

**Ontario's Strategy
Enhanced 18 Month Well-Baby Visit**

**Prepared by the
Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services**

May 2009

Expert Panel on the 18 Month Well-Baby Visit

- **Proposal:** *Getting it Right at 18 Months: ... Making it Right at 18 Years and Beyond*
- **Mandate:** development of a report to provide the basis for a provincial strategy to support standardized developmental assessment at 18 months of age for each child in Ontario
- Panel submitted its report and recommendations in Fall 2005 titled *Getting it Right at 18 Months: ... Making it Right for a Lifetime*
- Recommendations were reviewed by Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) and Ministry of Health Promotion (MHP)
- The province is responding to recommendations put forward by the Panel and has created an Implementation Advisory Committee and Working Group
- Copies of the report can be downloaded from the following websites
<http://www.children.gov.on.ca>
<http://www.ocfp.on.ca/local/files/CME/Research/FinalRpt-18monthPrjct.pdf>

Description: Enhanced 18 Month Well-Baby Visit

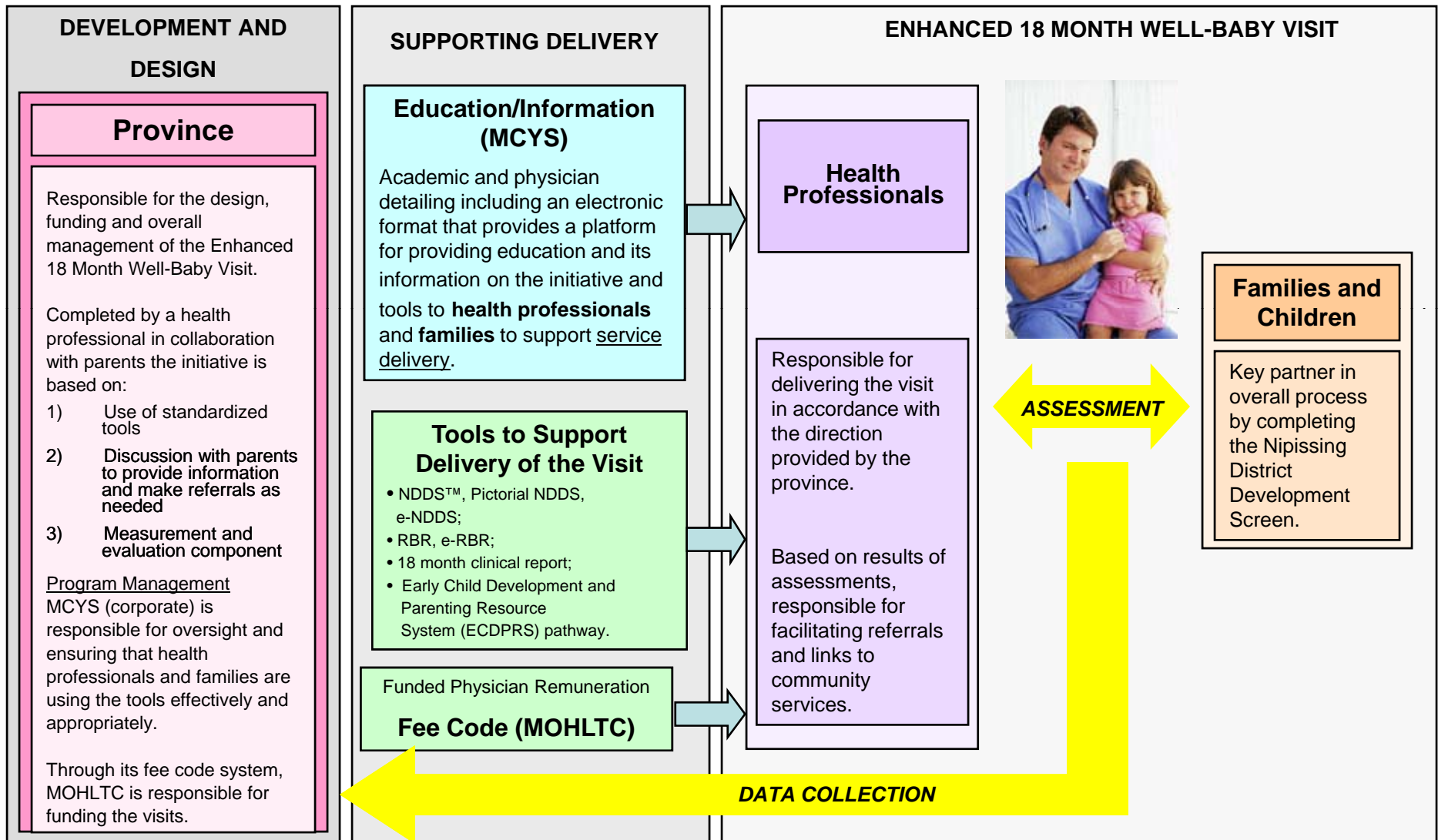
- The Enhanced 18 Month Well-Baby Visit initiative refers to:
 1. A consistent, focused, developmental **review** and **evaluation at 18 months of age completed by a primary health care provider in collaboration with parents.**
 2. The use of **standardized assessment tools.** These tools include:
 - **Nipissing District Developmental Screen™ (NDDS™)** – a parent-completed developmental checklist designed to assist parents, health care and child care professionals with a convenient and easy-to-use method of recording the development and progress of infants and children within certain age groupings. It is not a diagnostic tool and it is not meant to be a formal assessment of the child’s skills but rather a quick survey to determine any areas that may require some extra help. The screens coincide with immunization schedules as well as key developmental stages up to age six; and
 - **Rourke Baby Record (RBR)** – an evidence-based guide for health professionals in the delivery of the enhanced visit.
 3. A process to:
 - Support discussions with parents on healthy child development;
 - **Provide information on parenting and community programs** that promote healthy child development and early learning; and
 - When needed, **provide referrals** to specialized community services for those children identified with potential issues, needs and risks.
 4. A **measurement** and **evaluation** component that tracks how 18 month old children are doing.

