



NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER FOR

MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION &
YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Meaningful Family Engagement from Early Childhood to High School

Engage and Discover Webinar

September 20, 2017

2:00 – 3:30 PM ET

Featuring the following **SAMHSA** Grantees:

- New Jersey Project LAUNCH
- Missouri Project LAUNCH
- School District of Beloit, Wisconsin SS/HS
- Michigan SS/HS

This webinar is a product of the National Resource Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention, under funding provided by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Cooperative Agreement 5U79SM061516-02. The views, opinions, and content of this webinar do not necessarily reflect the views, opinions, or policies of the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), SAMHSA, or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The National Resource Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention is operated by American Institutes for Research (AIR) in collaboration with the Center for School Mental Health, ZERO TO THREE, Community Science, FHI 360, National Indian Child Welfare Association, National Asian American Pacific Islander Mental Health Association, National Latino Behavioral Health Association, National Leadership Council on African American Behavioral Health, and the Council of State Governments.

**The National Resource Center,
funded by the Substance Abuse
and Mental Health Services
Administration (SAMHSA), offers
resources and expert support to
help prevent youth violence and
promote the overall well-being of
children, youth, and their families.**

Supports efforts serving CHILDREN AND YOUTH from before birth through high school



The National Resource Center SERVES:

1

Safe Schools/
Healthy
Students
(SS/HS)
grantees

+

2

Project
LAUNCH
grantees

+

3

Field
at-Large



Objectives

Participants will learn why and how Project LAUNCH and Safe Schools/Healthy Students grantees are advancing meaningful family engagement from early childhood to high school at the state and local levels including:

1. Understanding the importance and benefits of investing in parent and family capacity building and leadership development.
2. How to strengthen your system of services and supports in partnership and collaboration with parents, families, and community stakeholders.
3. Learning about methods to engage families in meaningful roles in your early childhood programs, schools, and state education system.



Andrea O'Neal, MPA, IMH-E®
New Jersey Project LAUNCH
Young Child Wellness Expert

Aligning New Jersey's Early Childhood Initiatives

Continue to Strengthen Collaboration across sectors--Home Visiting, Health, Early Head Start/Head Start, Child Care, Preschool, Education, Early Intervention, Special Child Health, Child Welfare, Family Support, etc.

Systems Integration

- Project LAUNCH (to age 8)
- Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Impact
- Help Me Grow (to age 5)
- NJDOH-Improving Pregnancy Outcomes (IPO)
- Race To the Top--Early Learning (RTT-ELC)
- HRSA Healthy Start



New Jersey Project LAUNCH/Essex LAUNCH

New Jersey Project LAUNCH *Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health*

Urban Essex County Environmental Scan



Completed By: New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF)
Family & Community Partnerships /
Sunday Gustin, Administrator of Early Childhood Services
Andrea O'Neal, New Jersey Project LAUNCH Coordinator

Essex Pregnancy & Parenting Connection
Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey
Karen Benjamin, Essex LAUNCH Project Director

Submitted: February 1, 2014

New Jersey Project LAUNCH *Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health*

Urban Essex County Strategic Plan



Completed By: New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF)
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Andrea O'Neal, New Jersey Project LAUNCH Coordinator

Essex Pregnancy & Parenting Connection
Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey
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Sara Lewis, Essex LAUNCH Coordinator

Submitted: April 11, 2014

Essex County System of Care

Life Course and Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Model

1. Community Outreach

Women and Families
of Childbearing Age

Community Health Worker/SPAN
Local Health & Social Services
Free & low cost Pregnancy Tests
(Healthy Start, FQHC, others)

2. Screening, Early Identification and Referral for Individual & Family Needs

Pregnancy/Birth: Routine Screening & Referral (PRA)

- Prenatal Clinics / FQHCs / Birth Hospitals / Private OB/GYNs
- WIC sites / Local Health Agencies
- School-Based Programs
- Social Service Agencies
- Self-Referral by Expectant Parents / Families

