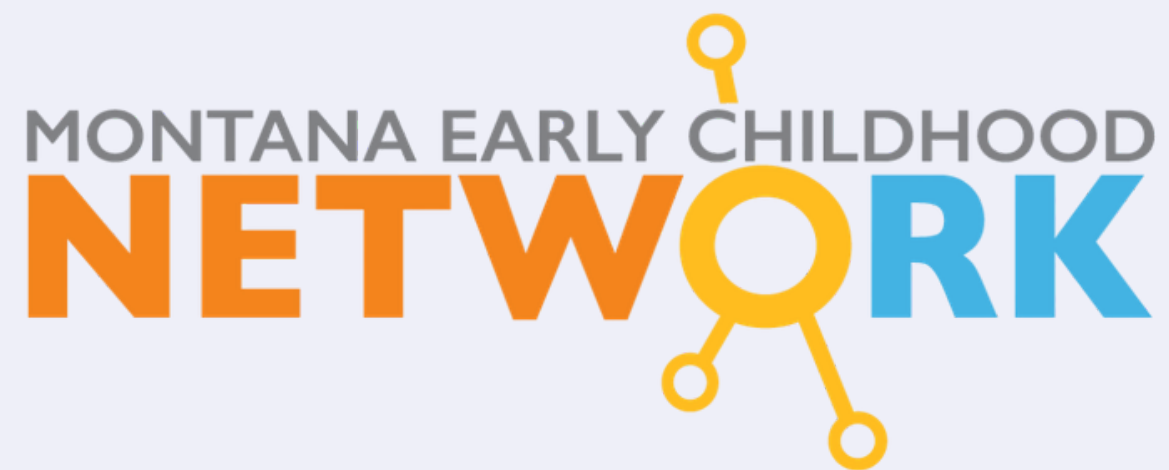
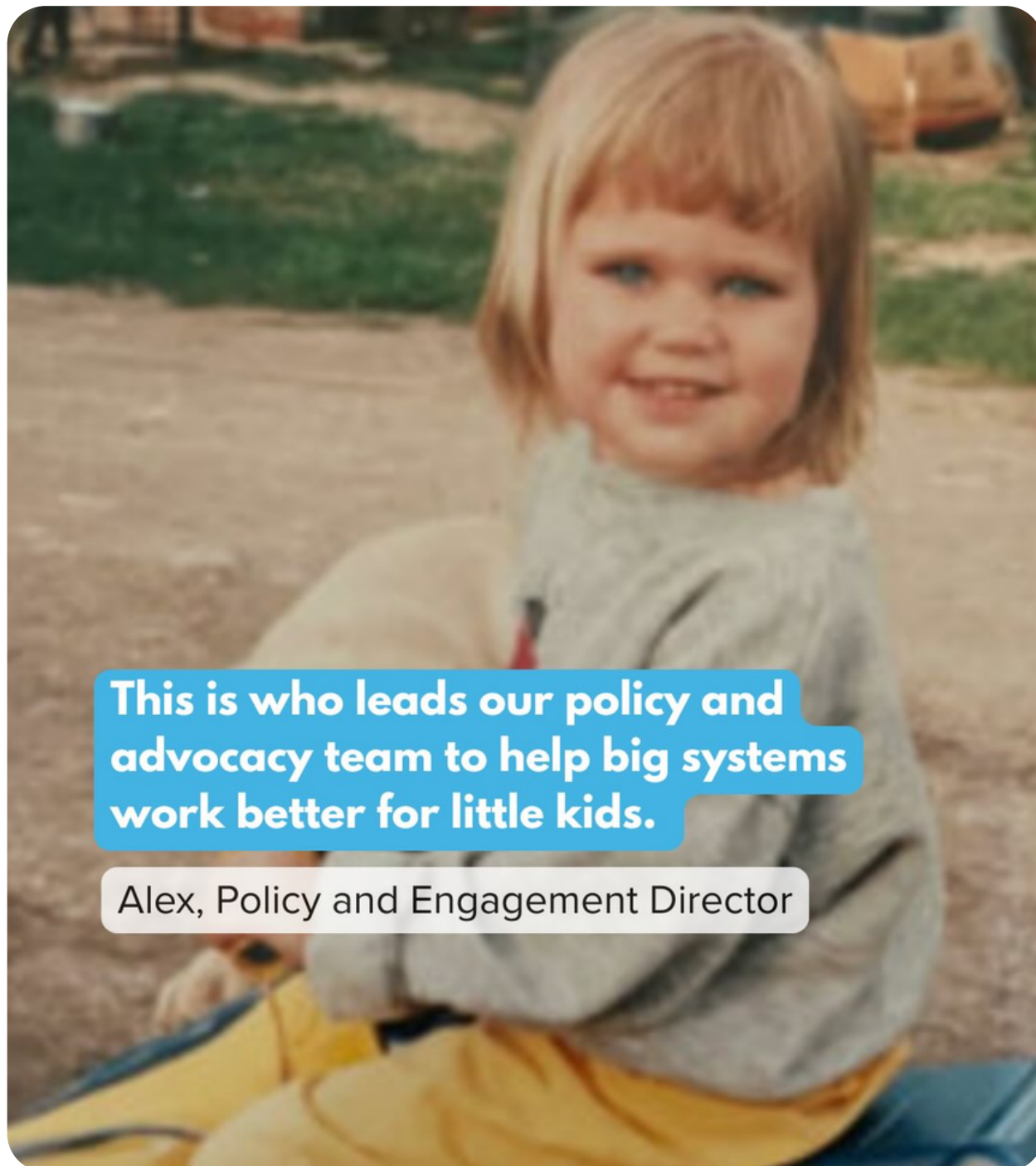