Initiative Components

Initiative components include:

- Standardized tools;
- Education;
- Community partnerships;
- Physician remuneration;
- Data collection; and
- Planning and accountability strategies.

Initiative Design



Components: Implementation Status

Expert Panel on the 18 Month Well-Baby Visit (Fall 2005)

- Report and recommendations submitted
- Recommendations reviewed by MCYS, Ministry of Health Promotion (MHP), MOHLTC
- Implementation Advisory Committee and Working Group created

Visit is piloted in sites across the province (2006 – ongoing) including:

- The Best Start demonstration communities,
- Family Health Teams (FHTs) in Niagara and Stratford; and
- FHTs in North York and Haliburton as part of a MOHLTC funded initiative with the University of Toronto Department of Family and Community Medicine and the Centre for Effective Practice.

MCYS has supported critical components of the initiative to establish a foundation for delivery of the visit.

Standardized Tools

- NDDS™ sub-trademark license
- NDDS-r, validations study, translations
- Pictorial NDDS
- 2006 RBR update, validation study and translation
- 2009/2011 RBR updates
- E-NDDS, e-RBR

Education

- Primary Care Education – Academic/ Physician Detailing project
- Online Education and Information Strategy
- 18 month clinical report

Community Partnerships

- Community ECDPRS pathways developed or under development

Physician Remuneration

- Recommended to MOHLTC for current Ontario Medical Association (OMA) /MOHLTC negotiations creation of a new fee code for the enhanced visit

Data Collection

- Approval to move forward with an RFP for a data collection pilot project
- High risk markers developed
- Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA)

Planning and Accountability Strategies

- Transfer payment (TP) agency established
- Approval to move forward with an RFP for a research project measuring the effectiveness of the visit

Ministry of Children and Youth Services

Implementation Status Update (cont'd)

Moving Forward:

