



Proud Sponsor of



Colorado Children's Caucus Mission:

The Colorado Children's Caucus provides a forum for all members of the Colorado General Assembly to discuss the challenges facing Colorado youth and work together to develop policy recommendations to strengthen families and improve the lives of children.

Presentation Panel:

Kendra Dunn, Child Maltreatment Prevention Director
Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Early Childhood (OEC)

Jade Woodard, Executive Director
Illuminate/Colorado Alliance for Drug Endangered Children

Stephanie Villafuerte, Child Protection Ombudsman
Office of the Child Protection Ombudsman

Becky Miller Updike, Ph.D., Executive Director
Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center

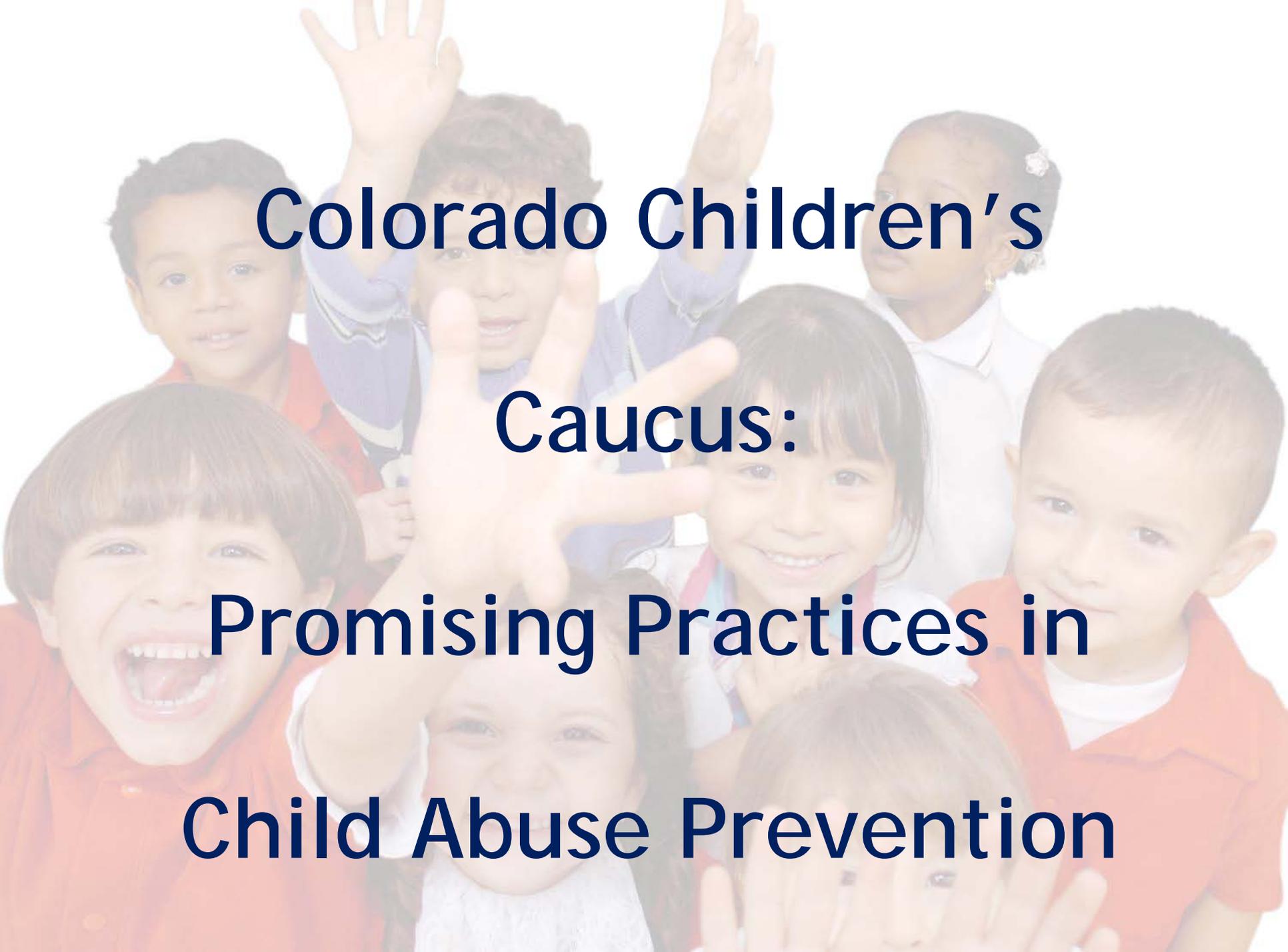


PARTNERING
TO PROTECT
KIDS



ROCKY MOUNTAIN
children's
law center

ne noble
energy

A group of diverse young children, including boys and girls of various ethnicities, are smiling and waving their hands. The children are dressed in casual clothing, and the overall atmosphere is bright and positive. The text is overlaid on the image in a bold, dark blue font.