YOU ARE BUILDERS

HOW CROSS SECTOR ENGAGEMENT CAN
BOLSTER EXISTING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE
ECE SYSTEM IN MT



Who We Are



This is who leads our policy and advocacy team to help big systems work better for little kids.

Alex, Policy and Engagement Director



This is who unites community organisations across the state to grow and share resources together

Melissa, Early Childhood Engagement Manager

THE EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM



THE EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM HAS LAYERS

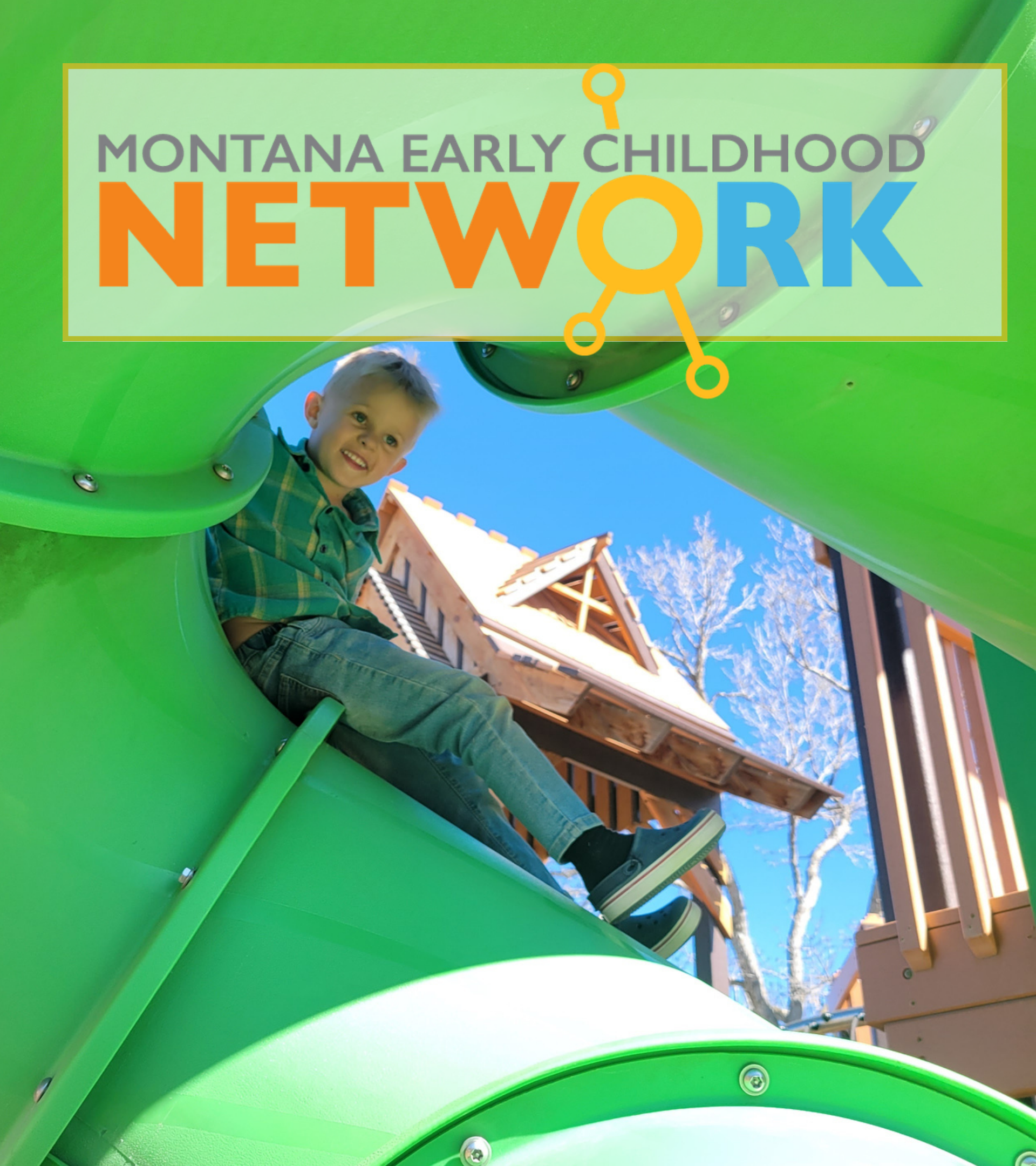


THE EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM IN MONTANA

The Early Childhood System Needs assessment, Strategic Plan and Comprehensive Fiscal Analysis identified:

- Cross sector coordination
- Increased access to early childhood services
- Stronger early childhood workforce recruitment and retention
- Family engagement as partners and decision makers in the system

AND.... A statewide engagement structure to increase resource sharing and accountability in the early childhood system