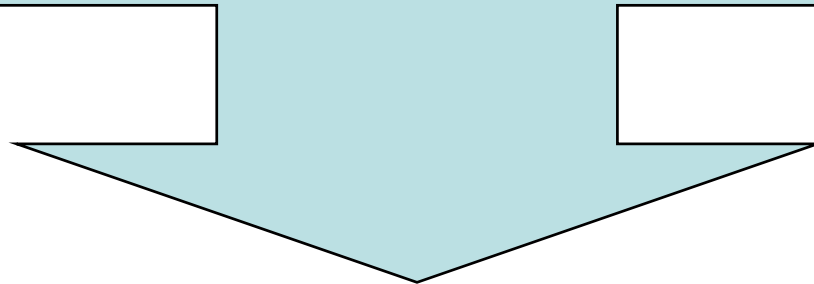
- With foundational initiatives in place and the visit being delivered in pilot communities, the ministry is proceeding with initiatives that will further support province-wide implementation of the visit.

Projects Underway

- NDDS-r. Moving forward with validation study and translations
- e-RBR, paper screen into a format compatible with electronic medical record (EMR) systems
- RBR 2009 update
- PIA
- Moving forward with development of an online education and information strategy accessed through a web portal enabling easy dissemination of practice tools, evidence-based e-learning curriculum and online community support infrastructure for professionals as well as information for parents explaining the importance and expectations for their participation in the visit
- Moving forward with a research project to measure the effectiveness of the visit
- Awaiting confirmation from MOHLTC of enhanced funding for new fee code
- Moving forward with data collection project to collect non-identifying, aggregate data for the visit
- E-NDDS, paper screen into a format compatible with electronic medical record (EMR) systems
- Pictorial NDDS
- Service Agreement with lead agency for:
 - Population health measure study (Phase 1);
 - 18 month Primary Care Education- Academic and Physician Detailing project; and
 - Ongoing education initiatives to support uptake of the enhanced visit.

In the long-term:

- RBR 2011 update
- Considerations for long-term data collection for the initiative will take place as planning for the MCYS's long-term data strategy unfolds

