

QIC-EC Newsletter, June 2010

Research and Demonstration Grants Awarded

The Quality Improvement Center on Early Childhood (QIC-EC) is pleased to announce the selection of four Research and Demonstration Projects to test the impact of collaborations across sectors on promoting optimal child development, strengthening families and reducing the likelihood of maltreatment. The new projects include a range of partnerships such as IDEA Part C early intervention services, substance abuse programs for pregnant women, legal services and family support within a primary health care setting, and multi-faceted neighborhood mobilization, led by residents and including businesses, faith communities and human services.

With support from the Children’s Bureau, the Quality Improvement Center on Early Childhood (QIC-EC) awarded each project nearly \$1.4 million over 40 months to implement new strategies and evaluate their effectiveness. Selected from 41 highly competitive proposals from across the country, the four projects are:

- Strong Start Study—Denver, CO
- Family Networks Project—Columbia, SC
- Fostering Hope—Salem, OR
- DuLCE Family Partners—Boston, MA

Read about each of the projects inside.

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This product was developed by the National Quality Improvement Center on Early Childhood (QIC-EC). The QIC-EC is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children, Youth and Families, Office on Child Abuse and Neglect, under Cooperative Agreement 90CA1763. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the funders, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This information is in the public domain. Readers are encouraged to copy portions of the text which are not the property of copyright holders and share them, but please credit the National QIC on Early Childhood

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Strong Start Study: Strengthening Young Families Affected by Substance Use

Located in Denver, Colorado, the Strong Start Study *will target pregnant women in substance abuse treatment and their babies*. The program will intervene early with these women and create systems of support from their families, friends, and community. JFK Partners of the University of Colorado Denver Medical School is the lead organization and will conduct the evaluation.

Family Networks Projects: Supporting Family Confidence, Competence, and Community Connections

Located in 12 South Carolina counties, Family Networks Projects *will target 100 families of young children ages 11 to 23 months who have developmental disabilities*. Parents will be trained in their homes to enhance their confidence and competence through the Stepping Stones Triple-P Positive Parenting Program. State-based trainers trained in the *Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect: Parent-Provider Partnerships in Child Care* curriculum will use it to train early intervention providers and supervisors in building effective relationships among staff and with parents. South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness is the lead organization, and the University of South Carolina will conduct the evaluation.

Fostering Hope: Concentrating Services in High-Poverty Neighborhoods to Reduce Child Maltreatment

Located in Salem, Oregon, Fostering Hope *will target families, including some migrant farm workers, in two high-poverty counties with home visits*, parent education, support groups, volunteer respite care, access to mental health and addiction treatment, relief nursery services, and referrals to employment services, affordable housing, basic needs such as food and utility payment assistance and health care. Catholic Community Services is the lead organization and Pacific Research and Evaluation will conduct the evaluation.

DuLCe Family Partners: Developmental-Legal Collaboration for Infants

Located in in Boston, Massachusetts, DuLCe Family Partners will *target newborns to 10-week-old babies and their families who receive care at Boston Medical Center*. A DuLCe staffer will reach infants and families through their routine health care visits and provide them with legal assistance, screen infants for developmental problems and families for mental health problems, and teach families about child development. Staffers also may visit families at their homes if needed. Boston Medical Center is the lead organization, and Boston University School of Medicine will conduct the evaluation.

For detailed descriptions of the projects, visit www.qic-ec.org

QIC-EC Learning Network Activities

Webinar Presents Research on Outcomes of Maltreatment

March 26, 2010 – David S. Zielinski, Ph.D., health policy analyst in the Office of the Director of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) presented his paper on “Current Research on the Adult Outcomes of Child Maltreatment” to an audience of 114 people. Dr. Zielinski’s study addresses the gap in the impact that child maltreatment may have on victims’ long-term socioeconomic well-being by exploring the relationship between childhood experiences of abuse and neglect and several indicators of socioeconomic well-being in adulthood. His paper is the first nationally representative research on this topic and has significant implications for child development policy and practice.

The study’s results supported the hypothesis that maltreatment places victims at increased risk for problems across several domains of socioeconomic well-being and by highlighting the long-term socioeconomic costs of maltreatment, this research should encourage policy makers to focus on improving prevention, intervention, and treatment efforts for victims of abuse and neglect.

The webinar, which was open to all members of the QIC-EC Learning Network, was recorded and has been posted on the QIC-EC’s website. Slides from Dr. Zielinski’s presentation may also be downloaded. These resources are made available to all visitors to the QIC-EC website, at www.qic-ec.org.