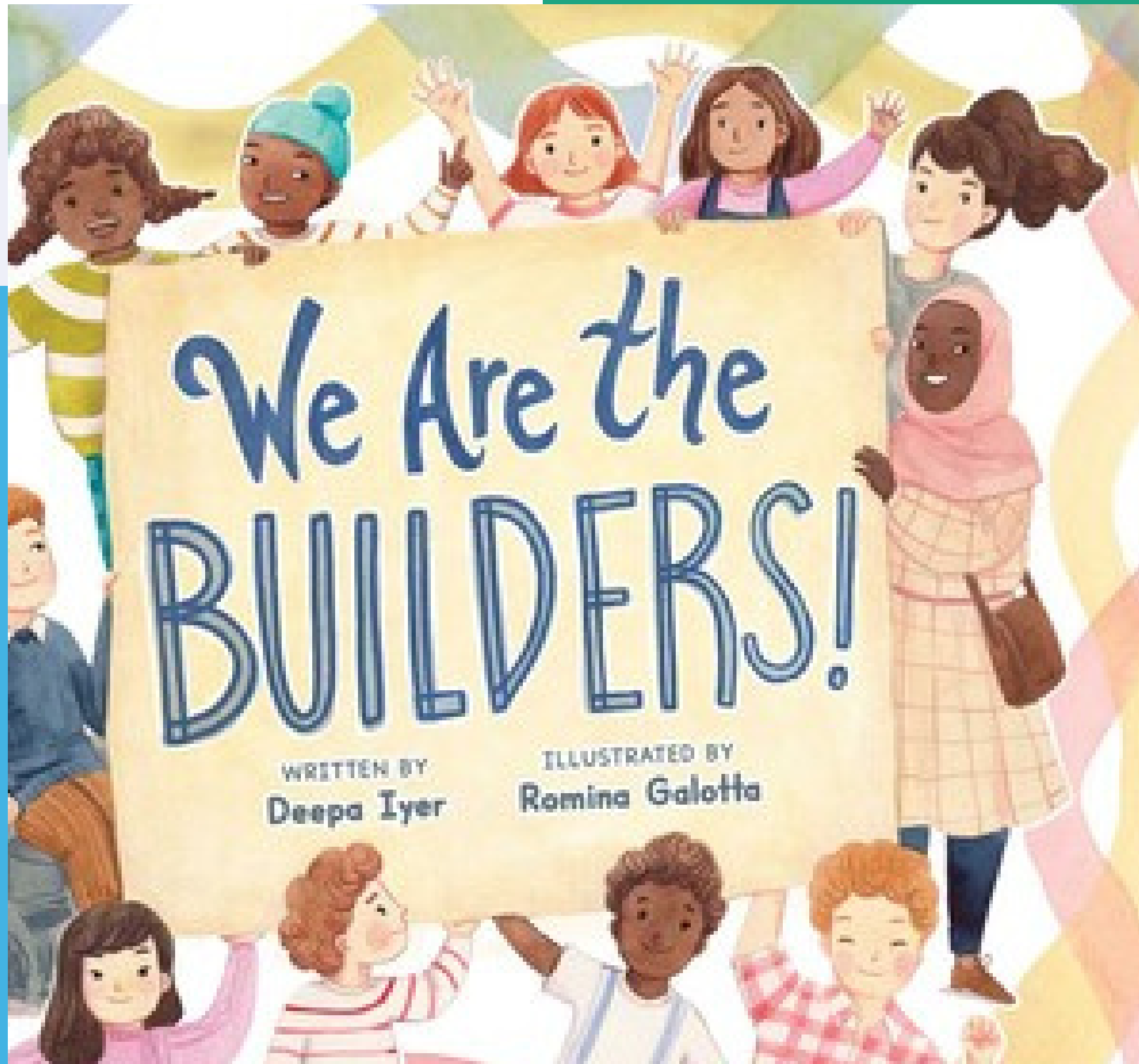
MONTANA EARLY CHILDHOOD **NETWORK**

Montanans from all walks of life are coming together to form the Montana Early Childhood Network—a growing movement of individuals, organizations, and coalitions working together to build a stronger, more connected early childhood system in Montana where early childhood is prioritized at all decision making levels.

If our state needs an aligned engagement structure, then we need builders...

