

Early Childhood- Positive Behavior Support (EC-PBS) in Boone County (<http://isyourchildhappy.org/current-initiatives/>)

What is EC-PBS?

EC-PBS is a mental health consultation model developed collaboratively by Boone County Project LAUNCH, Columbia Public Schools and Child Care Aware[®] of Missouri (CCA). It combines the framework, principles and resources of the Pyramid Model for Supporting Social-Emotional Competence in Infant/Toddlers and Young Children (CSEFEL) and Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS or PBS) to create a proactive, program-wide system of ongoing training and coaching support in the area of social/emotional/behavioral functioning for early childhood professionals in Boone County, Missouri.

EC-PBS Coaching/Training: problem-solving interventions designed to improve the ability of providers and others in the child's natural environment to prevent and reduce challenging behaviors and consisting of observation, modeling, goals assessment, reflection, and other functions for reinforcing training principles and promoting supportive classroom environments. The coaching process is also highly focused on connecting with program administration to ensure commitment to and participation in implementation of EC-PBS principles.

Who does it serve?

The target population for EC-PBS is early childhood professionals in center, preschool, and home-based settings in rural and urban communities in Boone County. Over the year-long project, on-site coaching/consultation and training are used as primary interventions designed to support children's social-emotional development.

How does this benefit me/my site?

Each EC-PBS site receives 2 hours of classroom-based coaching per week as well as technical assistance via phone or email as needed in between visits. Sites also participate in two EC-PBS training modules over the year-long project as well as two training sessions on standardized screening tools, ASQ-3 and ASQ:SE (free clock hours). To promote the integration of screening into practice, sites receive ASQ kits and ongoing screening and referral support. Outcomes measurement is an important aspect of EC-PBS, and sites work with coaches to administer and collect a few evaluation instruments, such as:

Knowledge-based surveys completed before first training module and after second to measure change in social-emotional competence and knowledge

Strengths and Difficulty Questionnaire (SDQ) completed at two time points by the early childhood professionals at all sites for all children, ages 3-8, in the EC-PBS program (pending parental consent) designed to measure changes in social-emotional health

Teacher/Provider Survey completed at two time points by the early childhood professionals at all sites designed to measure change in job satisfaction, job stress, work relationships

ASQ screening data collected on quarterly basis(# of screens and referrals), *child discharge data*, *staff retention data*