.

The intent of the funding (funder's intent, not NC) for Rooted in Relationships is to serve child care providers as these professional's lack resources and experience the lowest wages in the early care and education workforce. While we recognize that other entities may also have limited resources, they do have more access to provide for the social emotional needs of children in their care. As one consideration, a community might wish to include a question on the provider application asking for a description of mental health resources currently available to the provider.

If a community still believes strongly that Head Start/Early Head Start and/or school providers should be a part of the Rooted Pyramid Initiative budget, Rooted in Relationships recommends consideration of the following options to ensure these partners would be contributing some of the resources they already have, while still supporting and boosting those resources with funding from Rooted.

Options:

- Check with NDE and/or Head Start at the state level to explore funding options that may be available.
- Invite them to attend module trainings, if there is a large number attending, consider requesting a small registration fee to cover food/materials.
- Provide coach and cover cost of coaching, but no provider stipends.
- Provide free trainings, partnering organizations cover cost of coaching, no provider stipends.
- Partnering organizations provide a coach and they attend module trainings with their providers, are included as part of coaching team but are paid through the partnering agency.

**Head Start/Early Head Start and school-based providers are NOT eligible to apply to Rooted in Relationships for Social-Emotional Enhancement Grants. These funds may only be used for center and home-based child care providers. If needs are identified by coaches, Rooted staff are happy to consult and brainstorm with coaches regarding what other alternatives may be available.**