**Colorado Children's
Caucus:
Promising Practices in
Child Abuse Prevention**

The Spectrum of Prevention

Influencing Policy & Legislation

Changing Organizational Practices

Fostering Coalitions & Networks

Educating Providers

Promoting Community Education

Strengthening Individual Knowledge & Skills

The Prevention Institute

A group of diverse young children, including boys and girls of various ethnicities, are smiling and waving their hands. The children are dressed in school uniforms, with some wearing red shirts and others in white or blue. The background is a plain, light color. The text "Strengthening Individual Knowledge & Skills" is overlaid in a bold, dark blue font across the center of the image.

**Strengthening Individual
Knowledge & Skills**

Office of Early Childhood (OEC)

Provides resources for children, families and early care professionals to best prepare Coloradans for future success, through access to collaborative, coordinated, quality early childhood programs and supports.



COLORADO

Office of Early Childhood

Department of Human Services

Early Childhood Framework

Strategies for Action

- Connect and Empower Families
- Build Community Capacity
- Implement Quality Standards
- Make Data Informed Decisions
- Develop and Retain the Workforce
- Support Consumer Affordability
- Advance Sustainable Business Practices
- Encourage Public Private Approaches
- Pursue Continuous Quality Improvement
- Ensure Coordinated Services
- Promote and Share Knowledge

Fundamentals

- Strong Partnerships
- Sufficient Investments
- Sound Policy
- Robust Public Engagement
- Shared Accountability
- Effective Leadership
- Relevant Education Opportunities

Outcomes ► access, quality and equity

- Family Support & Education
- Health & Well-Being
- Learning & Development

ACCESS

- Family engagement and leadership opportunities exist within programs, schools and communities
- Services and supports promote the well-being and resiliency of parents and caregivers
- Family friendly policies and practices exist in the workplace
- Comprehensive health coverage and services are consistently utilized by pregnant women and children
- Integrated and preventive maternal and child physical, behavioral and oral health services are available
- All settings promote mental health and well-being through early identification, consultation and treatment
- Education, coaching and ongoing training exist for caregivers, teachers and other professionals
- Learning experiences and environments are high quality, developmentally appropriate and affordable

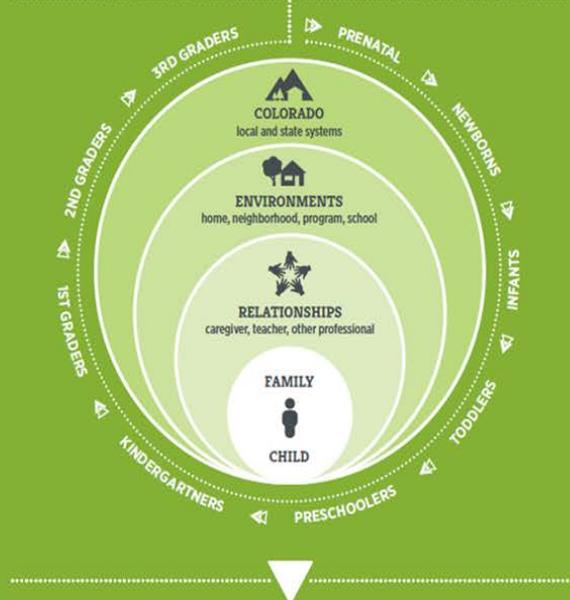
QUALITY

- Family knowledge and capacity support children's healthy development and learning
- Families advocate for high quality comprehensive services and supports that lead to future success
- All health care providers, including mental health, deliver coordinated, family focused care
- Settings and practices promote strong relationships, social and emotional development, appropriate nutrition and physical activity
- Formal and informal care environments and education practices reach the highest levels of quality
- Adults understand and support children's learning and development, including social and emotional
- All settings provide effective transitions across and within programs, schools and systems

EQUITY

- Education, employment, housing, financial and legal supports contribute to family economic security
- Families, including those with high needs, experience timely and coordinated services and supports
- Families have the ability to plan the number and timing of their children
- All environments are safe, free of toxins, have affordable foods and offer physical activity
- Children with special health, behavioral or developmental needs receive individualized services and supports
- All children are ready for school and achieving by 3rd grade regardless of ability, race, place, income, language and culture
- Children, including those with high needs, receive timely, comprehensive and affordable academic services and transition supports

all children are valued, healthy and thriving



Results

- CHILD**
Young children reach their developmental potential and are ready to succeed in school and in life
- ENVIRONMENTS**
Environments that impact children are safe, stable and supportive
- RELATIONSHIPS**
Adults are knowledgeable, responsive and interact effectively with and on behalf of children
- COLORADO**
Localities and the state attain economic and social benefits by prioritizing children and families

Shared Elements -

across programs in the Division of Community & Family Support

1. Funding evidence-based programming
2. Increasing protective factors for families
3. Measuring impact and outcomes
4. Increasing collaboration across systems
5. Engaging parents and building parent leadership
6. Supporting professionals in the field and aligning competencies

Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework

1. Parental Resilience
2. Concrete Supports in Times of Need
3. Social Emotional Competence in Children
4. Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development
5. Social Connections



Strategies to Strengthen Individual Knowledge & Skills to Prevent Child Maltreatment

1. Parenting Education and Support
 - Incredible Years, Nurturing Parenting
2. Home Visiting Programs
 - Safe Care Colorado, Parents as Teachers, Nurse Family Partnership, Healthy Steps, HIPPIY
3. Family Development and Goal Setting
 - Family Resource Centers
4. Financial Literacy and Coaching
 - Colorado Community Response

Family Support Programs

Office of Early Childhood Goals:

1. Safe, Stable, Nurturing Environments
2. Resilience in Early Childhood
3. Ready for School

All of these programs utilize two generation approaches to build protective factors.



COLORADO
Office of Early Childhood
Department of Human Services

Colorado Community Response	SafeCare	Nurse Family Partnership	Healthy Steps	Parents As Teachers	Home Instructions for Parents of Youngsters	Family Support Services	Nurturing Parenting	Incredible Years Parenting
<u>Who we Serve</u> Screen-out or closed child welfare assessment. Priority populations include children 0-5 year. Expecting and parenting teens and parent facing multiple challenges.	<u>Who we Serve</u> At risk-families with children 0-5 in need of parent support, and do not have court-involved child welfare involvement.	<u>Who we Serve</u> Prenatal -2yrs; first time mom,must be enrolled by 30 days postpartum; low income (200% FPL)	<u>Who we Serve</u> Birth - 3yrs, all families who could benefit from additional education & support	<u>Who we Serve</u> Prenatal- 5yrs; low income low educational attainment, single parents, children with disabilities	<u>Who we Serve</u> Ages 3-5; low-income, low educational attainment, limited English proficiency, single parenthood, teen parents	<u>Who we Serve</u> Each site is targeting a population of families with high need in their community.	<u>Who we Serve</u> Primary prevention-All interested parents may participate, assuming kids are within the age range of the focus of the class.	<u>Who we Serve</u> Parents must have a child in one of the preschool classes receiving the Dinosaur School curricula.
<u>Description</u> Promising practice anticipated to reduce child abuse and neglect, increase stability in the home, avoid the higher costs of child welfare service, build protective factors and increase economic security.	<u>Description</u> In-home, direct skills training for parents and caregivers in the areas of home safety, child health, and parent-child interactions.	<u>Description</u> Prepares moms for childbirth, targets delivery of healthy babies, promotes strong mother-child relationships.	<u>Description</u> Embedded in pediatric care, provides info about behavior & development. Well child visits are augmented	<u>Description</u> Increase parent knowledge of early childhood development, prevent child abuse and neglect, & increase school readiness	<u>Description</u> Peer to peer model, 30 wk curriculum, focus on early literacy, group meetings to build community	<u>Description</u> Services delivered through family resource centers across the state through coordinated family case mgmt. Research based approaches to helping vulnerable families become self-sufficient.	<u>Description</u> Evidence based curricula which emphasizes seven principles from which to build warm and caring environments for children.	<u>Description</u> Evidence-based program that strengthens parenting competencies & fosters parent involvement in children's school experiences, to promote academic, social, and emotional skills.
<u>Resources Allocated</u> \$2,240,040	<u>Resources Allocated</u> \$3,250,049	<u>Resources Allocated</u> \$19,784,523	<u>Resources Allocated</u> \$421,760	<u>Resources Allocated</u> \$4,559,093* <i>This number does NOT contain all funds distributed through all 4 funding streams.</i>	<u>Resources Allocated</u> \$543,669	<u>Resources Allocated</u> \$600,000	<u>Resources Allocated</u> \$150,462	<u>Resources Allocated</u> \$120,658
<u># Served</u> 516 Families	<u># Served</u> 1,060 Families	<u># Served</u> 3,461 Families	<u># Served</u> 850 Families	<u># Served</u> 6,465 Families	<u># Served</u> 440 Families	<u># Served</u> 390 Families	<u># Served</u> 390 Families	<u># Served</u> 242 Families
<u>Counties Served</u> 28 Counties	<u>Counties Served</u> 39 counties & 2 tribal nations	<u>Counties Served</u> 61 Counties	<u>Counties Served</u> 6 counties	<u>Counties Served</u> 23 counties	<u>Counties Served</u> 7 Counties	<u>Counties Served</u> 29 Counties	<u>Counties Served</u> 9 counties	<u>Counties Served</u> 16 Counties

SafeCare Colorado

- In-home parent education program
- Voluntary service
- Not child welfare
- For parents with children ages 0-5
- Designed for high risk families
- 1-1.5 hour sessions over 16 to 19 weeks
- Three modules:
 - Home Safety
 - Child Health
 - Parent/child interactions
- Communication and Problem Solving Skills
- Resource Connections
- Relies on behavioral principles:
 - Explain, model, practice, feedback

Colorado Community Response

CCR Goals

- To enhance comprehensive voluntary services for eligible families
- To increase families' protective capacities
- To address the link between poverty and maltreatment
- To reduce re-referrals to child welfare.
- To prevent high financial costs associated with services provided by child welfare.

