Aimed at improving the development and well-being of children aged 0–7, the project introduces an integrated socio-health approach to care. Care in the Early Age is organised around three work streams: research, advocacy and fieldwork.

The research investigates the impact of the health, social and educational systems on the security and development of children, and provides an overview of the current legislative and policy framework related to early childhood development.

The findings feed the advocacy goal of supporting the development of an integrated national strategy for early childhood development. The aim of the fieldwork is to improve the quality of care for young children with innovative and family-oriented bottom-up models and approaches, putting the best interest of the child at its centre.

“We have the highest levels of poverty in the EU and are lagging behind in a range of areas, such as health, educational attainment, rule of law. Through this project we have managed to stimulate political will to address these problems at their root causes, some of which are in the early childhood period. Even more satisfying is that we are reaching out directly to thousands of children, families and professionals and seeing the changes that the project activities are bringing into their lives!”