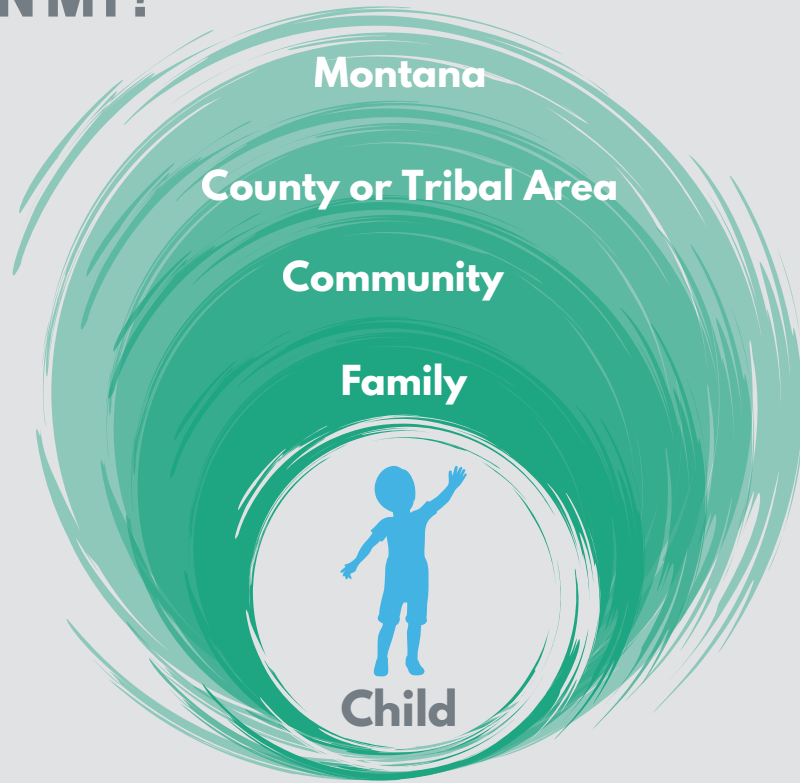


...and we all have a role to play to build a strong, resilient early childhood structure



SO, LETS GET BUILDING

WHAT DOES A CHILD NEED IN EACH OF THESE
SYSTEMS TO THRIVE IN MT?