Components of all CCR programs:

- Outreach and Family Engagement
- Case management, direct services and resource referrals (economic and non-economic)
- Home visits (minimum of one)
- Collaborative goal-setting
- Financial decision making assistance and coaching
- Social capital, group-based programs
- Flex funding

Colorado Child Maltreatment Strategic Agenda

Purpose:

1. Build out the work plan for family support strategies and outcomes, called out in the Early Childhood Colorado Framework, that work together to prevent child maltreatment and increase child well-being in Colorado.
2. Create a tool that counties and communities can use to guide local efforts to prevent child maltreatment and increase child well-being.

Planning Partners:

Chapin Hall, University of Chicago
University of Denver
Children's Trust of South Carolina
Children's Bureau of USDHHS
Walton Family Fund

Colorado Child Maltreatment Strategic Agenda

Process:

Stakeholder survey - complete (110 surveys completed)

Key stakeholders interviews - complete (26 interviews)

Review of relevant research , existing plans, and efforts underway that guide work with children and families in the state - complete

Parent survey - complete (547 surveys completed)

Parent focus groups - in progress (6 scheduled around the state in April - Wray, Fort Collins, Craig, Durango, Alamosa, Colorado Springs)

Development of shared outcomes and indicators - in progress (May 2016)

Feedback on draft child maltreatment prevention plan (July 2016)

Release plan at the end of September

Components of Plan:

1. Shared outcomes and indicators (4 outcomes: parent well-being and achievement; child well-being and achievement; high quality care giving; safe, stable. & supportive environments)
2. Pillars of practice/values
3. Menu of strategies shown in research to move the outcomes
4. Toolkit for communities/counties to use in developing local efforts

A group of diverse young children, including boys and girls of various ethnicities, are smiling and waving their hands. The children are dressed in school uniforms, with some wearing red shirts and others in white or blue. The background is plain white. The text "Promoting Community Education" is overlaid in the center in a bold, dark blue font.

**Promoting Community
Education**

Illuminate Colorado

Illuminate Colorado is a united network determined to nurture great childhoods and build strong families.

- *Colorado Alliance for Drug Endangered Children*
- *Prevent Child Abuse Colorado*
- *Colorado Chapter for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders*



A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP



Reaching groups of people with information and resources to promote health and safety

Examples –

- Child Abuse Prevention Month
- Pinwheels for Prevention



A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP



Banner



**Colorado Children.
Our Most Precious Resource.**

CO4Kids.org

Three Posters



**Colorado Children.
Our Most Precious Resource.**

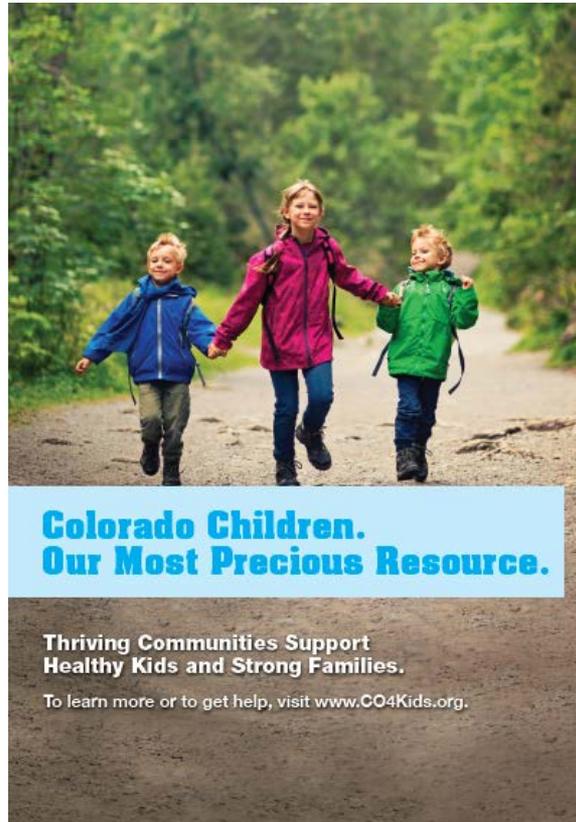
Thriving Communities Support
Healthy Kids and Strong Families.

To learn more or to get help, visit www.CO4Kids.org.



To Report Child Abuse and Neglect, Call
1-844-CO-4-KIDS
1-844-426-4267

Insert
Logo Here



**Colorado Children.
Our Most Precious Resource.**

Thriving Communities Support
Healthy Kids and Strong Families.

To learn more or to get help, visit www.CO4Kids.org.



