

Resource Guide to Initiatives and Programs to Support
**Social and Emotional Development
in Infants and Toddlers**



THREE PRIMARY RESOURCES

Developed with the support of the California Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Early Intervention and the Early Start Comprehensive System of Personnel Development. Early Start is implemented by the Department of Developmental Services.



Strengthening Families:™ A Protective Factors Framework

<https://cssp.org/our-work/project/strengthening-families>

DESCRIPTION

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 that have been shown to make positive outcomes more likely for young children and their families:

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

RELATIONSHIP TO SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Strengthening Families™ provides approaches and resources to increase parents' awareness of the importance of early relationships and of their role in nurturing their child's social and emotional development. Families that are supported in all of the protective factors will be more able to engage in the nurturing interactions that promote healthy social and emotional development.

WAYS TO ACCESS MATERIALS AND TRAINING RELATED TO THIS RESOURCE

- Access and implement free resources
 - Self-assessment tools: <https://cssp.org/or-work/projects/self-assessments-for-programs>
 - Action sheets: <https://cssp.org/or-work/projects/protective-factors-action-sheets>
- Access free online training from National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Fund: <https://ctfalliance.org/protective-factors>
- Download and use the Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening and Support issued by the California Network of Family Strengthening Networks (CNFSN) in 2012 and adopted by

the National Family Support Network in 2013. The standards integrate and operationalize the Principles of Family Support Practice with the Strengthening Families™ framework and the Five Protective Factors to ensure that families are supported and strengthened through quality practice: <http://www.cnfsn.org/standards-of-quality.html>.

- Access free training on the Protective Factors from the Strategies 2.0 program at . The California Department of Social Services funds the Strategies 2.0 program to provide training and technical assistance to family support organizations, counties, and communities in California. Strategies 2.0 offers networking opportunities and professional development on a variety of topics including Protective Factors, Trauma Informed Care, and Cultural Proficiency. Services are available across the state of California and are free of charge. Visit www.strategiesca.org to learn more.
- Access Early Start Family Resource Centers through the Family Resource Centers Network of California at <http://www.frcnca.org>. Many Early Start Family Resource Centers have adopted and are trained in the use of the Five Protective Factors. As a partner in Early Start's SSIP activities, they are a valuable resource on Strengthening Families.™

POSSIBLE IMPACT FOR/USES WITH INFANTS AND TODDLERS IN EARLY START AND THEIR FAMILIES

Due to the broad-based use of this model statewide, the impact to the Early Start population could be leveraged in a multitude of settings, such as foster care, child care, infant programs, family resource agencies, and public health programs. Collaboration may be available for trainings and for shared populations served.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO IMPLEMENT

Materials and resources from the Center for the Study of Social Policy and the California Network of Family Strengthening Networks are free. Costs may be associated with in-person training and with consultation by individual consultants.

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Pyramid Model for Supporting Social and Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children

<http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu> <http://www.cainclusion.org/teachingpyramid>

DESCRIPTION

The Pyramid Model was originally developed by the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) for promoting the social and emotional development and school readiness of young children birth to age 5. CSEFEL was a national resource center funded by the Office of Head Start and Child Care Bureau for disseminating research and evidence-based practices to early childhood programs across the country. The Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention for Young Children (TACSEI), a sister project funded by the Office of Special Education Programs, took the Pyramid Model and research on practices that improve the social and emotional outcomes for young children with, or at risk for, delays or disabilities and created products and resources for implementation. After federal funding for TACSEI and CSEFEL ended, states that had been partners in the activities of the centers implemented plans for continuing the work. CA CSEFEL (the California Collaborative on the Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning) adapted the Pyramid Model for use and training in California and offers all of the material developed by the original national centers as well.

The centerpiece of the model is the *Teaching Pyramid Framework*, a tiered approach of evidence-based practices intended to put an emphasis on:

- **Promoting** healthy social and emotional development for all children through the two foundational tiers (Nurturing and Responsive Relationships and High-Quality Supportive Environments);
- **Preventing** challenging behaviors (Targeted Social and Emotional Supports); and
- **Intervening** to address individual problematic behaviors through intensive interventions (Positive Behavior Support).

RELATIONSHIP TO SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CSEFEL focuses on healthy social and emotional development for all children.

