## SOOTHE: Supporting Optimal Outcomes Through a Healing Environment

**Global aim:** Support hospitals and care teams in fostering a neuroprotective NICU culture by training staff and providers, engaging families, optimizing developmentally appropriate sensory care, and minimizing unnecessary interventions to promote a nurturing environment for infants.

Secondary Drivers

## Aim By 6/2027: -80% of participating **NICUs will implement** at least 1 evidencebased strategy from each of these sensory domains (sight, sound, touch, and taste/smell) to improve the sensory environment - Achieve a 20% increase in families educated on

\*Respectful care is a universal component of every driver and activity

recognizing and

stress cues

responding to infant

## **Primary Drivers** Readiness **Sensory Environment** Recognition **Noxious Stimuli** Response **Positive Touch/Interactions**

Modulate sound and provide positive auditory input in the NICU

Promote a developmentally appropriate light environment

Enhance early olfactory and oral sensory experiences

Optimize developmental positioning and transition to safe sleep

Protect and preserve skin integrity

Provide cue-based care

Minimize pain from interventions

Promote developmentally supportive positive touch

Encourage nurturing and developmentally appropriate feedings

Establish structures and systems that promote full family participation and partnership