



*Doris Duke Charitable Foundation's*  
**Child Abuse Prevention Program**

**Strengthening Families**

**Summit in San Diego**

**May 10, 2007**



- Opportunity
- Information
- Inspiration
- Momentum



# Child Abuse Prevention Program

- ***Doris Duke's Will:***  
Support the “prevention of cruelty to children”
- ***Mission:***  
To protect children from abuse and neglect in order to promote their healthy development
- ***Strategy:***  
To integrate prevention strategies into normal settings / systems that serve large numbers of children and their families
- ***Goal:***  
To increase practitioners skills and parents' access to information and services that help prevent maltreatment before it occurs



## CAP Program Funding is used to:

- Improve and expand effective programs
- Help build the repertoire of prevention strategies by supporting and testing new approaches.
- Develop training, materials and products for practitioners and parents
- Research and evaluation



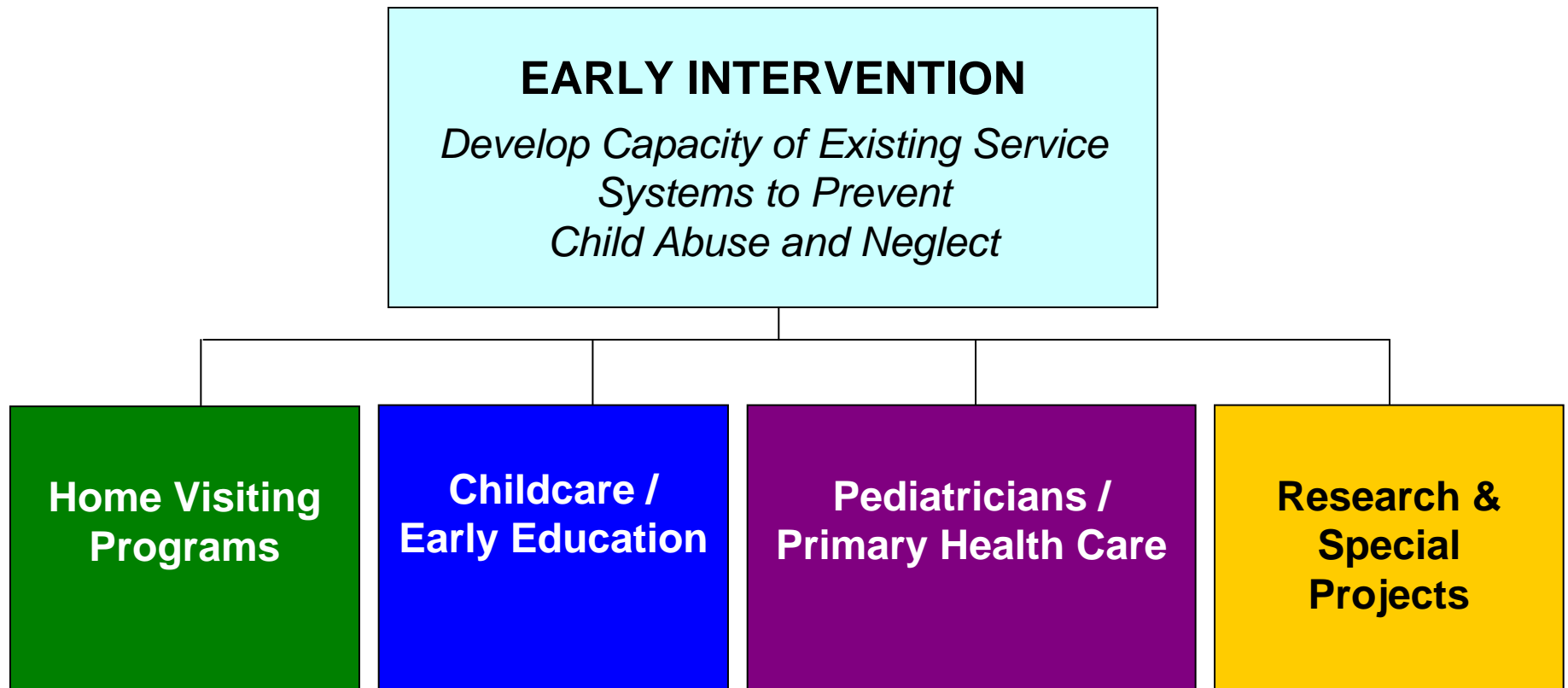
# Victimization Rates by Age Group

<i>Age</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000</i>
<b>0-3 yrs</b>	<b>16.5</b>
<b>4-7 yrs</b>	<b>13.5</b>
8-11 yrs	10.9
12-15 yrs	10.2
16- 17yrs	6.5

