

Emerging Practices in the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

Children's Bureau
Office on Child Abuse and Neglect

The measure of excellence

CALIBER
ASSOCIATES

Emerging Practices in Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

- **Children's Bureau Office on Child Abuse and Neglect**
 - **Melissa Lim Brodowski**
- **Caliber Associates**
 - **David Thomas**
 - **Christine Leicht**

Emerging Practices in Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

Family Connections, Baltimore, MD

Howard Dubowitz, MD - University of Maryland

Acupuncture Initiative to Improve Retention in a Parenting Class, Vancouver WA

Cyndi Durham, RN, BSN

Fathers and Children Together, Lexington, KY

Trey Berlin & Jill Seyfred

Freepops – CTF Kids, Northfield, MN

Shannon Kuball, Program Coordinator

Parents Encouraging Parents, Grangeville, ID

Nathalie Kretzmann

Healthy Families Arizona, Rachel Whyte, MSW, CISW

NJ Child Sexual Assault Prevention Project, Donna Pincavage

Relief Nursery (OR), Lory Britain, Ph.D.

Emerging Practices in Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

- Two-year partnership beginning in October 2000
- Project partners:
 - Office on Child Abuse and Neglect
Catherine Nolan, Director
Melissa Lim Brodowski, FPO
 - Caliber Associates
 - National Advisory Group
- Final Report released in March 2003:
 - Two parts: Literature review and results of nomination process

Advisory Group

- **Sandra Alexander**, Prevent Child Abuse Georgia
- **Charles Bruner**, Child and Family Policy Center
- **Thomas Chapmond**, TX Dept. of Protective and Regulatory Services
- **Deborah Daro**, Chapin Hall Center for Children, University of Chicago
- **Jack Denniston**, Consultant
- **Holly Echo-Hawk Solie**, National Indian Child Welfare Association
- **Martha Farrell Erickson**, Children, Youth and Family Consortium, University of Minnesota
- **David Lloyd**, Family Advocacy Program, DoD
- **Lisa Pion-Berlin**, Parents Anonymous[®]
- **Karen Rich**, National Exchange Club Foundation
- **Deborah Strong**, Prevent Child Abuse Michigan, Michigan Children's Trust Fund
- **Sonia Velazquez**, FRIENDS National Resource Center, Family Support America

Emerging Practices in Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

- Project Impetus and Objectives
 - Establish a systematic mechanism for collecting and maintaining information on prevention programs
 - Disseminate information about effective programs/practices
- Original Methodology
 - Conduct audit of prevention programs
 - Develop national program database
 - Develop/utilize a program rating system
 - Identify effective programs and promising practices

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Issues/Problems Encountered

- No consensus definition of a “child abuse and neglect prevention” program
- Program characteristics alone not sufficient to establish quality/effectiveness of programs

Nomination Process

- Development of Nomination Manual
- Marketing of Project
- Nominations accepted for consideration as Effective or Innovative
- Open Nomination Period:
May 2002 – August 2002

Submission Options

- **Effective Programs** –programs with evidence of positive outcomes in prevention
 - **Demonstrated Effective** – programs with rigorous evaluation using an experimental design with random assignment
 - **Reported Effective** – programs with quasi- or non-experimental evaluation efforts that show promising results
- **Innovative Programs** –programs showcasing a unique research-based approach or overcoming a challenge to their success

Submission Requirements

- Program Mission, Goals, and Objectives
- Program Activities and Services
- Program Staffing
- Target Population
- Significant Activities/Accomplishments (Innovative Category)
- Evaluation Methodology and Results (Effective Category)
- Logic Model
- Three References

Nominations Received

- 7 programs nominated as “Effective”
 - 1 program as “Demonstrated Effective”
 - 6 programs as “Reported Effective”
- 21 programs nominated as “Innovative”

Peer Review Process

- Advisory Group members acted as a peer review panel for all nominated programs
 - Any Advisory Group member with a professional relationship to a particular program abstained from any part of the review process for that program
- Programs were reviewed based on the nomination submitted in October and November 2002 using a national perspective
- Some programs did not meet the criteria for inclusion as “effective” or “innovative”, however they had noteworthy aspects that would be informative to the field

Peer Review Results

- Nominations submitted as “Effective”
 - 1 program designated as “Demonstrated Effective”
 - 2 programs designated as “Reported Effective”
 - 2 programs designated as having noteworthy aspects
- Nominations submitted as “Innovative”
 - 7 programs designated as “Innovative”
 - 10 programs designated as having noteworthy aspects

“Effective” Programs

“Demonstrated Effective”

- Family Connections – Baltimore, MD**

“Reported Effective”

- Circle of Security – Spokane, WA**
- Families and Centers Empowered Together (FACET) – Wilmington, DE**

How are these Programs Effective?

- Improved parenting skills and efficacy
- Better relationships between the caregiver and the child as well as among families
- Reduced stressors, including child behavior problems, which may contribute to child abuse and neglect

“Innovative” Programs

- Acupuncture Initiative to Improve Retention in a Parenting Class – Vancouver, WA
- Fathers and Children Together (FACT) – Lexington, KY
- Freepops – CTF Kids – Northfield, MN
- Homes for the Homeless Family Crisis Nurseries – New York, NY
- Hui Makuakane – Honolulu, HI
- Parenting Partnership – Tacoma, WA
- Parents Encouraging Parents – Grangeville, ID

What Makes these Programs Innovative?

- Combines parent education curriculum with an alternative treatment
- Develops tailored services targeted for grossly underserved, high-risk populations
- Strengthens relationships between incarcerated fathers and children
- Utilizes low-cost, multi-layered process for recruiting and retaining high-risk youth in programs
- Implements creative solutions for common problems

Programs with Noteworthy Aspects

- Effective Programs Category
 - Healthy Families Arizona
 - Sacramento Crisis Nursery

Programs with Noteworthy Aspects

Innovative Programs Category

- Assessment Services Model Pilot
- First STEPS
- From Darkness to Light
- Fussy Baby Program
- Middle Way Family Education
- New Jersey Child Assault Prevention Project
- Parents Anonymous[®] Children's Program
- Parents Anonymous[®] Parent Leadership Program
- Relief Nursery
- Today's Single Parent

Future Directions

- Continued need to expand the existing knowledge about the effectiveness of prevention.
- Better integration of research into practice and linking research findings to the creation of effective new prevention programs.
- Children's Bureau support for more discretionary activities in prevention.