To Report Child Abuse and Neglect, Call
1-844-CO-4-KIDS
1-844-426-4267

Insert
Logo Here



**Colorado Children.
Our Most Precious Resource.**

Thriving Communities Support
Healthy Kids and Strong Families.

To learn more or to get help, visit www.CO4Kids.org.



To Report Child Abuse and Neglect, Call
1-844-CO-4-KIDS
1-844-426-4267

Insert
Logo Here

Toolkit Content

- 3 flyer choices
- 3 poster choices
- Customizable flyer for events, classes, etc.
- Facebook banner
- Two choices of art to use on posters, t-shirts, large banners, lawn signs, etc.
- Social media content calendar
- Talking Points with Shared Messaging
- Parenting Tip Sheets
- Newsletter blurb - to be used prior to April
- Letter to the Editor sample
- Two :30 second PSA samples
- Event Planning Check List
- Event Planning Guide
- Sample Press Release
- Sample Proclamation
- Sample Resolution
- Shared Event Calendar



Child Abuse and Neglect Awareness Campaign Toolkit

This online toolkit provides information about child abuse and neglect and April Child Abuse Prevention month.

These materials are important tools for getting information out to the public about promotion of April Child Abuse Prevention month and prevention services offered around the state.

We greatly appreciate the public's help in using these materials to continue to work together to build thriving communities that support healthy kids and strong families.

- Foster Care and Adoption Recruitment Materials
- 1-844-CO-4-KIDS Toolkit
- Prevention Toolkit**
- Become a Public Awareness Partner



Ways to Use the Child Abuse and Neglect Awareness Campaign Toolkit and the April Child Abuse Prevention Month Toolkit:

- Download print materials available below and keep them on hand to distribute to clientele and/or partners.
- Use videos, infographics and sample social media posts to start a conversation on Facebook and Twitter.
- Update your social media cover photo to show your support for Colorado's kids and help prevent child abuse and neglect.
- Use the a sample Letter to the Editor or template press release to inform your local media and encourage your community to report child abuse

[Click Here to Order Printed Materials](#)

Prevention Materials - April Child Abuse Prevention Month

- [2016 Sample Proclamation](#)
- [2016 Sample Resolution](#)
- [Sample Letter to the Editor](#)
- [Sample Newsletter](#)
- [Sample News Release](#)
- [Sample Public Service Announcement \(PSA\)](#)

Social Media

- [CO4Kids Facebook](#)
- [CO4Kids Twitter](#)
- [Social Media Graphic 1](#)
- [Social Media Graphic 3](#)
- [Social Media Graphic 4](#)
- [Social Media Graphic 5](#)



A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP





Educating Providers

Informing providers who will transmit skills and knowledge to others

Example –

- Training through Child Welfare Training System
- Smart Choices, Safe Kids Campaign



A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP



Smart Choices, Safe Kids



**SMART CHOICES
SAFE KIDS**

Informed Families. Empowered Communities.



ADULT LIFE **PREGNANCY** **LIFE WITH YOUNG KIDS** **LIFE WITH GROWING KIDS** **LIFE WITH TEENS**

The Basics

We provide education and awareness so that you can be informed and empowered to keep all kids safe.



A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP



A group of diverse young children, including boys and girls of various ethnicities, are smiling and waving their hands. The children are dressed in school uniforms, with some wearing red shirts and others in white or blue. The background is a plain, light color. The text "Fostering Coalitions & Networks" is overlaid in the center in a dark blue, bold font.

Fostering Coalitions & Networks

Convening groups and individuals for broader goals and greater impact

Example –

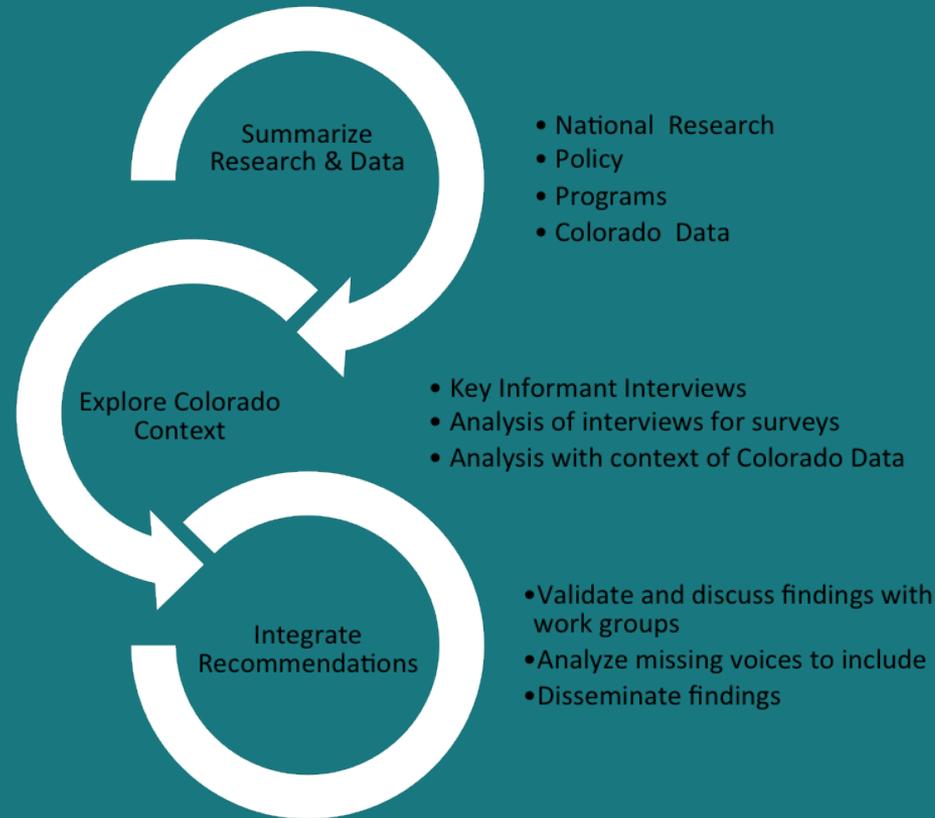
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Environmental Scan & Research-Based Recommendations