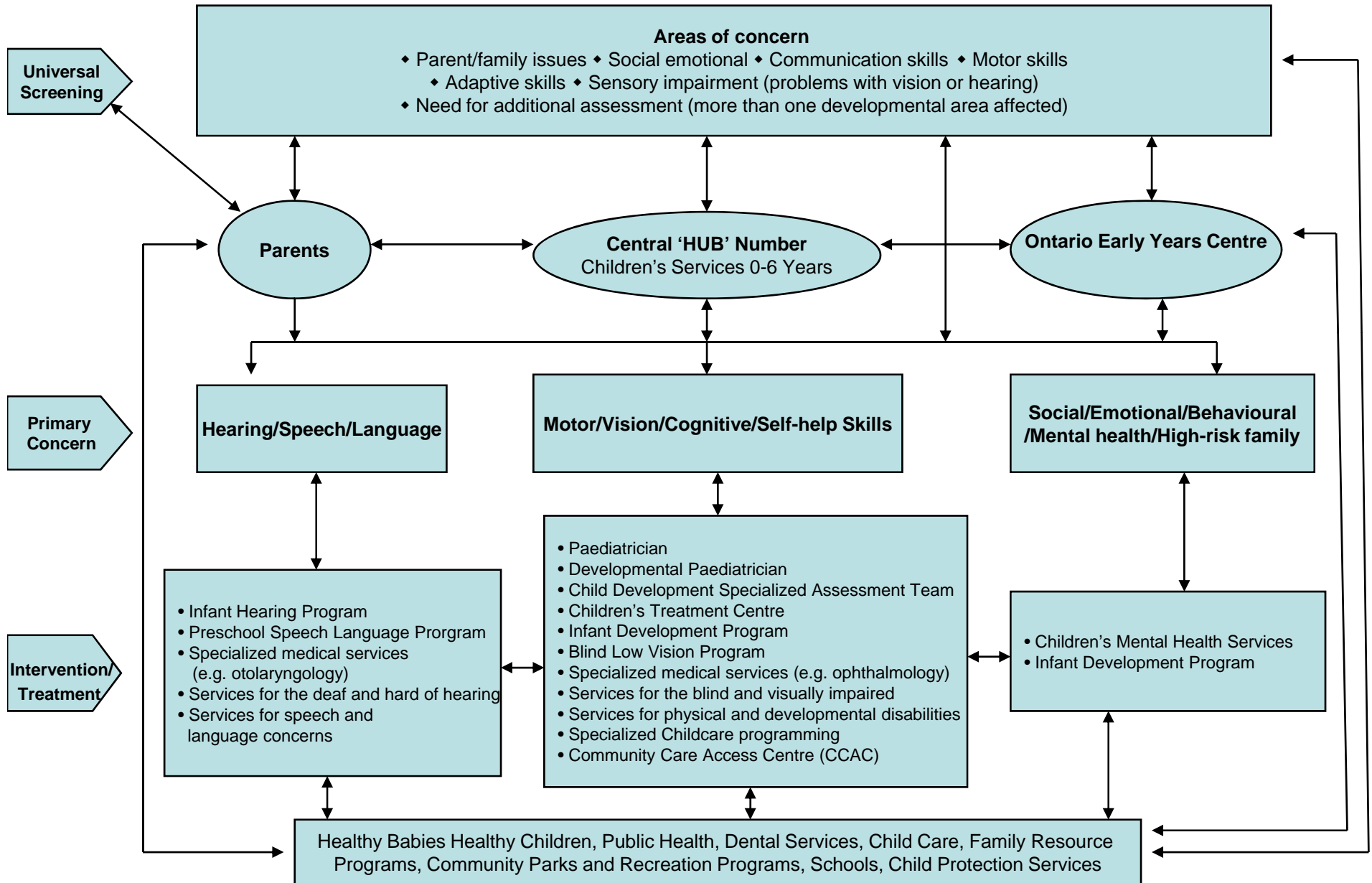


**END STATE: Enhanced 18 Month Well-Baby Visit delivered in Ontario
creating a culture focused on enhancing the developmental health and well-being of children to improve child outcomes**