Children Birth to 5 Yr: Developmental Screening & Referral

- Parents and Families
- FQHC / Clinics / Medical Home--Pediatric/Family Practice
- WIC / Local Health Agencies
- CCR&R (Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies)
- Early Head Start/Head Start
- Family Childcare Providers / Childcare Centers
- Preschools / Elementary Schools
- Early Intervention partners (Part C/Part B)
- Social Service Agencies
- Child Welfare / Child Protective Services

Women of Childbearing Age & Other Individuals:

- Community Health Screening
- Primary Care / FQHCs / Clinic & Private GYN / Hospitals
- Local Health Agencies / WIC sites
- School-Based Programs (for adolescents)
- Social Service Agencies / Child Welfare Services
- Self-Referral by Women / Families / Individuals

3. Central Intake--Single Point of Entry Essex Pregnancy & Parenting Connection (EPPC)

973-621-9157

www.essexpregnancyandparenting.org

For access to: Resource Information, Initial Assessment,
Prevention Education, Service Linkages, and Medical Home
Local advisory board - Essex County Council for Young Children

3a) Pregnancy & Birth to Age Five

Families are assessed for most appropriate service:

4. Infant/Child Community-Based Services

Home Visiting - Evidence Based Models

- Healthy Families (HF): Prenatal (PN) to age 3 (2 sites)
- Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP): PN to age 2
- Parents As Teachers (PAT): PN to age 3
- Early Head Start-Home Based: PN to age 3

Healthy Start Initiative: PN to age 2 (2 sites)

LAUNCH-funded Evidence Based Programs (EBPs)

- Circle of Security: parents of children age 0-3
- Incredible Years: preschool children; classroom-based
- Zippy's Friends: kindergarten; classroom-based
- Active Parenting: parents of children age 5-8

Community-Based Infant & Child Care Providers

- Programs for Parents (CCR&R)
- Early Head Start & Head Start Programs
- Licensed Centers / Registered Family Child Care

Children & Families with Special Needs:

- Early Intervention (REIC) - Part C (birth to age 3)
- Special Education - Part B (age 3 and up)
- Special Child Health Services - Case Management
- SPAN Family Resource Specialists

Other Local Programs: Family Success Centers (FSC),
Local Public Health Agencies, SPAN, etc.

5) Individuals & Families

may be referred directly
to other providers and
community-based services,
as appropriate

5. Community-Based Services

Essential medical & social supports

- Medical Home/Primary Care
- Depression & Mental Health (adults) including Speak Up When You're Down hotline & local programs
- Addiction Treatment (adults)
- Child Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities / CMO
- Domestic Violence Services including Family Justice Center
- WIC Nutrition Program
- Infant/Early Childhood MH
- Family Success Centers
- Fatherhood Support
- Parent Education & Support / FSO
- Kinship Navigator
- Childhood Lead Poisoning
- Women's Services (DOW)
- SCHIP/Health Insurance
- Public Assistance/County Welfare
- Emergency Assistance
- Housing/Transportation
- Food/SNAP program
- Immigration Services
- Strengthening Families
- School-Linked Services
- Child Protective Services
- Mom's Quit Connection

Family Strengthening & Parent Training Activities

New Jersey Project LAUNCH is offering family strengthening and parenting skills training programs directly to parents and families through 4 Evidence Based Practice models:

- Incredible Years: parents of children age 0-5
- Active Parenting (AP): parents of children age 5-8
- Circle of Security (COS): parents of children age 0-3
- Legacy for Children: parents of children age 0-3



Family Strengthening & Parent Training Activities (Cont.)

County Council for Young Children (CCYC) RTT-ELC grant is helping to strengthen collaboration between parents, families, and local community providers with health, early care and education, family support, and other service providers in all 21 counties.

Assembly of community members (e.g. parents, community residents, and community providers) come together and receive training and technical assistance in parent leadership and shared leadership models.

Embraces and encourages parents/community residents to be active partners with service providers and community leaders to help identify the needs, aspirations, and success of collective efforts to positively impact the health, education and well-being of children from pregnancy/birth to age 8 and their families.

