

Strengthening Families: Risk and Protective Factors Focus: Family Support

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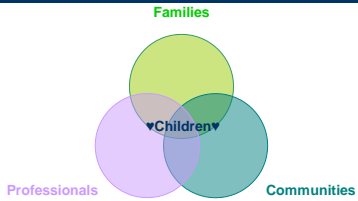
Executive Director of Supporting Families Together

Sponsored by:

Maternal and Child Health Early Childhood Systems Initiative with University of WI Cooperative Extension



State Systems within Systems



At SFTA, we envision an environment where all children have the opportunity to reach their highest potential and where all adults understand their role and responsibilities to children.

Focus: Family Support



- Increased awareness of service providers
- “no wrong door” for entry into community resources
- Improve use of the continuum of resources
- Increased community capacity to engage women in needed resources

Learning Objectives

- Evidence base for Strengthening Families
- Highlights of promising leadership practices from counties
- Parent engagement strategies
- Early Care and Education Prevention Partners
- Strengthening Families and MCH Local assessments and coalition building



What is Strengthening Families?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GbSp88PBe9E>



The Center on Law and Social Policy

Strengthening Families: Creating a New Normal

The Strengthening Families Approach:

- Benefits ALL families
- Builds on family strengths, buffers risk, and promotes better outcomes
- Can be implemented through small but significant changes in everyday actions
- Builds on and can become a part of existing programs, strategies, systems and community opportunities
- Is grounded in research, practice and implementation knowledge



What's the Bottom-line?

A framework for working with families

- Outcomes-driven
- Strength-based
- Sets of coherent strategies
- Can be embedded into existing services

strengthening families

The Protective Factors

- Nurturing and Attachment
- Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development
- Strong Families- Parent Resilience
- Social Connections
- Concrete Supports
- Family Child Relationships

Nurturing and Attachment

Give Children the Love and Respect They Need



Knowledge of Parenting and of Child and youth development

Being a Great Parent is Part Natural and Part Learned



Parental/Familial Resilience

Be Strong and Flexible



QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT
How do you stay strong and flexible for yourself and your family?

What does taking care of yourself mean to you?
Are you trying to be perfect?

How do you keep from doing or promising too much?

Promote Healthy Parent Child Relationships

Parents Need to Help Their Children Communicate



Parent=
• Provider
• Protector
• Teacher

Through this relationship, children can trust, learn, grow, and explore the world.

Social Connections

Parents Need Friends



Concrete Supports for Parents/Families

We All Need Help Sometimes



What is the evidence-base for this work?

“First, risk must be reduced.... Second, protection must be strengthened.... Coupled with “local” knowledge, they are core ingredients of EBP (evidence-based practice)” (Fraser & Galinsky, 2004, p. 390).

What is the evidence-base for this work?

Resilience may derive from factors both internal and external to a child:

- Attributes of the Child
- Aspects of the Family
- Characteristics of the Social Environments

What is the evidence-base for this work?

- 17,000 Middle Income Adults
- 5 categories of child maltreatment and 5 categories of family dysfunction
- Over 50% of study participants reported one or more ACEs.
- 1 in 4 participants was exposed to two ACEs.
- 1 in 16 was exposed to four ACEs.
- If 1, 80% chance of additional ACEs
- ACEs correlate with health outcomes 25 years later

Adverse Child Experiences (Dr. Felitti and Dr. Robert Anda)

Why would counties embrace this approach?

- Cost of abuse and neglect in US \$93 billion annually
- Negative impacts on brain development
- Long term disability
- Increased risk of engagement in criminal justice system
- Diminished academic performance
- Greater likelihood of AODA/Mental Illness

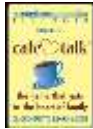
Children's Hospital and Prevent Child Abuse Wisconsin- State Child Abuse and Neglect Mandatory Reporter Training

What strategies have been embraced already?

- Cross-training
- Adapting Intake and Assessment Tools
- Consider Parent/Family Point of View
- Service Collaborations

What Strategies Engage Parents?

Early Care and Education and Child Welfare



http://www.strengtheningfamiliesillinois.org/index.php/main/content/category/parent_cafes/

What Strategies Engage Parents?

Early Care and Education and Child Welfare

- Coordinated Service Teams
- Family Teaming
- Developmental Screening
- Home Visiting
- Pyramid Model

<http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth/guide2011/>



<http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/guide2011/guide.pdf#page=20>



Thank you for your participation!

We appreciate your feedback!
A Zoomerang survey will be sent to your email.
You can also access the survey at
[www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/mch/early childhood systems/events](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/mch/early%20childhood%20systems/events).