Source: Child Maltreatment 2005

# Child Abuse Prevention Program Strategy

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# Other Parts of the CAP Program

- Home Visiting
- Health
  - Pediatricians
  - Infant Crying
- Research
  - Partnership with Centers for Disease Control on technology in prevention
  - Finding a niche in long term studies



# Opportunities in Early Childhood

- State activity
- Neuroscience: good and bad news
- Economics



# Information: Neuroscience

*“Because childhood abuse occurs during the critical formative time when the brain is being physically sculpted by experience, the impact of severe stress can leave an indelible imprint on its structure and function. Such abuse, it seems, induces a cascade of molecular and neurobiological effects that irreversibly alter neural development.”*

*Martin Teicher, Mclean Hospital Brain Imaging Center*

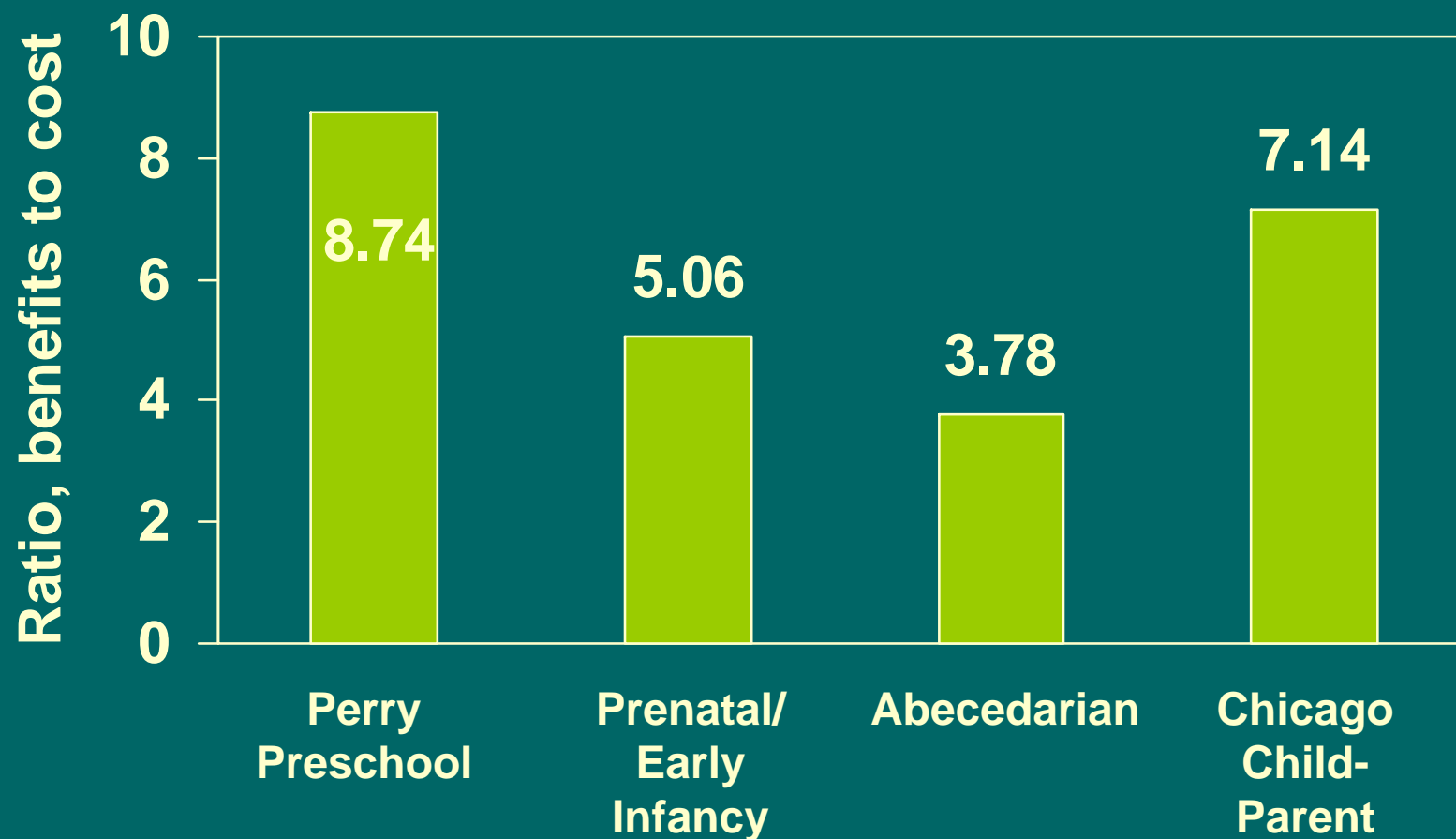


# Information: Economics

“... one critical form of education, early childhood development is grossly under funded. However, if properly funded and managed, investments in ECD yield an extraordinary return, far exceeding returns on most investments, public or private.”