The CCYC works closely with the local Central Intake to provide input/feedback about the availability, responsiveness, and effectiveness of the service array within the community.

Technical assistance is provided to help align and merge Essex County Council for Young Children (ECCYC) with Essex LAUNCH/Young Child Wellness (YCW) Council initiatives.

Parent Leadership Development Training

Goals of the training: To build capacity for the CCYC's to effectively implement a shared leadership model.

- The Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN) was contracted to provide technical assistance to the councils in developing strong partnerships with parents/families, providers and community stakeholders to identify/discuss the needs, concerns, aspirations and successes regarding issues that affect the health, education and well-being of their children.
- Regional trainings were conducted statewide (October 2016) – 25 parents were trained in the Parent Leadership Capacity Building Initiative. Parents will also be invited to participate in a 5-part leadership capacity building webinar series.
- Parent leaders effectively facilitate CCYC subcommittees, aligned with Project LAUNCH and ECCS Impact workgroups.

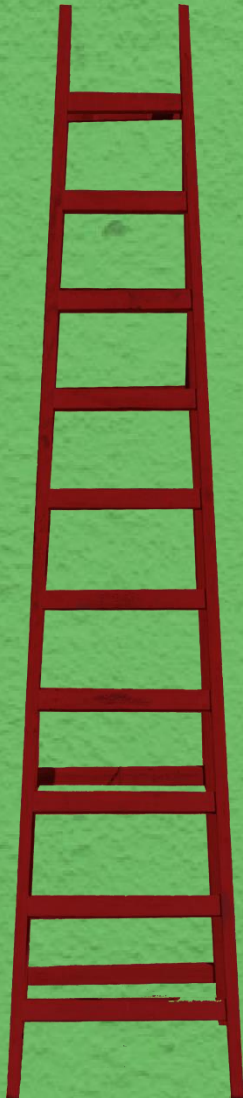
Poll: Which of the following 10 stages best describe how your organization involves families in program planning?

1. Family Initiated and Directed
2. Family Initiated, Shared Decisions with Program
3. Family and Program Initiated and Directed
4. Program Initiated, Shared Decisions with Family
5. Consulted and Informed
6. Assigned and Informed
7. Tokenism
8. Decoration
9. Manipulation
10. Ignored

Source: Family Run Executive Director Leadership Association (FREDLA)



Continuum of Involvement



1. Family Initiated and Directed
2. Family Initiated, Shared Decisions with Program
3. Family and Program Initiated and Directed
4. Program Initiated, Shared Decisions with Family
5. Consulted and Informed
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7. Tokenism
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10. Ignored

Source: Family Run Executive Director Leadership Association (FREDLA)

NJPL Lessons Learned



- Parent
- Provider
- Community



Learn More About New Jersey Project LAUNCH

NJ Project LAUNCH Strategic Plan:

<http://www.state.nj.us/dcf/providers/notices/NJ.DCF.Project.Launch-Urban.Essex.County.Strategic.Plan.pdf>

NJPL Young Child Wellness Council (IHC-CYC) Website:

<http://www.nj.gov/education/ece/njcyc/committees/infant/>

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Missouri Project LAUNCH

Meaningful Family and Community Engagement

Family & Community Engagement

- Why is it important?
 - Family involvement is a cornerstone of achieving child well-being
 - They are their children's first teacher and advocate
- When to start?
 - At the very beginning of any work
 - Ongoing
- How to start
 - Hire from the community
 - Gain trust through meaningful activities



