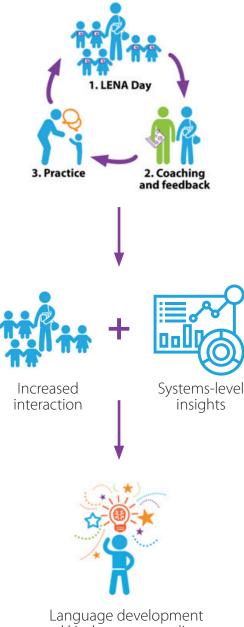
LENA GROW

New Mexico Early Childhood Education & Care **Department Florecer Strategic Plan 2022-2027**

About LENA

LENA is a national nonprofit on a mission to transform children's futures through early talk technology and datadriven programs, a mission that directly aligns to ECECD's focus on giving "all living things a strong foundation to grow and develop." LENA focuses on interactions and relationships, a key building block of "florecer."

How LENA Grow works



and kindergarten readiness

How LENA Supports ECECD Pillars

Pillar 2: Partner Engagement

LENA data empowers teachers by showing the impact they are having on children every day. Sites and states can use LENA data to inform policy decisions ranging from teacher-child ratios to where prekindergartners eat lunch in an elementary school setting.

Pillar 3: Early Childhood Program Supports

LENA Grow is an evidence-based program that embeds easily into a larger continuous improvement approach. Using a practice-based coaching framework paired with strengths-based goal setting, the LENA sequence is impactful for both novice and veteran teachers, and research has shown that it significantly increases CLASS scores.

Pillar 1: Equity

LENA data helps programs identify inequities while LENA programs provide strengths-based coaching, resources, and equity-focused goals to address these inequities. Based on data from over 4,000 classrooms, children in LENA Grow who start out experiencing the least amount of talk see the biggest increases in brain-building conversational turns by the end of the program.

Pillar 4: Systems of Accountability

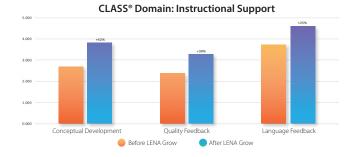
The magic of LENA is the objective data it provides. At a childby-child level, teachers use it to provide equitable classroom experiences. The same data, in aggregate, provides insight into the state of interaction at the site, county, tribal, regional, and state levels. LENA provides direct analysis support that promotes a strengths-based use of data to ensure transparency while preventing harmful interpretations.

ECECD Vision:

LENA Grow promotes meaningful relationships and language development, which leads to school readiness.

LENA Grow supports and integrates with:

- <u>Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)</u>
- The Pyramid Model
- Teaching Strategies GOLD



How LENA Supports ECECD's Strategic Plan

Goal 1: School Readiness	LENA Grow is an evidence-based program that focuses on measuring and increasing one of the key predictors of later school success: adult-child interactions. Through implementation in thousands of early childhood settings LENA Grow consistently shows outcomes on social-emotional and language and literacy assessments for young children, key school- readiness skills. LENA reports focus on equitable talk environments by providing teachers with child-by-child data and encouraging teachers to set goals that increase equity and inclusion.	 FOCUS TORIS While New Mexico develops a redesigned FOCUS program, it's important to note LENA supports: Essential Element I: Foundations of Quality A. Full Participation of Each Child Essential Element II: Quality Practices that Support Children's Growth, Development and Learning B. Intentional Leadership: Continuous Quality Improvement
Goal 4: Early Childhood Ecosystem Alignment	New Mexico has embarked on a journey of using CLASS to understand classroom quality. LENA Grow is an effective, teacher-friendly way to improve CLASS scores. And, it works well for both new and veteran teachers, with the most significant impacts seen in teachers with fewer than five years' experience. A big factor in this is that teachers enjoy the program, with 98% of them recommending it to other teachers. Because LENA functions as a talk pedometer, or a "FitBit for conversation," its measurement is language-agnostic, meaning the program supports a broad range of linguistic diversity that is inclusive of Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations. The objective data provided for each child spurs teachers to ensure equitable talk environments especially for children who speak a heritage language (Objective 4.3).	
Goal 6: Actionable Data	 LENA data is immediately actionable and can inform all levels of the early childhood ecosystem. Families value the data to understand their own child's experience in care. Teachers value the data to inform their practice. Site directors value LENA data to help them understand their strengths and where more support might be needed. Systems leaders value LENA data for the insights it provides into policy decisions like teacher-child ratios, the impact of professional development, and the equity of early talk environments within and across communities. LENA data is even more powerful when integrated with workforce or child-level data, and LENA has the research expertise to make this integration meaningful. 	



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