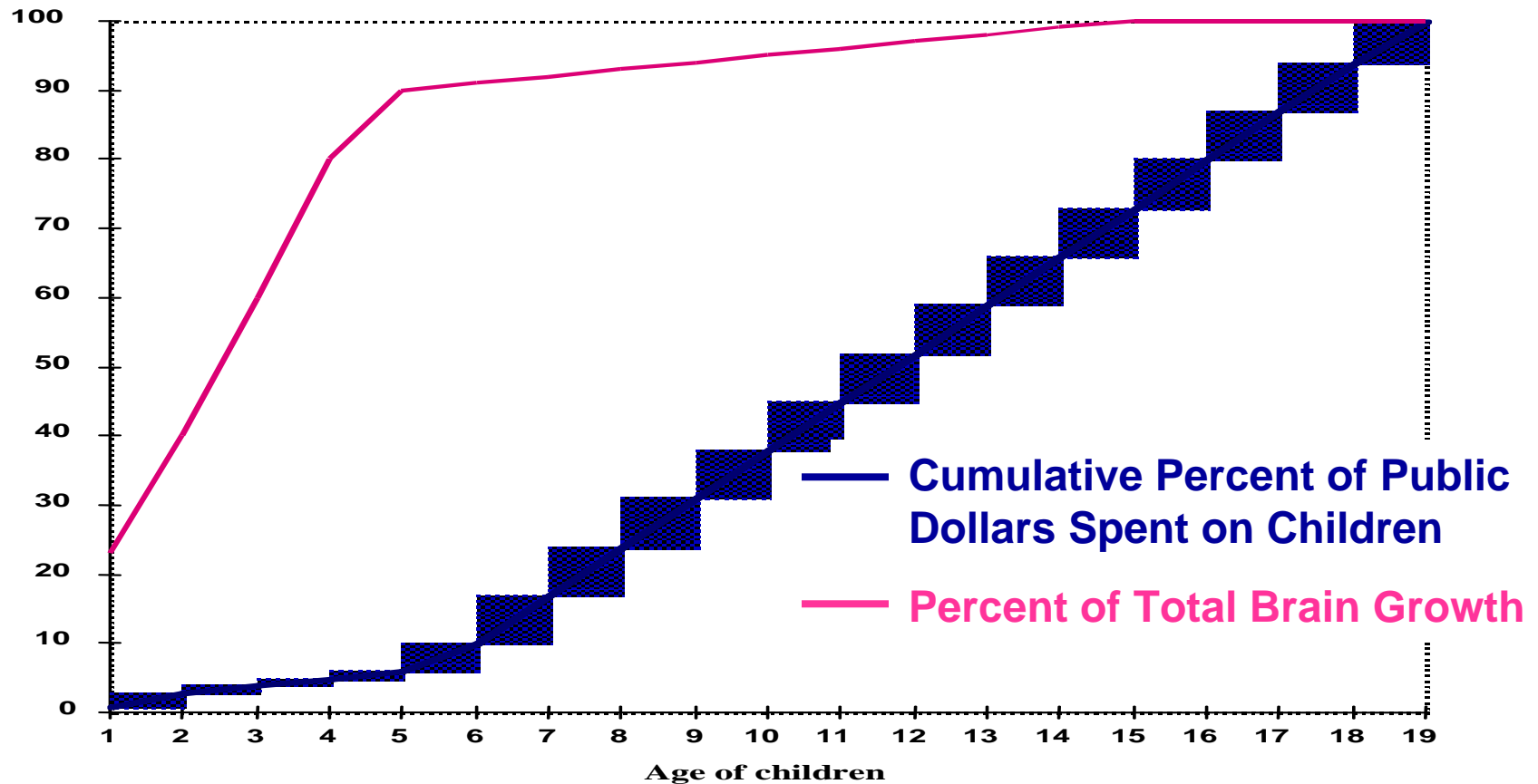
*Arthur Rolnick and Rob Gruenewald,  
Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis*

# Benefit-Cost Ratio for Early Childhood Development Programs



Source: Lynch, Robert G., *Exceptional Returns* (2004).