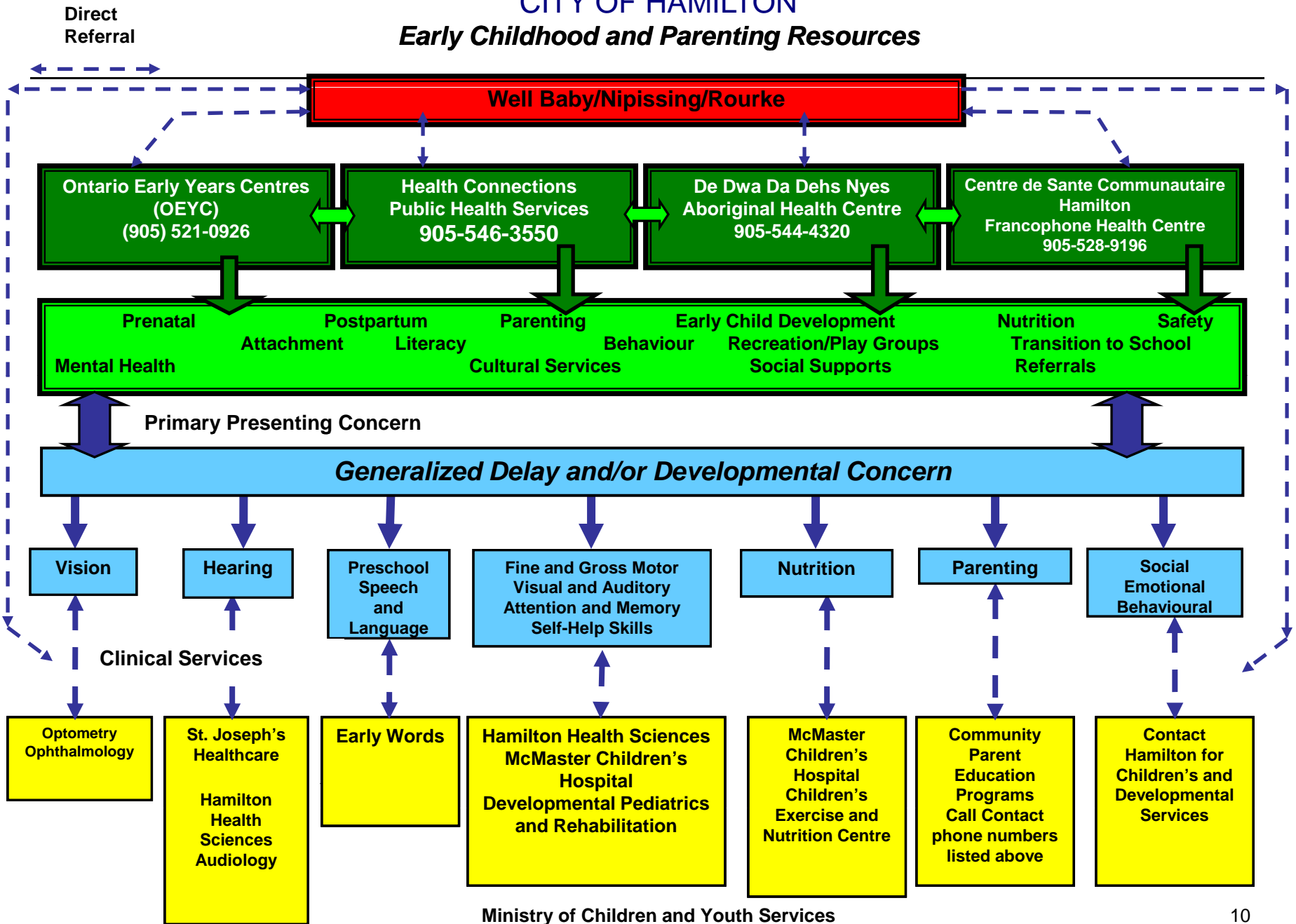
Moving Forward

- An important next step which will complete the academic and physician detailing project is the implementation of an electronic communication *Education and Information Strategy* through the use of a Web portal. This part of the initiative will provide a platform for healthcare providers and parents to access the tools, education and information required for the visit.
- Best Start Networks have developed or are currently developing Early Child Development and Parenting Resource System pathway templates. Designed to provide information regarding services available in communities the templates illustrate the organization of local early child development and parenting resources across a community, region or district so that young children are offered the opportunity for healthy development and the best start in life.
- Following in this presentation are local community pathway templates for the City of Hamilton. Also included is the Ontario template of the Early Child Development and Parenting Resource System pathway. The Ontario template is located on the back of Guide IV of the RBR – Ontario (2006) and provides healthcare professionals with a reminder of the services available in their communities and regions.
- The 18 month visit developmental flow chart included in the community templates helps to ensure that the enhanced visit is delivered in a standardized and consistent way in each community.