Parent Cafés

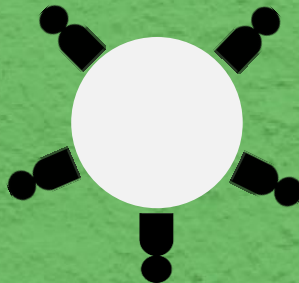
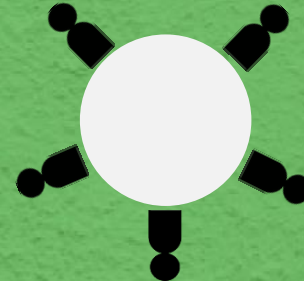
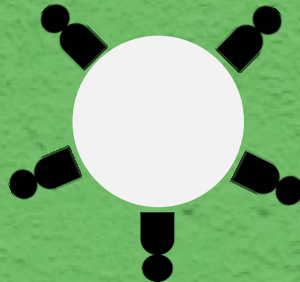
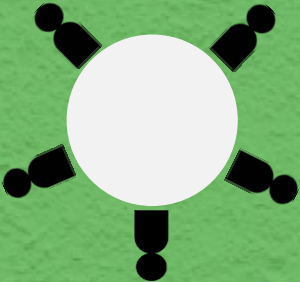
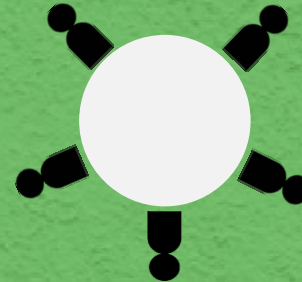
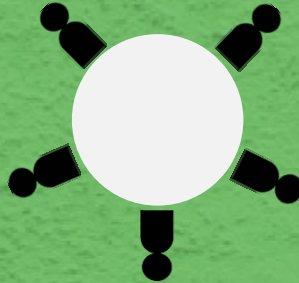
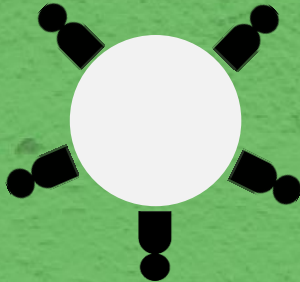


Parent Cafés:

- A gathering of parents, grandparents, and caregivers to talk about the 5 Protective Factors and how the factors can strengthen their families.
- This is a process to support programs and communities in engaging caregivers, building protective factors, and promoting deep individual self-reflection and peer-to-peer learning.
- It is based on the principles of adult learning and family support and is a gateway to providing parent leadership opportunities.
- The cafés are hosted by parents as café hosts and table hosts.

Café Set Up

- 1-2 Café Hosts
- 1 Table Host/Table
- No more than 5 people per table.
- Welcoming Atmosphere



Parent Cafés and the Five Protective Factors:



Resilience



Relationships



Knowledge



Support



Communication

Parent Café Findings

- More than 850 individuals have participated
- Significant Improvement:
 - Caregiver Resiliency
- Close to Significant Improvement:
 - Family Functioning
 - Social Support

Parent Café Finding

“Every experience is different and every time I learn something new. The social connection and passion in these Cafés need to be nationwide so every person everywhere can have strong resources, concrete support, social and emotional connections and resilience in their life as well as their communities.”

- Parent, Project LAUNCH

Trainings and Skills Building

- Chicago Parent Program – a 12 week series focuses on positive parenting
- The Impact of Race, Poverty, Trauma, and Toxic Stress on Families and the Community
- Fostering Resilience
- Parenting with ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences)
- Leadership and Facilitation

Pastors' Cafés

The purpose of the pastor's café is to bring pastors together to address critical issues that impact children, families, and the community.



Systems Work

- CLAS (Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services) Standards and Health Disparities Work
 - Training for the community members
 - Training for service providers
- Working to Address Basic Needs in Pilot Site
 - Community Cafés
 - Community Gardens



Show Me Change StL: Community Café



What is a Community Café?

- Gatherings of community members and service providers.
- Have a dialogue about issues that matter.
- Working together towards change through realistic action plans.
- Ensuring community members are at the table and part of every step.

World Café Guidelines



Updated Materials:

- Brief Sheet
- Metro Report
- Ward Proposals

Show Me Change StL: Transportation Community Café Brief Sheet

The Community Café is an easy-to-use method for creating a living network of collaborative dialogue around questions that matter in service to real work. Café conversations are based on the principles and format developed by the World Café, a global movement to support conversations that matter in corporate, government, and community settings around the world.