WAYS TO ACCESS MATERIALS AND TRAINING RELATED TO THIS RESOURCE

- Access archived materials from the Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention (TACSEI) at <https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu>
- Access free resources and training materials (in PPT and PDF formats) from Vanderbilt University at <http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu>
- Contact CA CSEFEL at WestEd CCFS at Teachingpyramid@wested.org:
 - Many resources are available in English, Spanish and Chinese.
 - Learn about components of personnel development consultation available; cost is negotiable: <http://cainclusion.org/teachingpyramid/professional-development-components>
 - Family resources, available in several languages, are also useful for home visitors and teachers. Access and download family materials at <http://cainclusion.org/teachingpyramid/materials/family>
 - Find local programs utilizing CA CSEFEL for collaboration at <http://cainclusion.org/teachingpyramid/about-the-teaching-pyramid/accomplishments-of-the-teaching-pyramid-in-california/counties-and-programs>
 - Briefs, research information, syllabi, and articles are available at <http://cainclusion.org/teachingpyramid/materials/resources-and-background>

POSSIBLE IMPACT FOR/USES WITH INFANTS AND TODDLERS IN EARLY START AND THEIR FAMILIES

CA CSEFEL has the potential to increase awareness and abilities of Early Start personnel in the area of social and emotional early intervention as well as the number of Early Start families who have social and emotional needs addressed through the individualized family service plan (IFSP) process.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO IMPLEMENT

Materials and resources online are free. There are costs associated with hiring certified trainers from WestEd for CA CSEFEL. It may be possible to share the costs with other entities, such as special education local plan areas (SEPLAs), Head Start/Early Head Start, and Early Education coalitions.

DESCRIPTION

The California Center is a collaborative effort of public and private stakeholders and leaders in the field of early childhood mental health. The center's website provides a virtual forum for best practice, evidence-based information and resources that support the healthy social and emotional development of children under the age of 5. Through the dissemination of news and research, development of training and other specialized events, and individualized technical assistance and consultation services, the California Center strives to ensure that every individual who provides services to a baby is trained in the basic concepts of infant-family mental health and early development. Services range from broad-based collaboration on policy issues at a national level to conducting training and workshops in the field with professionals.

The California Center publishes the *California Compendium of Training Guidelines, Personnel Competencies, and Professional Endorsement Criteria for Infant-Family and Early Childhood Mental Health*. This manual outlines the knowledge and skills necessary to work with very young children and their families with a focus on early relationships and early mental health. Additionally, The California Center offers an infant-family and early childhood mental health endorsement certification process designed to help ensure that individuals working with young children and their families are properly trained.

RELATIONSHIP TO SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The California Center for Infant-Family and Early Childhood Mental Health assists policymakers, funders and organizations to design and implement high quality practices that promote the healthy social and emotional development of children under the age of 5.

WAYS TO ACCESS MATERIALS AND TRAINING RELATED TO THIS RESOURCE

The California Center offers customized training and technical assistance using a variety of approaches aligned with the Training Guidelines and individualized to the needs of requesting programs. To discuss specific training needs and options, contact the California Center at cacenter-ecmh@wested.org

- To view information about training and technical assistance, visit the website: <http://cacenter-ecmh.org/wp/services/training-and-technical-assistance>

POSSIBLE IMPACT FOR/USES WITH INFANTS AND TODDLERS IN EARLY START AND THEIR FAMILIES

Through Early Start practitioners trained and certified in infant-family and early childhood mental health services and supported through reflective practice approaches, children and families receive effective supports and services focusing on promoting social and emotional development through primary relationships.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO IMPLEMENT

Professional training in infant-family and early childhood mental health is designed to meet the professional and certification needs of individuals and programs; costs are negotiable. Endorsement certification costs \$375/individual for processing and reviewing endorsement applications. Individuals may incur additional costs related to completing endorsement requirements. There may also be costs associated with connecting families to certified infant-family and early childhood mental health providers in local communities, such as:

- Transdisciplinary Infant-Family and Early Childhood Mental Health Practitioner
- Infant-Family and Early Childhood Mental Health Specialist
- Reflective Practice Facilitator I
- Reflective Practice Facilitator II
- Reflective Practice Facilitator Mentor