Cities and even communities themselves may not be aware of all the informal and private resources available to support child development.

Applying community solidarity – or the principles of the sharing economy – can be done through the creation of neighbourhood directories. These directories can record residents’ skills and experience in areas such as child health, nutrition, childcare, and early learning parenting and topics. This allows caregivers in need of counsel to reach out to someone nearby. It also fosters local community cohesion.

At a glance...

**COST**
- $
- $$
- $$$

**MAINTENANCE**
- ●●●

**GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT**
- Social Services
- Education
- Health
- Parks
- Planning
- Transport

**MINIMUM SCALE**
- Neighbourhood

**EXISTING IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL**
- Conceptual
**OUTCOME AREAS**

- Exclusive breastfeeding in the first six months
- Healthy food preparation in infancy
- Reduced caregiver stress and isolation
- Increased caregiver-reported sense of self-efficacy
- Improved access to early childhood services

**REAL WORLD EXAMPLES**

- In **Chicago, USA**, the Neighborhood Parents Network connects parents across the city to enable sharing of resources, tips, skills and events and ease the experience of being a parent in the city.

- In **Tel Aviv, Israel**, the city’s digital platform for parents of young children, Digitaf, provides support and parenting tips, but also informs caregivers of programming suitable for young children, opportunities and child services across the city.

**RELATED IDEAS**

- Everything nearby
- ICT-enabled coaching
- Integrated early childhood services