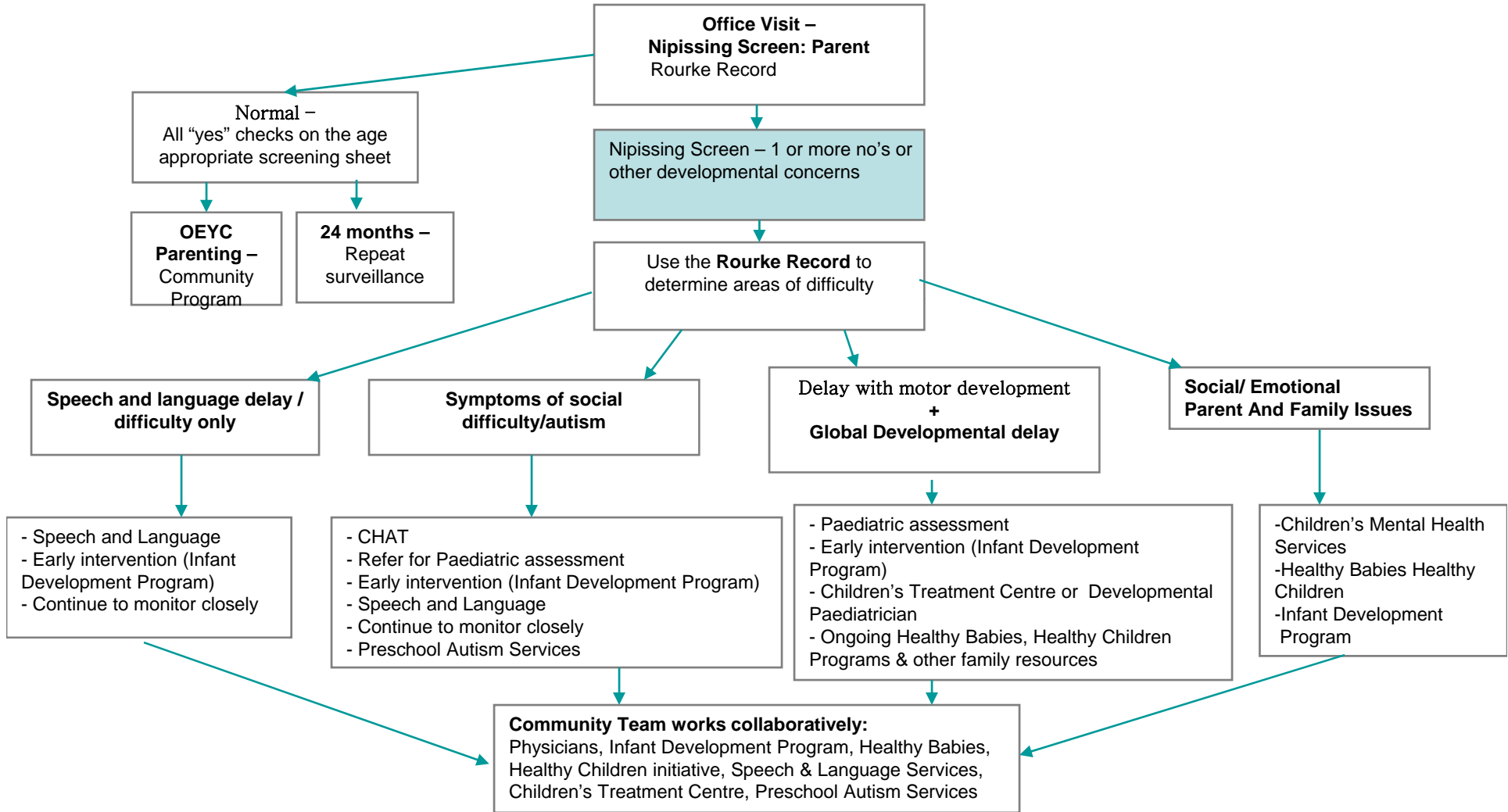
Early Child Development and Parenting Resource System - Ontario



CITY OF HAMILTON
Early Childhood and Parenting Resources



18 Month Visit Developmental Flow Chart



Prepared by: Elizabeth Thompson, Tara Kennedy, Wendy Roberts, Nadia Hall, Steven Cohen and Rhonda Schwartz



