

strengthening families

THROUGH EARLY CARE & EDUCATION

NEWS FROM THE STRENGTHENING FAMILIES THROUGH EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION PROJECT

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Strengthening Families State Pilots: Building Professional Practice Around Protective Factors

The Strengthening Families state pilot is a unique partnership with seven states to explore the needed changes in policy and practice at a state level to support early care and education programs in implementing Strengthening Families. Eight months into the pilot the states are pursuing a number of innovative and interesting strategies for implementation including a variety of training and professional development strategies:

- In New Hampshire the head of one of the state's technical colleges is integrating strengthening families into practicum curricula for early childhood students working in the field. New Hampshire has also analyzed existing course work in early childhood at the university and college level to identify course work that supports an understanding of building protective factors and is working with its colleges and universities to build more coursework specific to the protective factors.
- In partnership with the Midwest Learning Center on Family Support Illinois is developing a half day training on the protective factors. This training will be used with Illinois' network of pilot sites and is being developed into a training of trainers model for strategic partners. Child care nurse consultants will be the first to receive this training of trainers.
- The Wisconsin Strengthening Families Pilot Team will award a \$25,000 training and technical contract to the Child Care Resource and Referral Network to promote training on the Strengthening Families Initiative throughout Wisconsin.
- Arkansas' six pilot programs plus approximately 20 other programs participating in the state's SFI Network will attend a full day training focused on Valuing and Supporting Parents As Leaders in October. Related sections of the Program Assessment Tool will be used to guide the discussions.

[Find out more about the Strengthening Families State Pilot](#)

Partnering with Parents: Preventing Abuse and Neglect (PwP)

**Training of Trainers,
From Zero to Three**

A partnership between ZERO TO THREE and NACCRRA, this training-for-trainers helps child care professionals to reduce risk of child abuse and neglect through their natural relationships with parents of infants and toddlers. ZERO TO THREE's curriculum and training prepares trainers to instruct child care providers and directors on their role in preventing abuse and neglect in very young children. The curriculum offers 60 hours of training material on ten topics, focused on the following objectives:

Building a Local Collaboration Around Strengthening Families Principles

**Deb Campbell,
Sauk Rapids-Rice, ECFE Program**

Enhancing relationships and connections between county, school, and other agencies that work to prevent child abuse and neglect is becoming a reality in Sauk Rapids, MN. As a recipient of the Doris Duke Exemplary Programs award, we have been fortunate to recently receive a Children's Trust Fund grant through the Minnesota Department of Health for "Kids First," a program that links our Early Childhood programs more closely with county social workers, public health nurses, women's shelter staff, Head Start teachers and Crisis Nursery

of training material on ten topics, focused on the following objectives:

- Working effectively with infants, toddlers and their families
- Understanding and preventing abuse and neglect of infants and toddlers
- Recognizing the influence of culture on child rearing beliefs and practices
- Supporting directors in helping staff create partnerships with parents

ZERO TO THREE is hosting a training-for-trainers that will provide a unique professional development opportunity that includes cutting-edge information for use in their communities.

[Learn more...](#)

closely with county social workers, public health nurses, women's shelter staff, Head Start teachers and Crisis Nursery programs. One goal is to make a systemic change that connects a variety of helping professionals to work to prevent child abuse and neglect. Another is to link families who either have been, or are at risk of being, neglectful or abusive to their children with learning opportunities to enhance the parent child relationship. Building on an already successful system of family support and education, CAN prevention continues to expand in our community.

[Read more...](#)

Partners/Collaboration—National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds

The National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds is launching a new Early Childhood Initiative – a three year project funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. Through this exciting initiative, children's trust and prevention funds will utilize formal training, ongoing technical assistance and seed grants to prevent child abuse by incorporating successful strategies for working with staff and parents in early childhood settings. Activities will build on CSSP's Strengthening Families Initiative and CSSP will collaborate with the Alliance in providing initial trainings to all Children's Trust Funds. For additional information please contact Teresa Rafael, Executive Director of the Alliance at 206-526-1221 or trafael@juno.com.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).
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