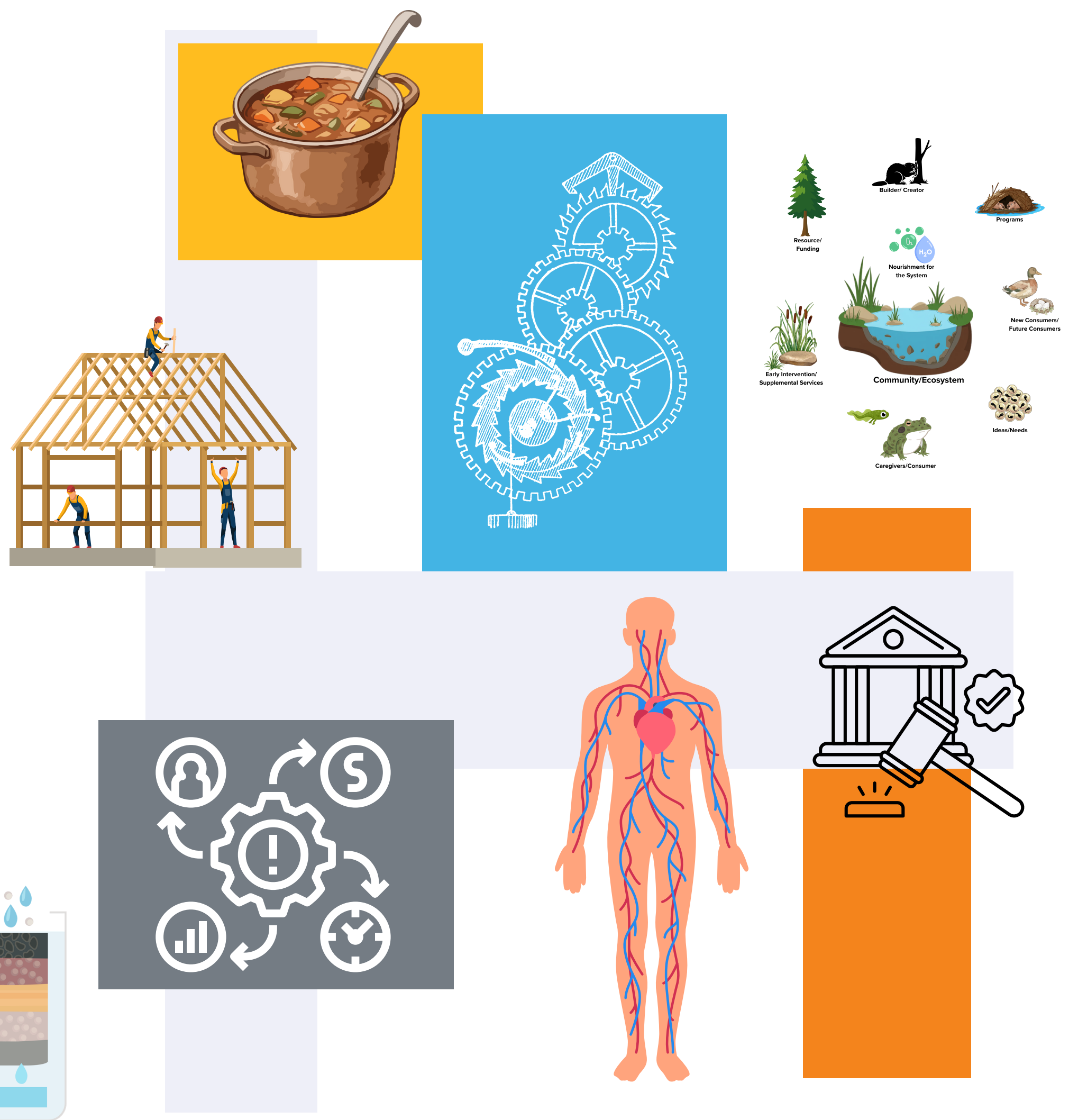


**At your table you will find some
building supplies of varied shapes and
sizes**

- 1. Use the case study of a child to identify their needs and resources**
- 2. Next consider how the building materials at your table can represent these resources**
- 3. After you have identified the child's needs, and the resources available to this child use the materials to build a structure to support the child the child.**

LETS PROCESS:

- How do the differnt shapes of the pieces influence the overall structure?
- How do the different roles and functions within our system impact the overall strength and well being of MT families?
