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Essentials for Childhood
Steps to Create Safe, Stable, and Nurturing Relationships
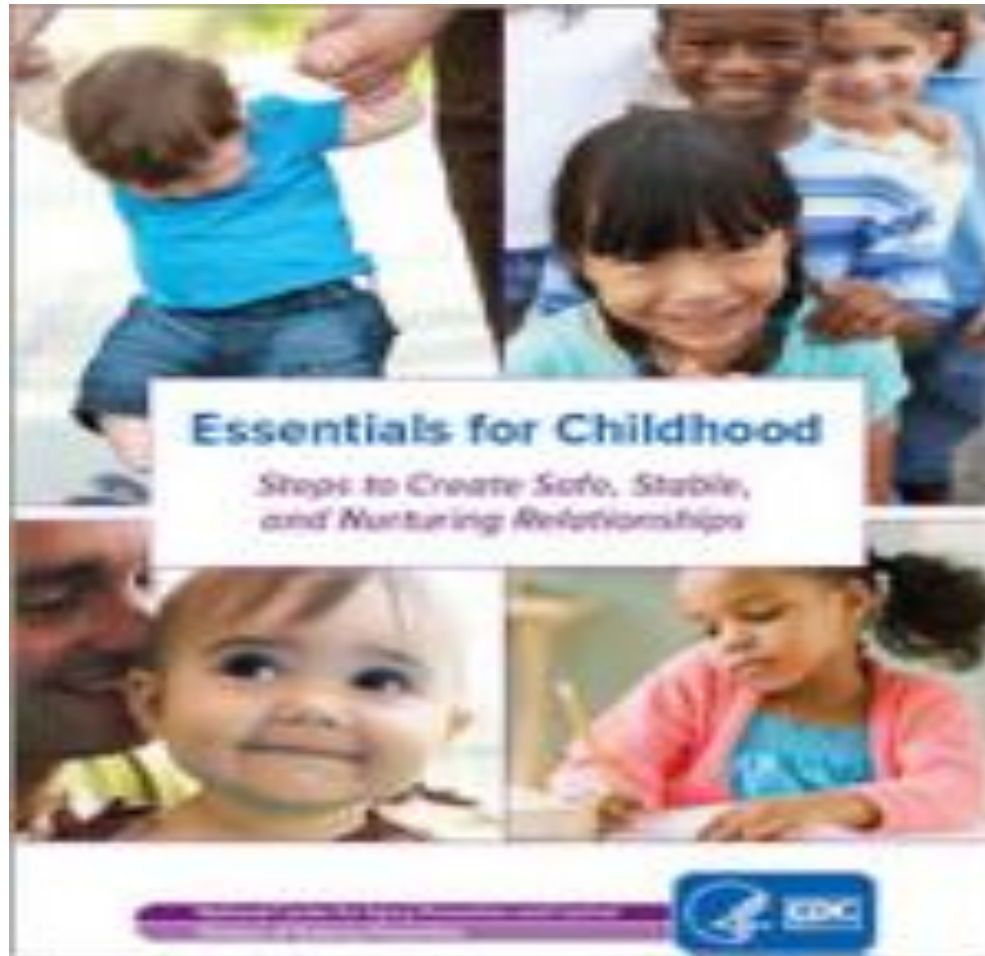
Background

◆ **Child Maltreatment has been identified as a significant worldwide health problem.**

◆ Maltreatment of a child: physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and neglect which results in harm, potential harm, or threat of harm to a child.

- *ACE Study*
- *Triple P (South Carolina) trial*
- *PURPLE (North Carolina) trial*
- *Knowledge to Action*
- *Child Maltreatment Surveillance pilots*
- *Public Health Leadership Initiative*
- *Essentials for Childhood*

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

- ◆ Child Maltreatment Prevention is a CDC Injury Center Priority.
- ◆ Significant resources have been dedicated to defining and researching the problem as well as the solution.

