

Strengthening Families Through Prevention and Collaboration

Building Prevention-Centered Systems: Key Leadership, Workforce, and Community Roles in Shifting and Sustaining Culture

This session pairs child welfare leaders with community partners to showcase the importance of successful collaboration and engagement for implementing prevention-focused systems. Presentations focus on developing an agency culture and climate that support prevention to successfully implement the provisions of the Family First Prevention Services Act and build a prevention continuum. Presenters will discuss strategies for building a prevention-focused agency culture and climate while simultaneously working on collaboratively spreading the vision for prevention beyond the borders of child welfare agencies and into the community. Presenters will also highlight examples of agency- and community-driven culture shifts and ways to develop the collaboration needed to sustain efforts in the long term.

Session Resources

1. An Introduction to the NYC ACS Family Enrichment Center Program Initiative

This resource provides a broad overview of the New York City Administration for Children's Services' (ACS's) community involvement initiatives via its community-based partnerships and broader programming. The link includes find information on the Family Enrichment Center's (FEC's) program mission, programmatic model, and citywide partnerships and offers access to PDF documents such as the FEC Program Overview 1-Pager, partner program brochures outlining the scope of family services, and key contact information for both ACS and partner service providers.

2. Partner Profile: O.U.R. Place Family Enrichment Center

On the O.U.R. Place FEC's website, this ACS community partner service provider outlines its mission, scope of program offerings, program scheduling, outcomes data, and staff and client video testimonials. Contact information for service centers, as well as upcoming events and information on other support resources, can also be found.

3. An Evaluation Study of the Administration for Children's Services Family Enrichment Center Initiative

This evaluation study, conducted by Youth Studies Inc. in partnership with New York City ACS, provides a broad analysis of the FECs' work citywide, its methodologies, outcomes measurement, and an evaluation of the initiative's impact on family and child well-being. The study, which includes direct client and participant surveying, among other qualitative research methods, concluded that there is significant evidence that FECs are having a positive impact on strengthening a range of protective factors associated with the reduction of abusive behaviors and reports to child protective services.

4. About Strengthening Families and the Protective Factors Framework

This resource provides the Center for the Study of Social Policy's outline of the Family Protective Factors framework that drives ACS' approach to supportive family programming in a holistic way, in addition to the FECs' program model. This information identifies and defines each individual protective factor and informs on how each protective factor contributes to strengthening families while minimizing advanced ACS familial intervention.







5. Core Meanings of the Strengthening Families Protective Factors

This resource provides the Center for the Study of Social Policy's core meanings of the strengthening families protective factors.

6. The 2018 Family First Prevention Services Act

This resource provides a broad overview of the 2018 Family First Prevention Services Act, which outlines updated usage and approved spending terms for usage of title IV-E funds that can be used by states. The link gives an outline of the changes this act enacted and the updated ways states may remain eligible in their use of federal funding. This information is provided by the National Conference of State Legislatures.

7. Framework for Prevention of Child Maltreatment

This resource, provided by the U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services' Child Welfare Information Gateway, outlines the generally accepted continuum of child maltreatment prevention that runs along three levels (primary, secondary, and tertiary) of prevention services. Each tier is defined within a prevention framework and can be used as a guide for local and state child welfare administrators.

8. Quality Improvement Center for Workforce Development

This resource, provided by the Quality Improvement Center for Workforce Development (QIC-WD), provides an overview of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians' work with the QIC-WD to address its workforce needs and challenges retaining child welfare workers. Established in 2016 and supported through a 5-year cooperative agreement with the Children's Bureau, the QIC-WD is led by University of Nebraska-Lincoln in partnership with experts from University of Colorado, Denver; University of Louisville; University of Tennessee, Knoxville; C.F. Parry Associates; CLH Strategies & Solutions; and Great Eastern Consulting.