- What other things are possible for the family or the child in this scenario based on the number of connections in their community?
- What happens to the system as a whole when one piece or role is removed, what happens for families? for the child?



WHAT ROLE DO YOU PLAY IN THIS SYSTEM?

Resource/ funder

Builder

Direct service provider

Parent/ caregiver

Teacher/ caregiver

Storyteller

Advocate

Innovator

Weaver

Resource Provider

Partner

Cheerleader

Evaluator

Guide

Healer

Experimenter

Visionary

Educator

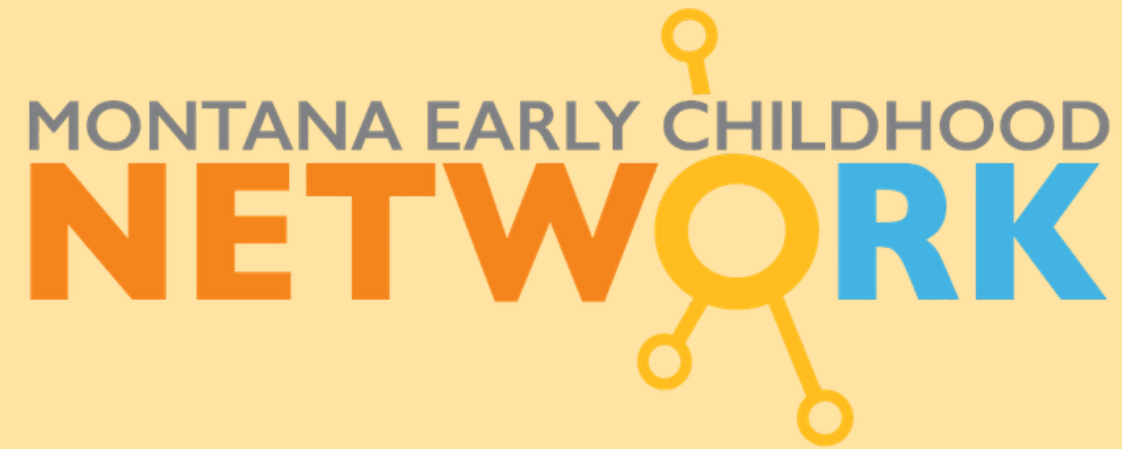
Frontline Responder

[Share with a partner](#)

