Sunshine Portal – Year 2

The Sunshine Portal is a re-design of the previous online product known as the ECENA web portal, which will sunset July 30, 2020. While the ECENA visualized aggregate-level estimates of the data, these data were not linked across services or agencies, and were drawn from census estimates resulting in a siloed and estimated view of Florida early childhood systems. The Sunshine Portal will provide a comprehensive view of the early childhood mixed delivery system, wherein information is linked at the child-level and reported as state and local summaries of the risk factors, protective factors, service access, service quality, and outcome indicators in user-friendly data visualizations (e.g. maps, tables, and graphs). These reports will be updated twice a year, as data sharing agreements permit. Data will be sourced, from the Early Childhood Integrated Data System, which is the secure data storage infrastructure of linked, individual-level Florida administrative data across early childhood and family services, which was previously developed.

The purpose of this contract is to engage a contractor to upgrade and enhance data and reports aligned with the aims of the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDGR-B5), resulting in a new information portal, the Sunshine State Early Childhood Information Portal (Sunshine Portal). This Sunshine Portal provides Florida's early childhood system stakeholders access to the Florida needs assessment data and allows users to create customized maps and data visualizations describing early childhood system supports by selecting from a variety of data points and a variety of geographic levels, ranging from zip code, county, early learning coalition, and statewide. This contract will also serve to maintain the infrastructure, software, data sharing, and data security compliance controls to maintain and update the Early Childhood Integrated Data System. Beginning in July 2020, the UF research team will initiate planning with the Department of Education Longitudinal Data System team to develop a plan to support connection and/or linkage between the Early Childhood Integrated Data System and the Florida Longitudinal Data System.

The major program goals for the contractor are as follows:
- Increase the use of relevant administrative data by state and local policy makers to identify patterns and trends in access, utilization and impact of federal and state funded services designed for young children and their families to guide data informed decision making.
- Establish stronger inter-agency collaboration and awareness of the ways different early childhood service sectors coalesce to contribute to family self-sufficiency and positive child outcomes.
- Assess program impact both singularly and in relation to other state programs.