Show Me Change StL: Transportation Community Café is a collaborative effort including: Community Members, Church of Christ the Divine, Grace Hill Settlement House, Maternal Child & Family Health Coalition, Metro, O'Fallon Park YMCA, Project LAUNCH, St. Louis City Mayor's Office, System of Care, Temple Church of Christ, Ready By 21, & VCR.

We've been meeting since January 2016, and have over 100 St. Louis Community Members participating. We propose the following improvements:

Metro Goals



Develop a texting service for passengers to text a bus stop ID in order to see the current schedule.



Metro to advertise and clarify availability of printed schedules to local library branches.



Metro to begin hosting quarterly community engagement opportunities (seeking input & sharing info).



Increase awareness of the process for filing complaints, and add options for filing phone complaints after 4:30pm.



Implement additional professional development opportunities for bus operators regarding driver-passenger interactions.



Invitation to Metro Security/Police to participate in a panel at Project LAUNCH in order to hear passenger concerns with safety on public transit.



Increase the frequency of routes during weekends, and add late evening/night routes.

Metro & City Shared Goals



Improve lighting along bus routes that serve a large part of 63106 & 63107. Utilize City of St. Louis LED replacement program along Lee, and increase alignment of bus stops along Natural Bridge and Lee with existing street light poles.



Improve North City bus stops to be cleaner & to include more benches, trash cans, & shelters.

City/Alderperson Goals



Improve sidewalk infrastructure throughout 63106 & 63107.



Community Garden

First produce



Learn More About Missouri Project LAUNCH

For more information visit our
Early Childhood Mental Health website:

<http://dmh.mo.gov/healthykids/>

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SAFE SCHOOLS
HEALTHY STUDENTS



Family Engagement in the School District of Beloit, Wisconsin

Emma Harrell

Parent Peer Specialist
Wisconsin Family Ties

Shawn Fredricks

SS/HS Program Manager



Wisconsin Family Ties

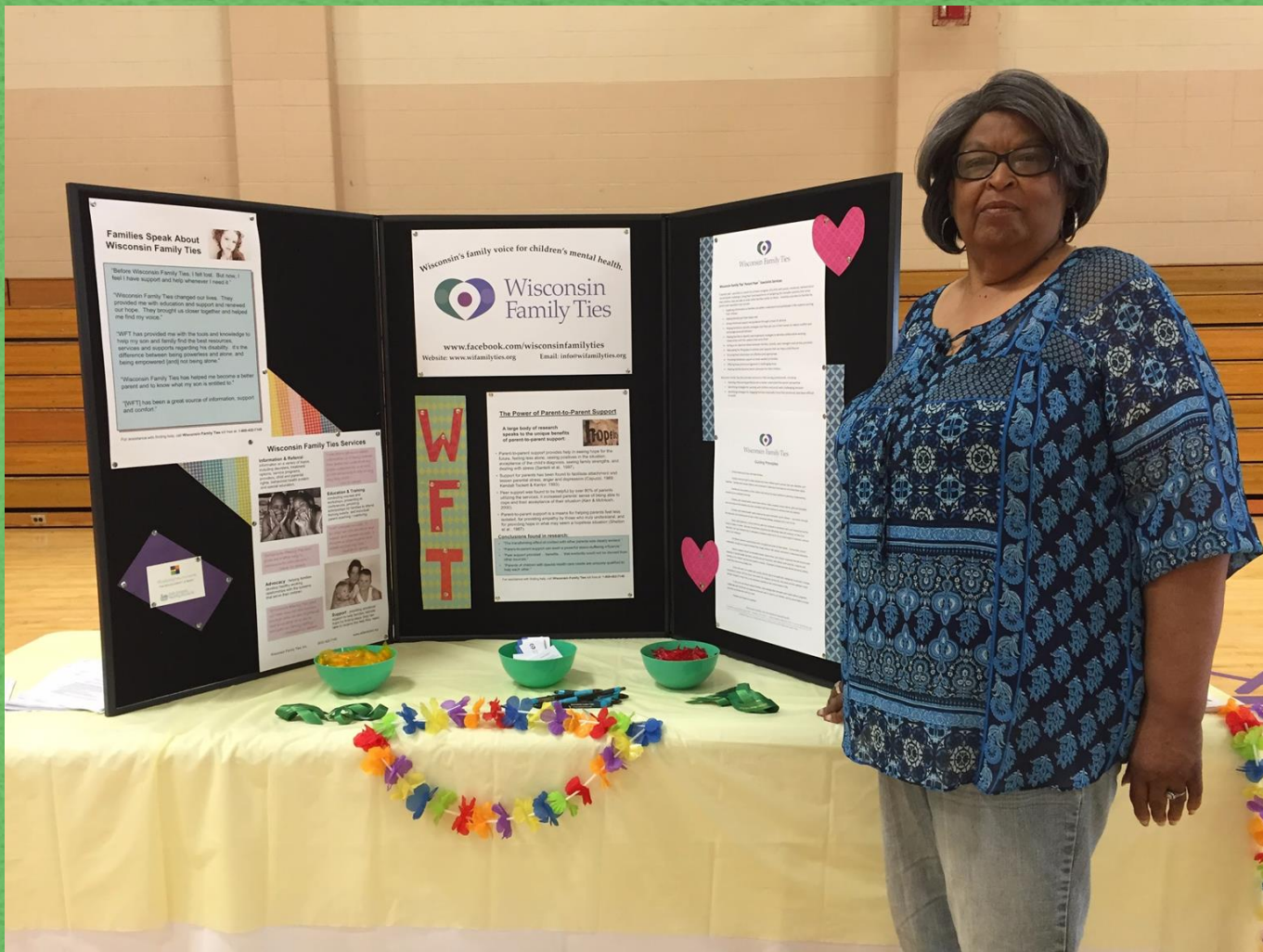
"Our mission is to provide greater understanding, acceptance, and support in the community for families having children and adolescents with emotional, behavioral and mental disorders."