# Brain Growth Versus Public Expenditures on Children



Source: unpublished chart by Lynn Karoly et al., RAND Corporation, April 1997. Public expenditures (in constant 1992 dollars) on children aged 0 to 5 are for early childhood development, welfare programs and health care; expenditures on children aged 6 to 18 are for education, criminal justice, youth employment and other programs.



## **Information specific to CAN prevention**

### **Chicago Longitudinal Study (A. Reynolds)**

Children who attended enriched preschool program -- 52 percent lower rate of maltreatment compared to those children who did not.

### **Early Head Start Evaluation (Jan 2001)**

Families enrolled evidenced improved parenting skills and decreased use of harsh discipline.

### **Research on Risk/Protective Factors**



# Inspiration

## NAEYC Research

- **Survey of over 1,700 early childhood professionals**
- **97% willing to join expanded efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect**



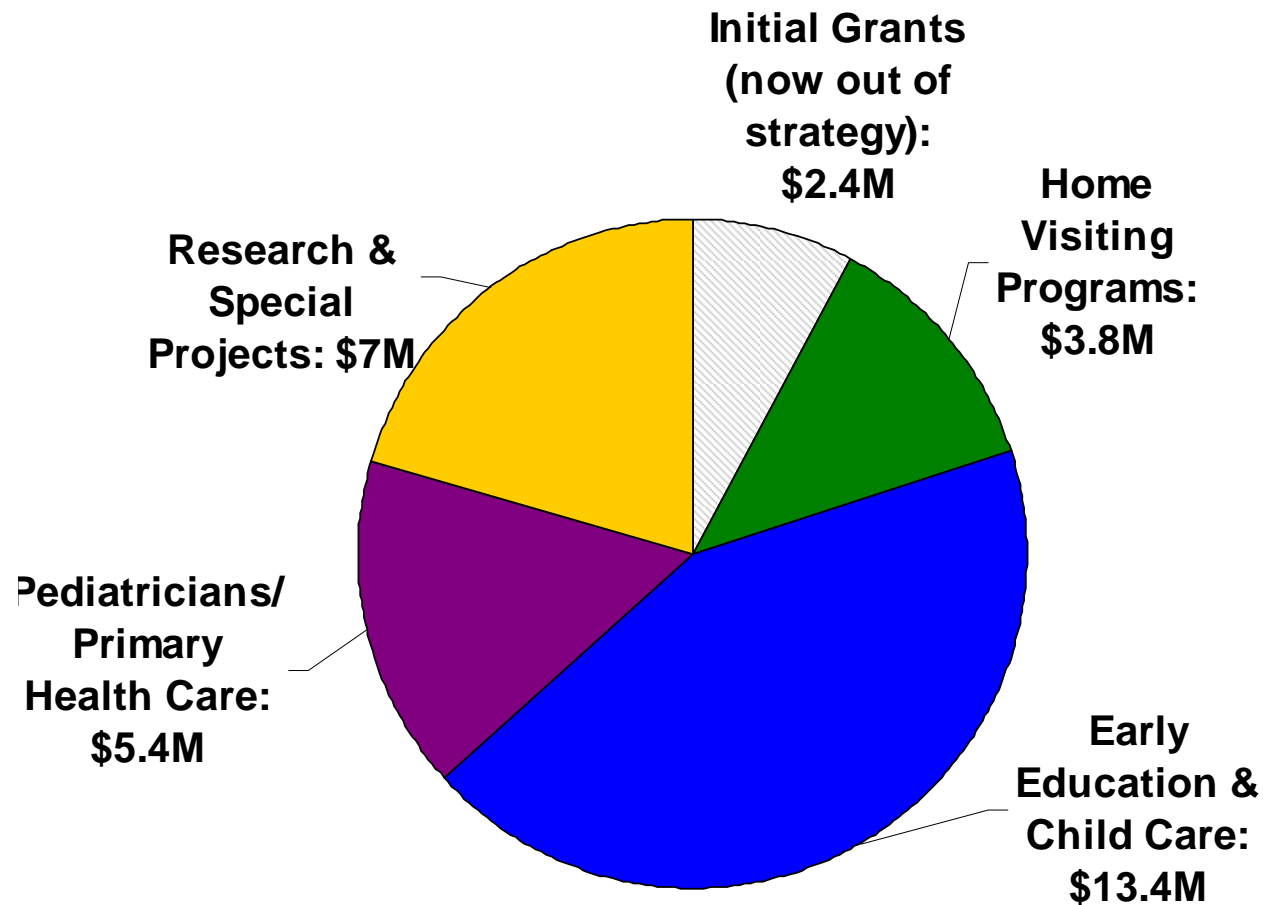
# Inspiration

- Zero to Three Partnering with Parents
- Free to Grow Partnerships with Head Start
- Exemplary Programs
- CSSP “toolkit” of materials

