

# Appendix A: Activities

**The following are high priority activities for UNSS feasibility assessment grants:**

1. Assessment and documentation of the demographic profile of your designated geographic service area, including the annual number of births and their locations;
2. Identification of service gaps and greatest needs for birthing people in your service area, and how UNSS could address those needs;
3. Capacity assessment, including designation of lead implementing agency or organization, identification of partners needed for planning and implementation of UNSS (especially those in the health care, early childhood and human service sectors as well as local government leaders), identification of relevant service providers that would be necessary for the referral functions of a UNSS (WIC offices, local CFCs, etc.) and description of available data and referral systems;
4. Convening (at least once in the course of the planning grant) of a coalition of planning, implementation, and referral system partners;
5. Documenting the needs and wants of parents and caregivers (e.g. interviews, surveys or focus groups with expectant parents and parents of newborn to understand the need for and interest in UNSS services);
6. Financial feasibility analysis (light touch) for the implementation of UNSS including the identification of available and needed resources; and
7. Identification of barriers or challenges to implementing UNSS (the use of a SWOT – Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats – analysis or other formal analysis tool is recommended but not required).

**Additional activities may include (but are not limited to):**

1. Completion of the Family Connects Foundations Plus Feasibility course. Anyone can complete the course, not just those interested in using the Family Connects model. The Foundations Plus Feasibility course is \$2,500 for a community team to complete and includes:
  - a. A four-hour virtual Family Connects Foundations workshop to be presented in one single four-hour block at a mutually agreed-upon date and time
  - b. A Feasibility Workbook
  - c. A Recommended Reading List
  - d. A Readiness Assessment
  - e. Personalized Consultation with FCI to review the Feasibility Workbook and Readiness Assessment, and discussion of next steps.
  - f. Written Feasibility Report from FCI, including recommended next steps and timeline.
  - g. Guaranteed space in the next Virtual Academy or priority scheduling for In-Person Academy.

# Universal Newborn Support Systems (UNSS)

COMMUNITY FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT RFP

FEBRUARY 2026



2. Development of a public education strategy and community interest in UNSS, including but not limited to: community meetings, tailored informational resources for local context, and presentations to key stakeholders;
3. Pending ECCS report release:
  - a. Assessment of local suitability of available evidence-based models under the ECCS UNSS framework;
  - b. Convening of a planning committee and develop a community level assessment of how your local UNSS vision would integrate into a statewide system, including identification of local needs and barriers, emerging questions, and ideal supports from the state to facilitate expansion;
4. Creating a plan for the expansion of existing UNSS services to additional births;
5. Cost modeling for the implementation of UNSS including the identification of available and needed resources;
6. Assessment or plan of how your community will utilize [Medicaid funding](#) for UNSS services.