Parent Peer Specialist (PPS)

Skills and requirements necessary to be effective:

- Be a parent/guardian of a student with behavioral, social, or emotional needs
- Supporting clients' self-advocacy skills
- Empowering the family



PPS Provide Family to Family Supports

- Meet before a meeting
 - What does the family want from the meeting?
 - Questions family wants to ask at the meeting
 - Offer suggestions
 - Provide reassurance
- Attend the meeting with family
- Review and reflect on the meeting
- Resources, connections, supports

Success

- 16 PPS Statewide supporting 142 families in some way.
- DHS is continuing work for a statewide certification process that would embed a PPS in the Comprehensive Community Services.
- Over 30 families served in the Beloit District.
- Survey responses reflect success.

Lessons Learned

- Meet them where they are.
- Families are more receptive to “plain talk”.
- This work is really about empowering the family.

Sustainability

- Working in coordination with Wisconsin Family Ties to secure alternate funding for years to come.
- Funding often comes from United Way and local community foundations.

Reflect...

How important is it to your district, agency, project, or state to support young people through family support?



Learn More About Beloit's Safe Schools/Healthy Students Project

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SAFE SCHOOLS
HEALTHY STUDENTS



Building Family Engagement in Michigan's Schools



Barb Flis

Parent Engagement Specialist
Parent Action for Healthy Kids

Shawn Cannarile

Safe Schools/Healthy Students State Coordinator
Michigan Department of Education



Heart work and Hard work



Leaders with heart create a masterpiece wherever they go!

Authentic Family Engagement

- Intentional
- Receives equal time and effort
- Build connections with state level departments and find commonalities
- Bi-directional communication
- Passionately persistent (Family Engagement is in everything we do!)



**Problems are familiar,
Solutions are not!**

Reflect...

Think about your personal experience as a parent or family member...were you confident in your understanding of how the school works and your ability to navigate the system?



Are We Ready to Engage Families?

What are our attitudes and beliefs about engaging families?



Can we agree on a philosophical statement, that is a set of organizational values around engaging families?



