

# Our Approach to Identifying Effective Programs

- Meet with local leaders throughout the state to ascertain where their greatest needs are for services
- Target search based on meeting the identified needs
- Focus on programs serving predominantly low-income children, ages 0-5, and their families
- Focus on programs that have been demonstrated, through rigorous research, to be effective and show cost savings

# Identifying Effective Programs: Criteria

- Does the program target key risk and/or protective factors?
- Is the program model structured on a solid theoretical framework that guides each program component?
- Is there evidence of a long term return on investment?
- Is the model replicable?
- Does it have an experimental design with randomized control group?
- Is there evidence of clinically significant outcomes with sustained effects?
- Is the program developer committed to high quality replication and available for consultation?

## Questions for Program Developers re: Replication

- Do you have strategies to ensure successful replication?
- Do you know which are the core components, what the ideal dosage is and how to make adaptations in local communities?
- Do you have established:
  - training/TA
  - staffing guidelines
  - systems for ongoing evaluation
  - continuous improvement activities?
- Are there clear connections between the theoretical framework and the way that the program is delivered?
- What, if any obstacles, have there been to large scale implementation?
- Can you connect us with others who've replicated it?

## Questions for Program Developers re: Research

- **Are there long range positive impacts?**
- **Has the program been evaluated by an independent researcher?**
- **Has the research been published in a peer reviewed journal?**
- **Are you involved in ongoing research with the model?**
- **Is the program culturally competent? Are there different effects with different populations (e.g. age, gender, ethnicity, income, etc.)?**