Essentials for Childhood (E4C)

CDC's strategic direction for preventing child maltreatment by promoting safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and environments

for children

(SSNRs & Es)

CHILD MALTREATMENT
prevention
LEADERSHIP TEAM

NCPH
North Carolina
Public Health

Prevent Child Abuse
North Carolina

Safety, Stability, Nurturing

- **Safety:** The extent to which a child is free from fear & secure from physical or psychological harm within their social & physical environment.

- **Stability:** The degree of predictability & consistency in a child's social, emotional, & physical environment.

  - **Nurturing:** The extent to which a parent/caregiver is available & able to sensitively respond to & meet the needs of their child.

Safe, Stable, Nurturing Relationships Influence Early Brain Development & Buffer Adverse Childhood Experiences

- ◆ Healthy development depends on the quality & reliability of young children's relationships with the important people in their lives.
- ◆ Nurturing, responsive interactions build healthy brain architecture that provides a strong foundation for future learning, behavior & health.
- ◆ SSNRs & Es can provide a buffer for ACEs.

Essentials for Childhood is the broad "umbrella" for all of our child maltreatment prevention work

- ◆ Safe, Stable, Nurturing Relationships & Environments is the CDC's strategic direction and
- ◆ The vision for what we want for all children.

	Reactive Approach to Child Maltreatment Prevention	Proactive Approach to Child Maltreatment Prevention
What is the "REAL" problem?	Bad Parents	Lack of formal/informal societal support of parents & access to new information
Who created it?	Genetics, upbringing, substances, parental choice, etc.	Short-term vision, outdated theories on raising children, declining communities
Who solves it?	CPS, police, foster parents, parents fixing themselves, etc.	Community leaders, friends & neighbors, healthcare systems, faith groups, doctors, schools, etc.
How?	Rescue children, punish parents, etc.	New info about development, more social interactions and parent support, reinforcement of positive behaviors

Increasing Effectiveness

- Moving from Isolated Impact:
  - Multiple organizations each working to address social problems independently
- To Collective Impact:
  - Higher performing approach to large scale social impact

Goal Areas

1) Raise Awareness & Commitment to Support SSNRs & Es and Prevent Child Maltreatment

2) Use Data to Inform Solutions

3) Create the Context for Healthy Children & Families through Norms Change & Programs

4) Create the Context for Healthy Children & Families through Policies.

Raise Awareness & Commitment

◆ Adopt the vision of assuring SSNRs & Es for every child & preventing child maltreatment

◆ Raise awareness in support of the vision

◆ Partner with others to unite behind the vision

Use Data

- *BRFSS ACEs Module*
  - *Inform program & policy goals*
  - *Connect ACEs and SES*
- *Child Death Review Data*
  - *Annual reports- education about risk factors and prevention opportunities*
- *CM Surveillance System*

- Build a partnership to gather and synthesize relevant data
- Review existing data
- Identify and fill critical data gaps
- Use the data to support other actions steps

Norms Change & Programs

- Community norm that we all share responsibility for the well-being of children

- Positive community norms about parenting programs & acceptable parenting behaviors

- Implement EBPs

Policies

- **Business**
  - **Flexible work schedules**
  - **Family leave**
- **Hospital**
  - **Educating new parents on AHT**
- **Child Care**
  - **Quality ratings**
  - **Eligibility levels**

◆ Identify and assess which policies may positively impact the lives of children & families

◆ Provide decision makers & community leaders with information on the benefits of evidence-based strategies & rigorous evaluation

What Brings Us Together
AND
Why E4C?

- *California*

- *Colorado*

- *Massachusetts*

- *North Carolina*

- *Washington*

Funding
E4C: SSNRs & Es

- ◆ Five year competitive award

- ◆ Year 1 – Strategic Planning

- ◆ Years 2-5 – Implementation of the State Plan

- ◆ Division of Public Health – Required grantee

  - ◆ Multiple partners and stakeholders

E4C Outcomes

- Coordinate & manage existing & new partnerships with other child maltreatment prevention organizations and ***non-traditional partners***;

- Work with partners to identify strategies across sectors;

E4C Outcomes

- Identify, coordinate, monitor & report on the strategies implemented by multi-sector partners;

- coordinate improvement processes for multi-sector partners to refine strategies; and

- establish state-level impact of these efforts.

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