Upcoming QIC-EC Learning Network Webinars

Join us for an exciting opportunity to learn about and discuss research designed to build knowledge about child abuse prevention with very young children and their families. The newly funded QIC-EC Research and Demonstration sites present their projects and research questions June 25th and July 23rd:

June 25, 2010, 3:30-5 p.m. EDT

- *Fostering Hope: Concentrating Services in High-Poverty Neighborhoods to Reduce Child Maltreatment*, Heiko Junge, Project Director and Steven Rider, Ph.D., Local Evaluator
- *The Strong Start Study: Strengthening Young Families Affected by Substance Use through High Fidelity Wraparound*, M. Kay Teel, Ph.D., LCSW, Principal Investigator and Steven Rosenberg, Ph.D

July 23, 2010, 3:30-5 p.m. EDT

- *DuLce Family Partners: Developmental-Legal Collaboration for Infants*, Robert Sege, MD, Ph.D, Principal Investigator and Edward DeVos, Ed.D., Local Evaluator
- *The Family Networks Project: Supporting Family Confidence, Competence, and Community Connections*, Cheri Shapiro, Ph.D, Principal Investigator

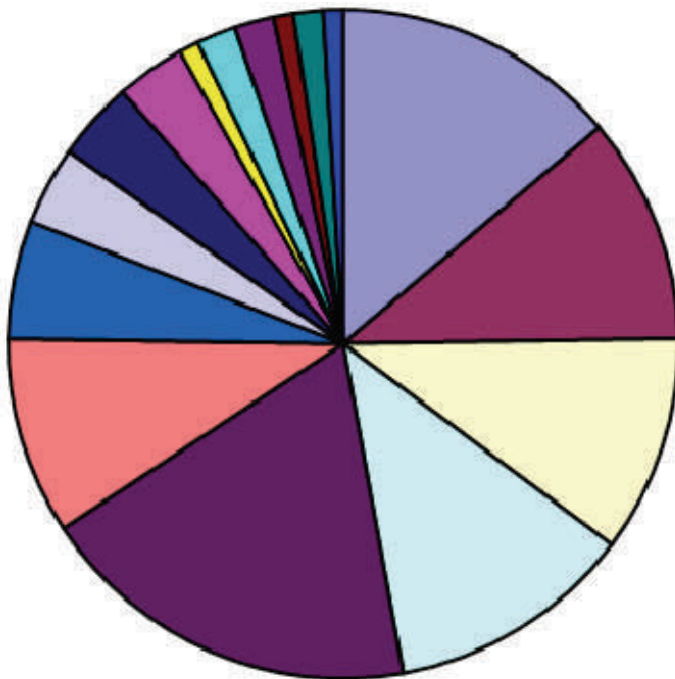
September 2010, 3:30-5:00 p.m. EDT

“Mobilizing Communities to Prevent Maltreatment – How do we do it?” Presenters TBD

Learning Network Members-Who Are They?

Learning Network members are a multidisciplinary, national group of professionals interested in the prevention of maltreatment among very young children. There are 210 members of which the largest group, approximately 19%, is affiliated with state nonprofits. This is followed closely by those in state offices, those affiliated with national nonprofits, local nonprofits, and other.

The pie chart shown below depicts the distribution of Learning Network members across 16 mutually exclusive categories.



For a complete list of Learning Network members, visit www.qic-ec.org,

- State Nonprofit: 19%
- State Office: 14%
- National Nonprofit: 11%
- University/College: 10%
- Local Nonprofit: 10%
- Federal Office: 6%
- Children's Bureau T/TA: 4%
- *ZERO TO THREE: 4%
- Children's Trust Fund: 3%
- Military: 2%
- Hospital: 2%
- Foundation: 1%
- For Profit: 1%
- Consultants: 1%
- Tribal: 1%
- **Other: 12%

**The ZERO TO THREE category includes ZTT's State Partners, Leadership Development Fellows, and Court Teams project staff.

**"Other" is a large category. It is a collection of different, smaller categories, including private consultants, QIC-EC evaluators, the QIC-EC National Advisory Committee, and those members who did not identify their organizations.

QIC-EC Reaches out to Doctoral Students

The QIC-EC disseminated a Request for Proposal to support up to four 2-year dissertation research awards to advanced level doctoral students conducting research that focuses on preventing the abuse and neglect of infants and young children (0-5) - including those impacted by HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, or abandonment – and promoting child and family well-being. The awards will be \$25,000 per year for each two years and the application deadline is June 9, 2010. Detailed information about the doctoral dissertation research support and application requirements are available on the QIC-EC website www.qic-ec.org. Questions may be emailed to the Project Director at qic-ec@cssp.org.

QIC-EC Website Resources

The QIC-EC website has a number of resources to support your work. Please visit www.qic-ec.org to view the Commissioned Papers listed there and other selected resources.

The **Child Welfare Information Gateway** provides access to information and resources to help protect children and strengthen families. Visit often for the latest on a wide range of topics from prevention to permanency, including child welfare, child abuse and neglect, foster care, and adoption at www.childwelfare.gov.