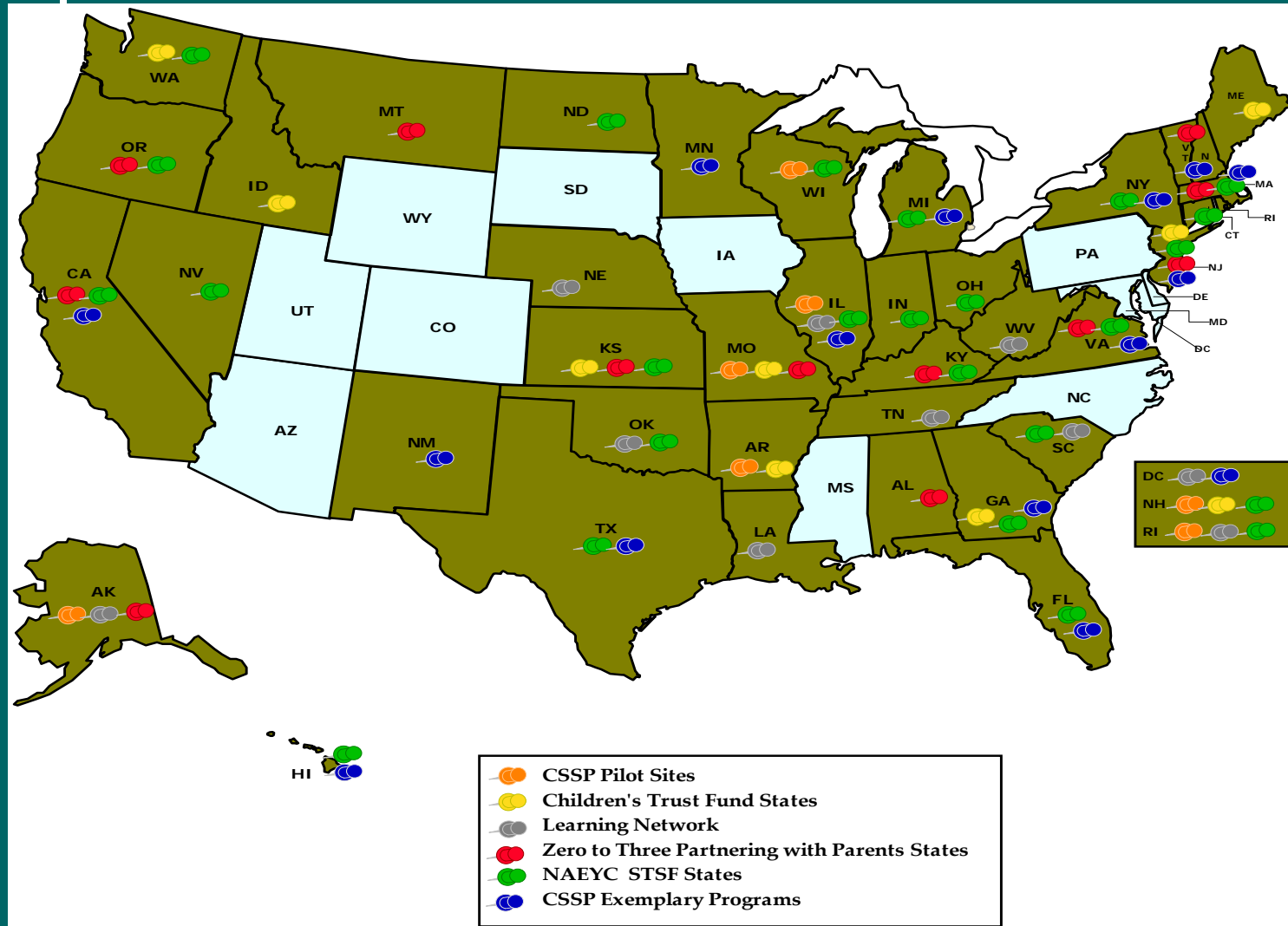
# Child Abuse Prevention Program Approvals

*2000 to Present: \$31,958,332*

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# Strengthening Families Scope and Reach 2006





# Momentum

Variety of examples:

- 4000+ centers completed self assessment
- Protective factors in quality ratings
- Training/professional development
- Outreach to parents
- Collaboration with child welfare, mental health, home visiting
- Interest from other funders & initiatives



# Challenges

Growing Momentum/Growing Criticism

- “An Approach not a model.”
- Quality
- Evaluation