

POSITION IN STATE GOVERNMENT

The Idaho Children's Trust Fund is an independent state agency charged with education, coordination and connection of community-based, family-centered and holistic prevention programs that strengthen families and reduce child abuse and neglect.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Core Services:** ICTF funded 7 programs with CBCAP funding. All funded services focus on strengthening the identified CBCAP protective factors. Programs achieve this either by increasing parenting capacity and leadership or providing Child Sexual Assault Prevention Training to parents. These programs are part of a larger network of programs funded by ICTF.

In addition to funding programs, ICTF organized a state conference, Strengthening Families Training Institute (SFTI) and has focused a significant amount of its work on embedding the protective factors in the statewide early care and education system.

- **Policy Achievements:** ICTF has been successful at integrating their curriculum, *Toolbox Training: Protecting Children by Strengthening Families*, developed in partnership with the Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children (IAEYC) as part of the Idaho STARS training program for professional development. This has incorporated and thus embedded the Strengthening Families framework into the state Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) for Early Care and Education programs.
- **Outreach to Special Populations/Cultural Competence:** Several of ICTF funded programs address the needs of special populations across the state. This includes services for Latino and Native American families, families with a parent or child having a disability, fathers, and families living in isolated, rural areas.

The SFTI conference keynote speaker was Jerry Tello, co-founder of the National Compadres Network and Director of the National Latino Fatherhood and Family Institute.

A new logic model was adopted by ICTF that includes the short-term outcome of making cultural competency training available to all grantee staff.

ICTF regional panels have increased representation of people with disabilities and Tribal members

ICTF has seen an increase in the number of families of color served by their funded programs. This is likely due to their focus on reaching Spanish speaking families and training Spanish speaking facilitators.

Parent involvement/leadership: The ICTF Americorps member leads the *Parent Involvement Project*, which in collaboration with IAEYC has furthered Community Café work and designed a Parent Leadership Action Plan and progress report. Three Community Café trainings have been held on parent involvement. ICTF funds four programs that focus on the development of parent leadership, parent involvement and empowerment. An additional two-day training for these Program Improvement/Parent Leadership grantees yielded successful results with all attendees reporting that they have experienced increased parent involvement and leadership.



- **Evaluation:** ICTF grantees are required to submit logic models including outcomes with their applications for funding. ICTF is also now connecting outcome measurement and the five protective factors. Programs collected outcome data related to the protective factors through a variety of means including qualitative data. ICTF reports positive outcomes for all funded programs.

All programs gathered participant satisfaction data through surveys, individual interviews or anecdotal data. Results of parent satisfaction surveys were positive.

- **Support Training, Technical Assistance, and Evaluation Assistance:** In addition to funding, ICTF provided numerous grantee trainings on a wide range of topics and in a variety of formats. Training and continued education is a clear focus area. ICTF also offered periodic meeting and conference calls for technical assistance to grantees.

ICTF provided a number of trainings for wider audiences as well. Their Community Café trainings were attended by 25 parents, community stakeholders, and grantees. The *Strengthening Families* training reached 250 providers.

Participants receiving direct services	# individuals	9998	# families	1762
	# parents and children with disabilities	149		
Reach	# local grantees	14		
Spread	# training sessions on best practices - Strengthening Families	376	# professionals participating in training	1621

ESSENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

Strengthening Families Initiative along with IAEYC to develop more integration of Strengthening Families across the Early Care and Education system in Idaho with an additional focus on reaching Latino communities

Key partners:

Public Sector

- Child welfare
- Public health/ maternal and child health
- Education and special education
- Early childhood
- Home visiting
- Mental health
- Head Start/ Early Head Start
- Child care
- Department of Correction



- Tribal programs
- Fatherhood programs
- Domestic Violence Organizations
- Child Sexual Abuse Programs

Private Sector

- Advocacy organizations
- Parent organizations

SYSTEM CHANGE EFFORTS

- **Early Childhood:** There have been many gains and much focus on impacting the Early Childhood Care and Education system. Achievements in implementing the ICTF/IAEYS curriculum based on Strengthening Families have been described previously. In addition to these, another focus has been to further parent leadership in child care settings. Through this effort, including training, action plans for new efforts to increase parent involvement have been developed by all participating child care centers. One center reports that 18 parents have signed up to be on the *planning committee* for their Community Café.
- **Child and Family Service Reviews/Program Improvement Plan (CFRS/PIP):** The Executive Director of the ICTF participated in the CFRS process and the development of the PIP.
- **Home Visiting:** ICTF was instrumental in developing legislation that would fund home visiting; unfortunately the bill which passed both house and senate was vetoed by the Governor.
- **Strengthening Families:** As a result of the work of ICTF in partnership with IAEYC, Child care facilities will earn points toward a star rating in the QRIS system based on a series of assessments including the implementation of the Strengthening Families framework. Idaho was recognized as one of three “peer states” selected to guide the rest of the nation in embedding *Strengthening Families into QRIS*.

ICTF also submitted their annual CBCAP Report and Application utilizing the Strengthening Families protective factors as the organizing concept in presenting information about their service array.

- **Child Sexual Abuse:** During the past year, the ICTF efforts surrounding *Stewards of Children* has expanded. Five programs were funded focused on developing partnerships and making connections between the Strengthening Families framework and child sexual abuse prevention programs. This effort has taken the “Stewards” training toward a community-based approach. New trainers have been trained and new partnerships with the Department of Education’s Safe and Drug Free Schools have been forged.



FUNDING AND FISCAL LEVERAGING

Fiscal Leveraging

Innovative funding mechanisms:

- Individuals are able to designate funds to ICTF on their state income tax returns.
- ICTF manages an endowment fund which generates interest for ICTF expenditure.
- Through registrations and corporate fundraising, the annual conference organized by ICTF raised over \$18,000.
- The Strengthening Families curriculum developed by ICTF and IAEYC has been used to train trainers for a fee generating over \$20,000.

State Allowable Claims	141,131
Population-based Allocations	200,000
Leveraged-Funds-Based Allocations	4,582
Final FY 08 Federal Grant Amount	202,916

EVIDENCE-BASED AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED PRACTICES

Level per Program Assessment Rating Tool	CBCAP Funding
Programs Lacking Support or Positive Evidence/Undetermined/Harmful	0
Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices	\$37,500
Promising Programs and Practices	\$50,000
Supported Programs and Practices	0
Well Supported Programs and Practices	0



TRAINING TOPICS

Administrative and Management Topics

- Collaboration and partnerships for prevention
- Fiscal leveraging
- Evaluation and data management
- Program monitoring and continuous quality improvement
- Grant reporting requirements

Programmatic and Service Topics

- Cultural competence, disproportionality
- Research on prevention and child maltreatment

- Evidence-based and evidence-informed programs and practices
- Home visiting
- Prevention programs and family support
- Promoting protective factors and reducing risk factors
- Strengthening families through early care and education
- Child sexual abuse prevention
- Parent leadership and involvement
- Marketing, messaging and public awareness

RESOURCES

- Prevent Child Abuse America:
<http://www.preventchildabuse.org/index.shtml>
- Access to Public State Resources:
<http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/>
- Idaho Resource and Referral Line and Database
<http://www.idahocareline.org/>
- Annual State Profiles: [www.friendsnrc.org/...](http://www.friendsnrc.org/)