A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP



Child Sexual Abuse Prevention



Research-Based Recommendations

- Core & Emerging Recommendations
 - Address full spectrum of prevention, from teaching adults about healthy sexual development in children and teens to identifying concerning behaviors to responding appropriately to a disclosure
 - Includes recommendations from a policy focused collaborative workgroup



A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP



A group of diverse young children, including boys and girls of various ethnicities, are smiling and waving their hands. The children are dressed in school uniforms, with some wearing red shirts and others in white or blue shirts. The background is a plain, light color. The text "Changing Organizational Practices" is overlaid in the center of the image in a bold, dark blue font.

Changing Organizational Practices

Office of the
CHILD PROTECTION
OMBUDSMAN

A group of diverse young children, including boys and girls of various ethnicities, are smiling and waving their hands. The children are dressed in school uniforms, with some wearing red shirts and others in white or blue. The background is a plain, light color. The text "Influencing Policy & Legislation" is overlaid in the center of the image in a bold, dark blue font.

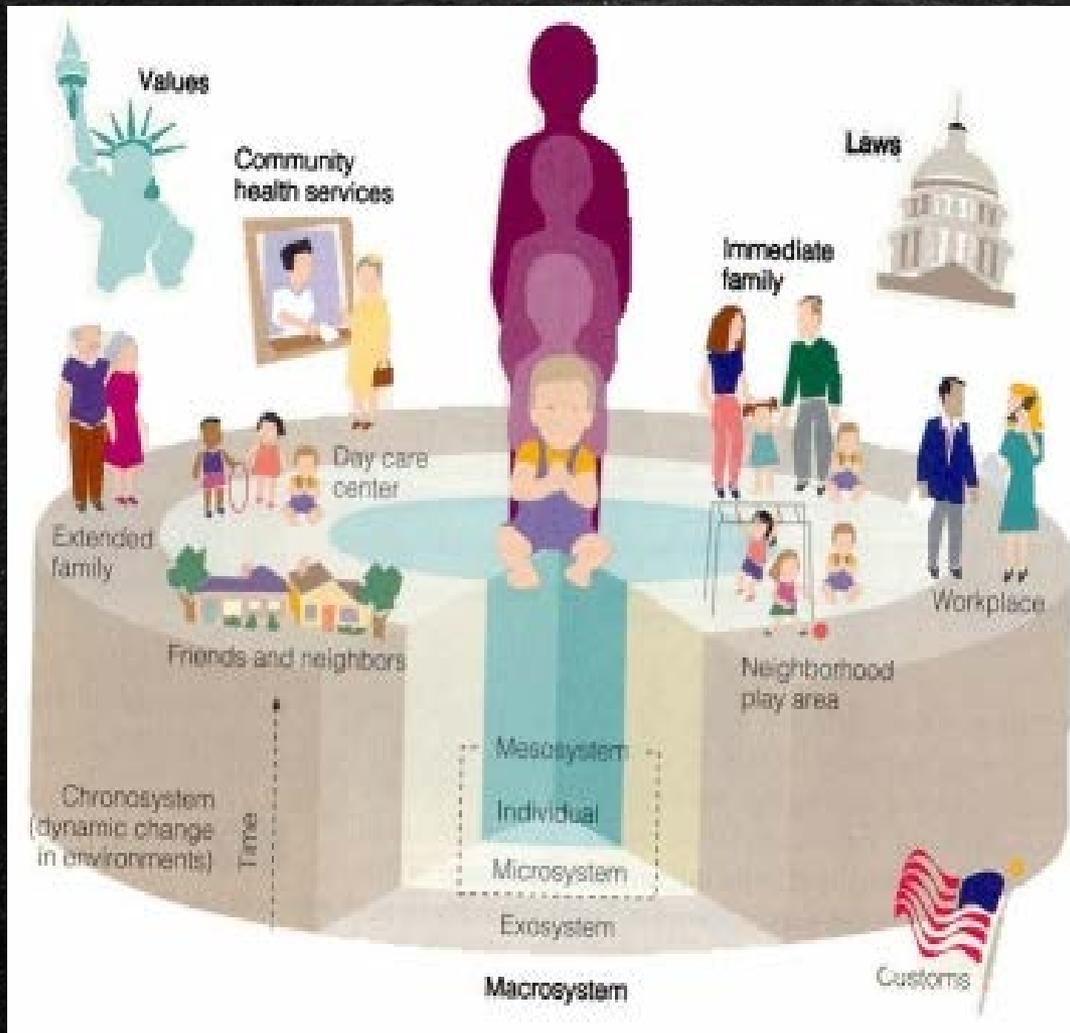
Influencing Policy & Legislation

From Brain Science to the
Capitol:
Improving Children's Futures
Through Policy.

Presented to
Children's Caucus, Colorado General Assembly
April 18, 2016
By Becky Miller Updike, Ph.D.

Research + Advocacy + Investment
= Change.

How Children Develop- Nested Systems



Ecological Systems Theory By Urie Bronfenbrenner



- Children develop within a nested set of systems which interplay to formulate the developmental context.

“The first five
years have so
much to do with
how the next 80
turn out.”

Brought to you by
the Ounce
ounceofprevention.org

- Bill Gates Sr., Co-Chair
of the Bill and Melinda
Gates Foundation

The ACEs Study (Adverse Childhood Experiences)