Well Baby Visit

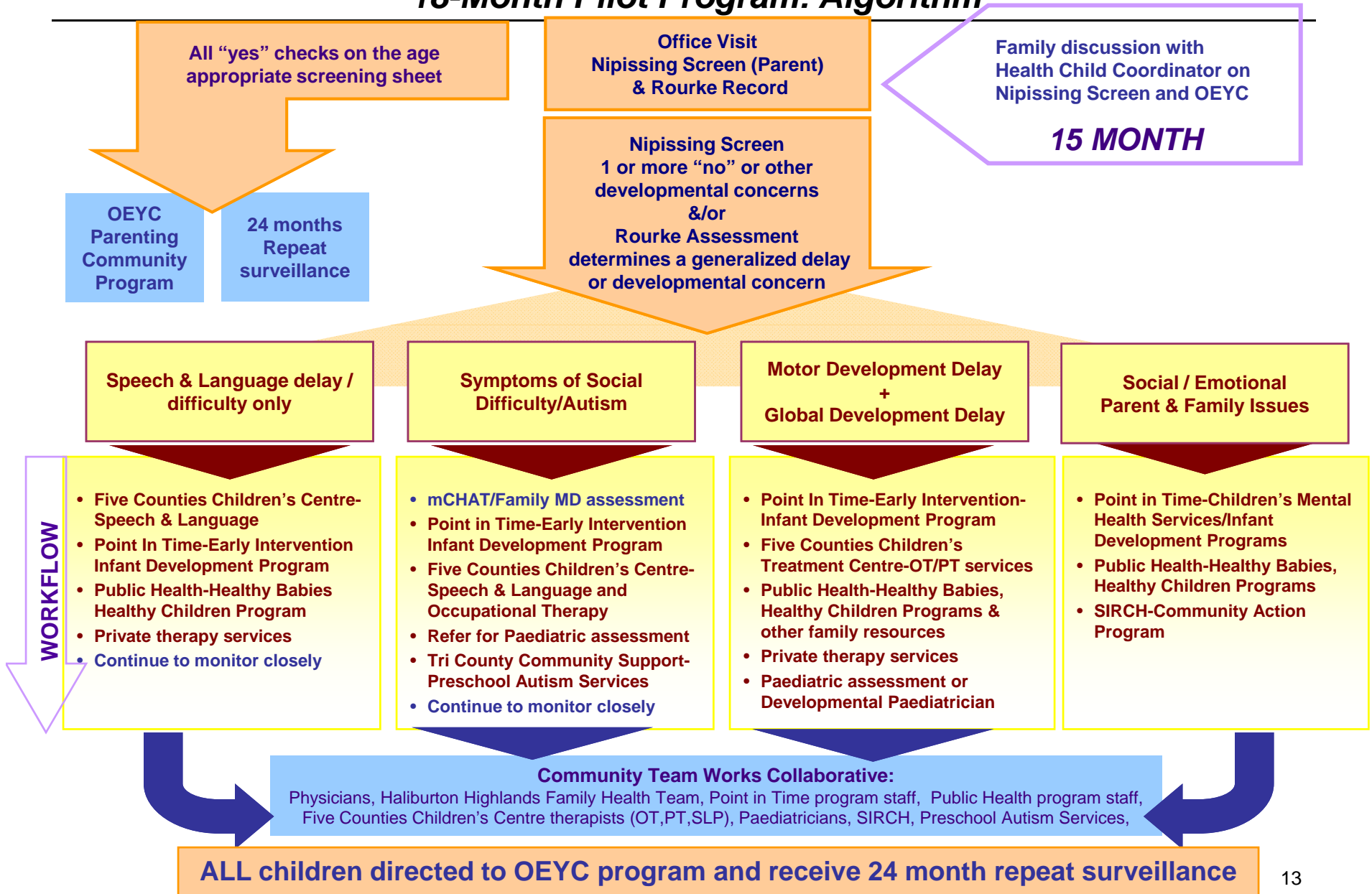
Ontario Early Years Centre Haliburton
 (705) 457 – 2989
 www.ontarioearlyyears.ca

