

State Partnerships for Prevention

Goal

State Partnerships for Prevention strengthens states' child abuse and neglect prevention initiatives, focusing on supporting the capacity of child care providers to help prevent child maltreatment in families with very young children.

Background

From 2003-2006, ZERO TO THREE implemented Partnering with Parents: Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect. This project included developing a new training curriculum and providing training for trainers in its use. The curriculum brings current research and practice-based information to child care providers about the role they can play in the primary prevention of child maltreatment. ZERO TO THREE and NACCRRRA, the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, worked with 240 trainers in 12 states. ZERO TO THREE continues to train additional trainers through state-based and national training for trainers.

Using a new, validated evaluation instrument, the Child Abuse and Neglect Self-Efficacy Scale, trainers report increased confidence in their capacity to teach others how to help reduce the risk of child maltreatment. Both trainers and child care providers consistently report knowledge gains in the curriculum's key concepts after attending training. Now available through the ZERO TO THREE Press, the curriculum is titled *Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect: Parent-Provider Partnerships in Child Care* (PCAN). Visit www.zerotothree.org/pcanbook for more information.

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In October, 2006, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation awarded ZERO TO THREE a new three-year grant to support **State Partnerships for Prevention: Reducing the Risk of Maltreatment of Very Young Children (SPP)**. This project builds on the earlier work and integrates the PCAN training and curriculum into state-level child abuse prevention initiatives via consultation to state leadership teams.

SPP involves twelve states (two cohorts of 6 states each) selected through a competitive application process. The selected states receive a three-day training for up to 40 trainers in use of the PCAN curriculum, ongoing support via web-based learning and audio conferencing, and a follow-up one-day in-person training. These trainers then work with child care providers using the PCAN curriculum. An anticipated 5,000 child care providers will be trained over the course of three years.

To assure integration of the PCAN training into states' initiatives and professional development plans, ZERO TO THREE provides consultation to the state leadership teams. This consultation assists them in integrating the curriculum systemically and brings a national perspective on professional development for infant-family professionals and on the prevention of child maltreatment in families with infants and toddlers.

Connection to Strengthening Families Initiative

The Center for the Study of Social Policy's Strengthening Families Initiative (SFI) is another Doris Duke Charitable Foundation-funded project. SFI promotes five family-strengthening protective factors that child care programs can implement. These factors, parental resilience, social connections, knowledge of parenting and child development, concrete support in times of need, and healthy social and emotional development for children, are incorporated into the PCAN curriculum. For states involved in SFI, PCAN provides a needed bridge from policy to practice, by ensuring that practitioners have the knowledge, skills, and confidence to implement the protective factors. PCAN trainers learn to use the SFI self-assessment guidebook during their follow-up training day. Trainers in many states have used the program self-assessment to aid in determining which content areas from PCAN curriculum to use in training and/or to examine the effectiveness of the training.

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- Arkansas
- California
- Hawaii
- Indiana
- Maine
- Missouri
- New Hampshire
- New York
- North Dakota
- Oklahoma
- Pennsylvania
- South Carolina