- Kaiser Permanente led the landmark ACEs study in CA, to explore correlation between adverse childhood experiences and long-term health.
- 13,000 participants from general patient population completed a survey to explore correlation between number of adverse childhood experiences and health status.
- ** Found that exposure to early childhood adverse events has a significant impact on behavioral, psychological, social, and physical development and health.
- ** Found strong correlation between child abuse and neglect and maladaptive coping mechanisms in adulthood including smoking, alcoholism, drug use, and the likelihood of cyclical family violence.

Participants identified
10 kinds of ACEs
(Adverse Childhood Experiences)

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Physical neglect
- Emotional neglect
- Mother treated violently
- Household substance abuse
- Household mental illness
- Parental separation or divorce
- Incarcerated household member

ACEs Study (Adverse Childhood Experience)

Probability of Outcomes

Given 100 American Adults

33 No ACEs	51 1-3 ACEs	16 4-8 ACEs
<u>WITH 0 ACEs</u> 1 in 16 smokes	<u>WITH 3 ACEs</u> 1 in 9 smokes	<u>WITH 7+ ACEs</u> 1 in 6 smokes
1 in 69 are alcoholic	1 in 9 are alcoholic	1 in 6 are alcoholic
1 in 480 uses IV drugs	1 in 43 uses IV drugs	1 in 30 use IV drugs
1 in 14 has heart disease	1 in 7 has heart disease	1 in 6 has heart disease
1 in 96 attempts suicide	1 in 10 attempts suicide	1 in 5 attempts suicide

Toxic Stress and Brain Development

- Dr. Shankoff's more recent work identifies "toxic stress" as "frequent and/or prolonged activation of the body's stress-response system in the absence of stable adult support". (2010)
- Examples of toxic stress include: extreme poverty, chronic abuse or neglect, and family violence.
- This research draws a direct correlation between brain development and environmental factors and calls for public policy interventions to promote protective supports for children living at higher risk of poverty, abuse and neglect, and violence.