Family Engagement Perception Instrument (FEPI)

- Six question instrument
- Tested for validity and reliability
- Assess providers who serve children and families in any setting
- Users Guide
- Self scoring instructions with action steps

Family Engagement Perception Instrument (FEPI)

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PERCEPTION INSTRUMENT DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this tool is to assess your perceptions of creating and maintaining partnerships with families. Please tell us about yourself:

Age: _____ Gender: _____ Position: _____ No. of years in field: _____

Instructions: Please indicate the degree to which you agree with each statement. Please circle your choice.

The term "provider" refers to any person and/or organization at the state, regional or local level that provides direct or indirect services to children and their families and/ or has decision making authority that affects children and families.

1. Families desire to be involved in their child's care and education.

1 Strongly Disagree 2 Disagree 3 Neutral 4 Agree 5 Strongly Agree

2. Creating a partnership between the provider and family has a positive impact on the child.

1 Strongly Disagree 2 Disagree 3 Neutral 4 Agree 5 Strongly Agree

3. It is the responsibility of the provider to ensure that the environment is welcoming to families.

1 Strongly Disagree 2 Disagree 3 Neutral 4 Agree 5 Strongly Agree

4. The provider has a responsibility to address system barriers that prevent families from receiving services that support the well-being of their children.

1 Strongly Disagree 2 Disagree 3 Neutral 4 Agree 5 Strongly Agree

5. Providers would benefit from professional development on family engagement.

1 Strongly Disagree 2 Disagree 3 Neutral 4 Agree 5 Strongly Agree

6. The benefits of developing partnerships with families are not worth the time and effort.

1 Strongly Disagree 2 Disagree 3 Neutral 4 Agree 5 Strongly Agree

This work is supported by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) through its cooperative agreement with Safe Schools Healthy Students and Project AWARE grants from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The contents are solely the responsibility of MDE, and do not necessarily reflect the official views of SAMHSA, or MDHHS.

“I learned in this process the importance of stepping back to evaluate our assumption that providers are functioning with positive beliefs and attitudes about families.”

- Liz Newell, SS/HS State Coordinator





Re-frame

How do we get families to be a part of our work!



How do we let families be a part of our work!



Philosophical Belief Statement



- Focus Groups and meetings with parents and parent leader.
- On-going training and resources in and across all state agencies.
- Engage with state family leaders to learn of effective engagement practices.



Critical Components Family Engagement

1. **Commitment** to full and authentic partnerships with families
2. **Transparent Relationship** – Be willing and able to speak and hear the truth
3. **Share responsibility for student success** – Operate without blame or criticism
4. **Embrace individuality** – An absence of focusing on fixing or changing families
5. **Appreciation** - Genuine and demonstrable appreciation for families

Safe Schools, Healthy Students Grantee Spotlight

- Why family engagement?
- Michigan builds the foundation for family engagement
- Infusing family engagement throughout SS/HS
- When family engagement becomes a priority, success follows



Authentic Family Engagement in Michigan: Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grantee Spotlight is a product of the National Resource Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention, under funding provided by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Cooperative Agreement 5U79SM061516-02. The views, opinions, and content of this brief do not necessarily reflect the views, opinions, or policies of the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), SAMHSA, or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The National Resource Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention is operated by American Institutes for Research (AIR) in collaboration with the Center for School Mental Health, Zero to Three, Community Science, PHI 360, National Indian Child Welfare Association, National Asian American Pacific Islander Mental Health Association, National Latino Behavioral Health Association, National Leadership Council for African American Behavioral Health, and the Council of State Governments.

Learn More About Michigan's SS/HS Project

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Questions?





healthysafechildren.org



[Healthy Safe Children](https://www.facebook.com/HealthySafeChildren)



[@HealthySafeKids](https://twitter.com/HealthySafeKids)

*If you would like more information about the content of this online learning event or about how the National Resource Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention can help you with the work you do, please contact **1-866-577-5787** or via email at Healthysafechildren@air.org*



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MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION &
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Feedback Survey:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/
CBGTMMR](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CBGTMMR)

Thank you!