

# Understanding Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC) and the Pyramid Model

## IECMHC

is a prevention-based service that pairs a master's-level **mental health consultant** with families and with adults who work with infants and young children in different settings.



**MENTAL  
HEALTH  
CONSULTANT**

## THE PYRAMID MODEL



is a multi-tiered, prevention-focused positive behavioral intervention and supports (PBIS) framework designed for implementation by early care and education programs.



involves **coaches** to help with implementation and fidelity and is guided by a leadership team.

## BOTH IECMHC AND THE PYRAMID MODEL...

- > Focus on the critical importance of positive relationships in the early years of a child's development
- > Build the capacity of professionals and families
- > Support children's social and emotional development



### IECMH consultants may support Pyramid Model implementation.

The IECMH consultant, trained in the Pyramid Model, brings a mental health perspective and focuses on factors influencing relationships and behaviors, such as the impact of trauma, depression, adversity, and substance misuse; staff wellness; and underlying causes of behavior.

**IECMH consultants** may work with **Pyramid Model coaches and leadership teams** to support Pyramid Model implementation.



## ORIENTATIONS

### IECMHC

Mental Health  
Family Systems  
Consultation

### Pyramid Model

Early Childhood Education  
Family Engagement  
Early Childhood Special  
Data-Based Decision Making  
Education  
Practice-Based Coaching

**IECMHC and the Pyramid Model have different, but complementary, orientations.**