THE POWER OF A NETWORK LIES IN THE CONNECTIONS OF ITS MEMBERS



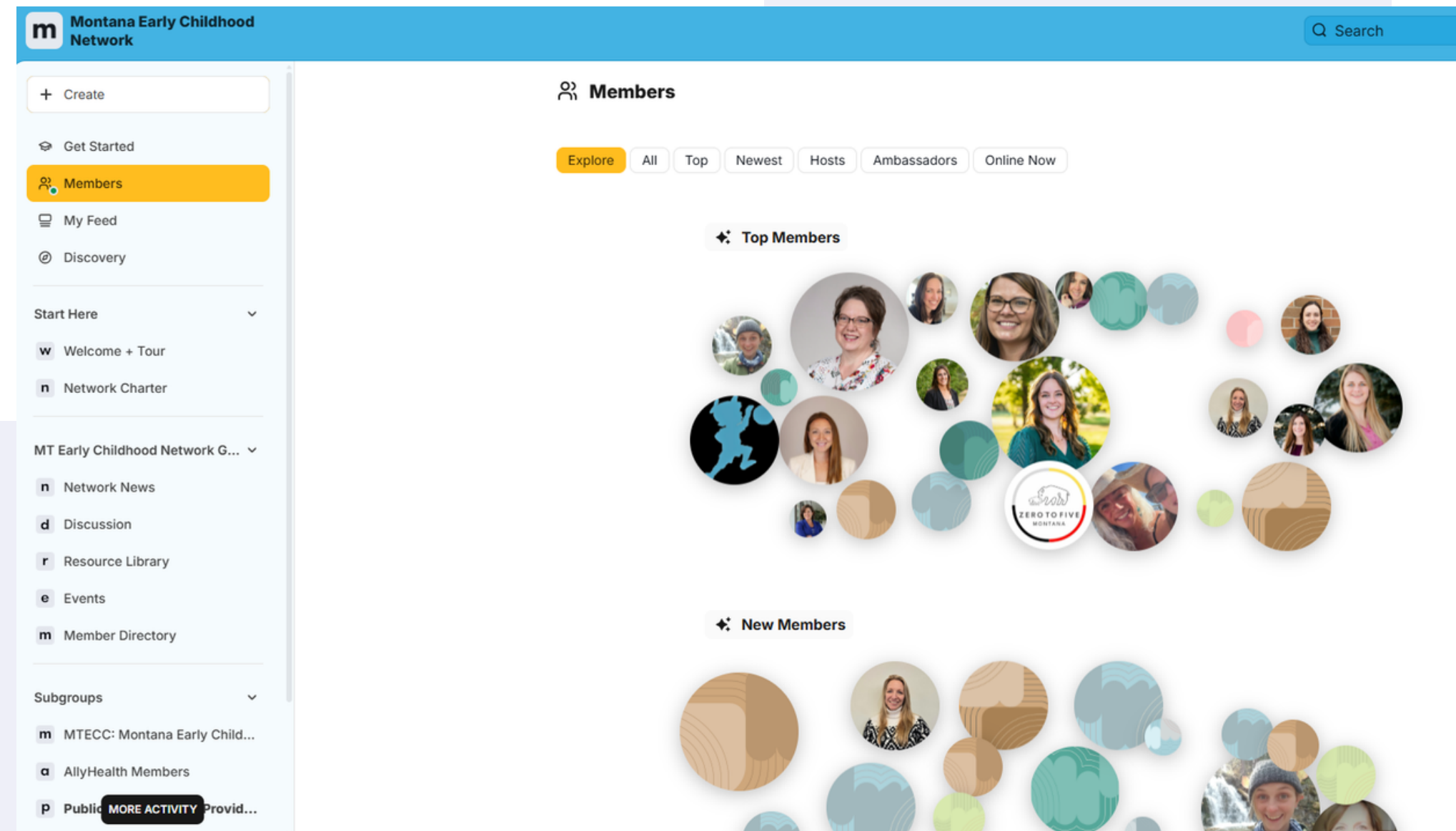
This is the work of building an early childhood system. No one organization can meet every need. But when we understand our roles and connect our strengths, families experience something stronger than any one program or person could provide



1+1= 191

**Habit #6 of 7 Habits of Highly effective people: Synergize
when you Synergize and collaborate the whole becomes
greater than the sum of its parts**

JOIN US AND HELP BUILD A STRONGER MT



connect, build, share, celebrate, uplift the great work already happening in our state!

Thank You!

**Consider this an open invitation to join the Network,
and help us build a more robust and diverse
ecosystem supporting children in Montana**