Generalized Delay and/or Developmental Concern

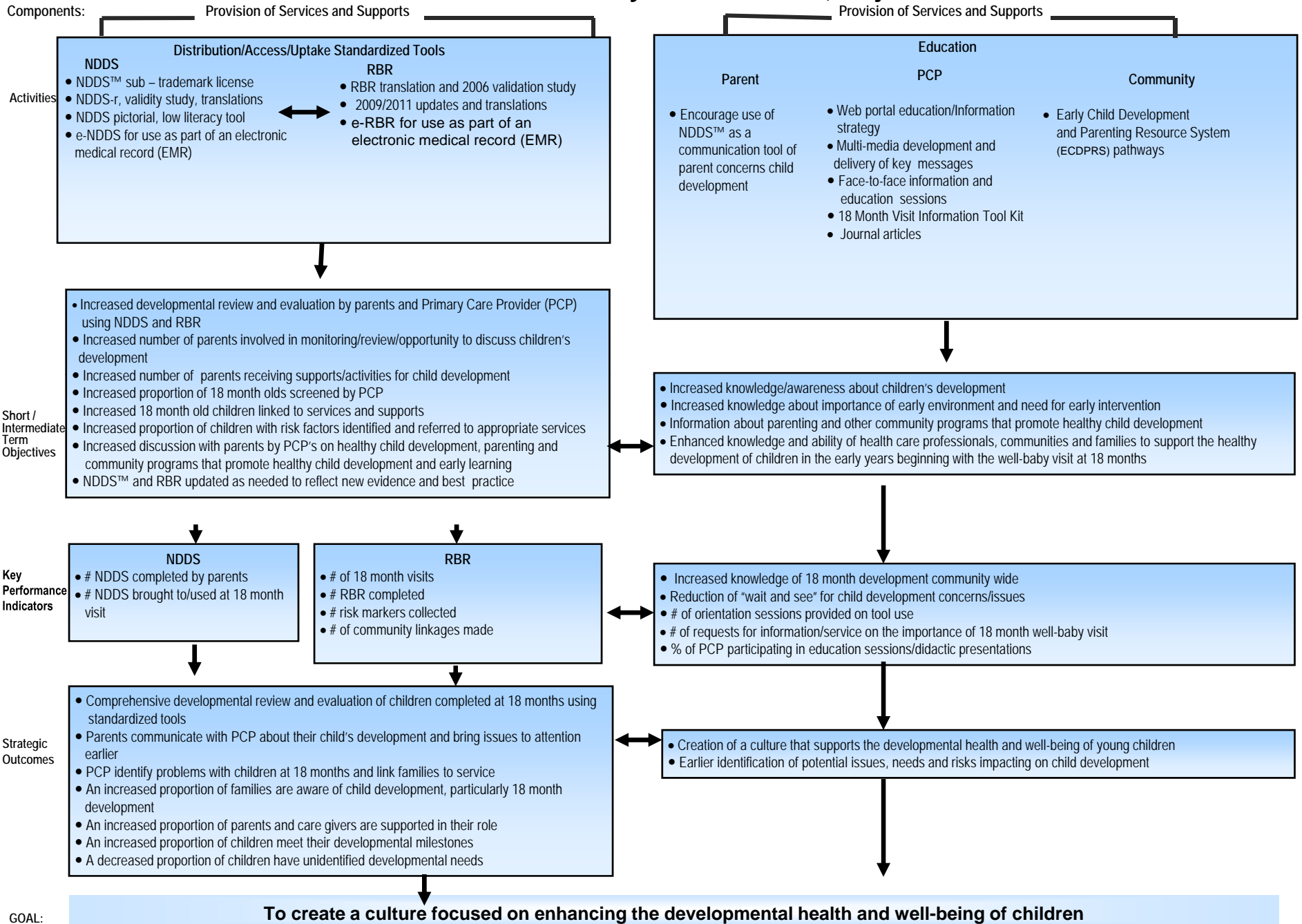


Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team

18-Month Pilot Program: Algorithm



APPENDIX 1: Enhanced 18 Month Well-Baby Visit Activities, Objectives and Outcomes





Enhanced 18 Month Well-Baby Visit Activities, Objectives and Outcomes

