



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES IMPLEMENTATION IN CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION

Over the last decade, the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) has built Strengthening Families into one of the most widely recognized approaches to child abuse and neglect prevention in the country. At its heart, Strengthening Families is about how families are supported to build key protective factors that enable children to thrive.

States and communities are integrating Strengthening Families into at least one of four key sectors: early care and education; child abuse and neglect prevention; home visiting and child welfare. In each of these fields, Strengthening Families offers:

- An intuitive explanation of what families need to thrive, and what programs can do to support them
- A common framework and a shared set of results for families
- A broad range of concrete, low- and no-cost actions that many types of programs can implement
- Free and easily accessible tools to support implementation at the program, policy and systems levels

How Strengthening Families is used in Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention

States and communities are implementing Strengthening Families in Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention in several different ways. Key strategies include:

- Training is provided for child abuse and neglect prevention providers about the Strengthening Families approach and Protective Factors Framework.
- The Strengthening Families Protective Factors are part of the Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Request for Proposal (RFP) process.
- County or community-level prevention planning processes are aligned to the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework.
- The Strengthening Families protective factors are part of other prevention funding processes and/or other prevention resources support program implementation of Strengthening Families.
- Mandatory reporter training is adapted to include the Strengthening Families approach and Protective Factors Framework.
- Family support programs have been adapted to include Strengthening Families.
- Public awareness campaigns use the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework.
- The state Prevent Child Abuse chapter is engaged in Strengthening Families.

The grid on the following page shows which of these strategies states report using in their implementation of Strengthening Families.

Strengthening Families

Strengthening Families™ is a research-informed approach to increase family strengths, enhance child development and reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect. It is based on engaging families, programs and communities in building five protective factors:

- Parental resilience
- Social connections
- Knowledge of parenting and child development
- Concrete support in times of need
- Social and emotional competence of children

Using the Strengthening Families framework, more than 30 states are shifting policy and practice to help programs working with children and families focus on protective factors. States apply the Strengthening Families approach in early childhood, child welfare, child abuse prevention and other child and family serving systems.

For more information, visit www.strengtheningfamilies.net.



Implementation in CAN Prevention: 2014

State	Provider Training	CBCAP RFP	Local Prevention Planning	Other prevention resources/funding	Mandatory reporter training	Family support programs	Public awareness campaigns	State Prevent Child Abuse Chapter
AK	X	X		X		X	X	
AL	X	X		X				X
AR	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
CA	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
CO	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
CT	X			X		X	X	
FL	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
GA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
GUAM	X							
HI	X	X		X		X	X	X
ID	X	X		X		X	X	X
IL	X	X		X	X	X		X
KS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
KY								X
MA	X	X		X		X	X	X
MD	X	X	X			X		X
ME	X	X		X				X
MI	X	X	X			X		X
MN	X	X	X	X		X		X
MO	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
NC	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
NH	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NJ	X	X	X	X		X		X
OK	X	X	X	X			X	
PA	X	X	X			X		X
RI	X	X			X	X	X	X
SC	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
TN		X	X					X
UT	X	X		X		X		X
VT	X	X		X				
WA		X					X	X
WI	X		X	X	X	X		
WV	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TOTAL	30	28	18	25	9	25	19	27

Based on state reports, last updated July 2014