-Dr. Jack Shankoff, Center on the Developing Child, Harvard University

A Science-Based
Framework for
Early Childhood Policy



Regular Stress vs. Toxic Stress

Types of stress responses

POSITIVE



A normal and essential part of healthy development

EXAMPLES

*getting a vaccine,
first day of school*

TOLERABLE

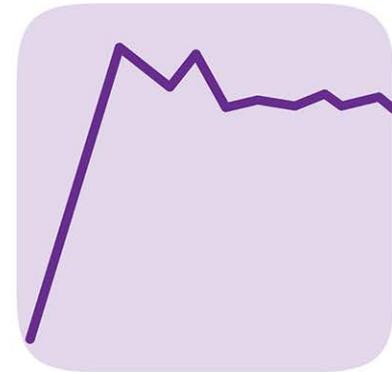


Response to a more severe stressor, limited in duration

EXAMPLES

*loss of a loved one,
a broken bone*

TOXIC



Experiencing strong, frequent, and/or prolonged adversity

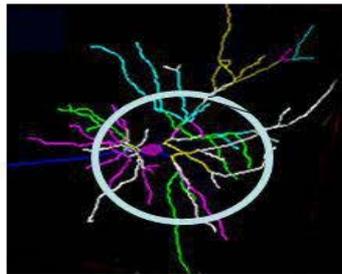
EXAMPLES

*physical or emotional abuse,
exposure to violence*

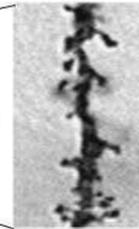
Toxic Stress and Brain Development

Toxic Stress Changes Brain Architecture

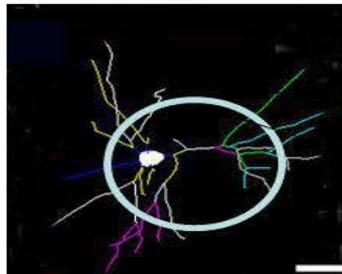
Normal



Typical neuron—
many connections



Toxic
stress



Damaged neuron—
fewer connections



Prefrontal Cortex and
Hippocampus

Sources: Radley et al. (2004); Bock et al (2005)

Abuse & Neglect in Brain Development

3-Year-Old Children



Normal



Extreme Neglect

KEY POINT: How this “looks” in children

- Attachment & Relationships
- Physical Health: Body & Brain
 - Emotional Responses
 - Dissociation
 - Behavior
 - Cognition
- Self Concept & Future Orientation
- Long Term Health Consequences
 - Economic Impact

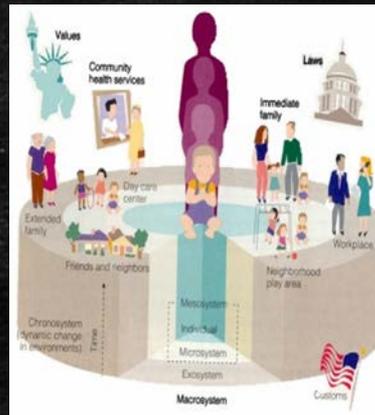


So what's "the fix"?

This research changes how we approach treatment and prevention of child abuse. It must happen where all systems intersect with children.

AND

"The fix" is about using evidence-based research to inform and shape public policy & practice.



Bridging the Gap Between What We Know and What We Do



What's preventing us from getting from research to policy?

- Researchers and policy makers have different goals, means of gathering information, languages and motives. (Choi et al, 2005)
- Policy makers operate from a different hierarchy of evidence, and define evidence differently than researchers. (Choi, et al, 2005)
- Policy decision making is part of a complex process that relies heavily on contextual information, group processing, trade-offs, and information linkages, as well as “trusted messengers”. (Rist, 1994)
- Researchers have time to explore, while policy makers are pressured to make decisions and progress at a fast pace.

What Works in Advocacy

(Study Findings from Mini-Bellwether in CO 2013)

1. Consider workload and busy schedules of elected officials, especially during the legislative session, and prepare materials and messaging accordingly.
2. Educate decision makers about risk factors and their correlation to child abuse, and how investments in and support of protective factors can reduce and mitigate child abuse.
3. Educate stakeholders in the child abuse policy arena about the definition and value of using evidence-based policy to inform decision making of elected officials.

What works, continued

4. Education and outreach should target all elected officials who consider child abuse-related issues. (Not just those who are perceived as the child champions.)
5. Researchers and advocates should work closely together to advance policies that impact child abuse and neglect-related issues.
6. Build strategic coalitions that advance the cause or message.

Always always always:

Two Oars.

Data AND Stories.



The most compelling case to make when advancing child advocacy issues is always the pairing of DATA and STORY.

Other Important Strategies

- Strategic use of media. (Editorials, interviews, forums in partnership with business leaders, influencers, etc)
- Social media works too. Use it wisely.
- Elections provide an opportunity to inject children's issues into the political dialogue, so do it. You don't have PAC money but do it anyway.

The Time is Now:
We're at a **tipping point moment**.

What we know:

1. We have the scientific research on brain development and impacts of **risk factors and protective factors**.
2. We know about the ROI (**return on investment**) and the economic implications of investing in early care and education.
3. We know that we can't do it alone, and need the right "**trusted messengers**" and **strategic "Bellwether" partners** to advance the message.

To get there, we need the right people on the bus... in the right seats... headed in the same direction.



We have the research.
We know the problem and how to
correct course.

The time is now.

Thank you for being the heroes
our children are waiting for.

It always seems impossible until it's done.
~Nelson Mandela

Contact Information

A group of diverse children, including boys and girls of various ethnicities, are smiling and waving their hands towards the camera. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white.

Kendra Dunn

Child Maltreatment Prevention Director
Office of Early Childhood, Colorado Department of Human Services
(303) 866-5769
kendra.dunn@state.co.us

Jade Woodard

Executive Director
Illuminate Colorado
(303) 413-3460
jwoodard@illuminatecolorado.org

Stephanie Villafuerte

Child Protection Ombudsman
Colorado Child Protection Ombudsman Office, Colorado Judicial Department
(720) 810-0969
svillafuerte@protectcoloradochildren.org

Becky Miller Updike, Ph.D.

Executive Director
Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center
(720) 560-3810
bupdike@childlawcenter.org