Minnesota

Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention
2009 State Profile

Minnesota Dept. of Human Services
PO Box 64962
St. Paul, MN 64962
402-476-9401

POSITION IN STATE GOVERNMENT

The Minnesota Department of Human Services is the designated lead agency for the CBCAP funds. CBCAP funds are directed through the Children's Trust Fund (CTF) which is located within the Department of Human Services Children's and Family Services Administration. The Children's Trust Fund was created by the Legislature in 1986 to financially support community programs aimed at preventing child abuse and neglect.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Core Services:** The CTF funds six initiatives; 16 community based grantees, 60 Child Abuse Prevention Councils, Parent Leadership, professional development and training, statewide networking and public awareness. The CTF supports a multi component evaluation effort of all six initiatives. All initiatives are aligned with the Strengthening Families' approach and the five protective factors framework. The 16 CTF community based grantees include six home visiting programs. Additional grantees support services to early care and education, young fathers, housing stability and crisis nursery care. Community support services included parent skill development, education, mental health, domestic and sexual violence prevention, support groups, and a holistic community based Medicine Wheel. CTF in partnership with Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota (PCAMN) created a networking website to provide parents and professionals access to technical assistance, education and resource information. CTF in collaboration with PCAMN conducted video conferences, topical regional meetings, PSAs and material distribution in order to inform the public of best primary prevention practices utilizing the Strengthening Families approach and the protective factors framework to prevent child abuse and neglect.

- **Policy achievements:** The Children and Family Services Administration of Minnesota Department of Human Services, adapted and set as a priority the use of a "Strengthening Families" approach and the protective factors framework to orient and align work across divisions of Child Safety and Permanency, Community Partnerships, Transition to Economic Stability, Transition Support Systems and Child Support enforcement.

- **Outreach to Special Populations/Cultural Competence:** The CTF required all respondents to the Grantee RFP identify a strategic plan to outreach to underserved populations. The grantees programs had to be racially and ethnically reflective of the population to be served. Each Child Abuse Prevention Council is required to be comprised of members representing the diversity within the County. The CTF works within a public-private partnership "*Embracing the Protective* Capacities *of Culture"* workgroup to explore how working through the lens of culture strengthens families and communities and informs the protective factors.

- **Parent involvement/leadership**: Parent Leadership groups were engaged to ensure meaningful involvement and satisfaction of parents including those with disabilities. Parents' leadership was integral in planning, implementation and evaluation of funded programs. The Department of Human Services, Child Safety and Permanency Division has partnered with Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota to recruit, train, and support parent volunteers to participate in effort to reform the child welfare

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system. Parents chosen had firsthand knowledge of family support programs and/or the child welfare system. Parent Leadership for Child Safety and Permanency is a formal team established to bring the parent voice to enhance policy, programs and practice. Parents have been trainers and conducted Parent Café style programs statewide. Parents are an essential part of the composition of Child Abuse Prevention Councils. The CTF collaborated with organizations that promote parent leadership including PCA-Minnesota's Circle of Parents, Council for Civic Parent Leadership, MN Fathers and Family Network and Head Start to insure that parents are engaged in all levels of planning and implementation

- **Evaluation:** The CTF utilized Wilder Research to provide evaluation services that included assistance in the evaluation of the funded initiatives. The evaluation matrix developed depicts logic models, outcomes, indicators and measurement strategies. The evaluation instruments developed are aligned around the Strengthening Families approach and the protective factor framework. These instruments include: grantee and CAPC progress reports, and participant and staff surveys. The CTF required programs to participate in the peer review process including Peer to Peer Review and Parent as Peer Review.
- **Support Training, Technical Assistance, and Evaluation Assistance:** The Wilder Research Center provides evaluation technical assistance to the grantees as well as, the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Councils. Parents received support and training to hold the Parent Café conversations on the protective factors. Professional training modules were held to integrate the Strengthening Families approach and the protective factor framework statewide.

Participants receiving direct services	**# individuals**	**9,234**	**# families**	**3,854**
	# children with disabilities		**# parents with disabilities**	
Reach	**# local grantees**	**16**		
Spread	**# training sessions on evidence-based and best practices**		**# professionals participating in training**	

ESSENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota
Minnesota Fathers and Families Network
Parent Information and Resources Sharing Network
Child Abuse Prevention Councils
State Department Interagency Collaboration
Strengthening Families Grantee Community Agencies
Minnesota Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems
Minnesota Evidenced Based Home Visiting
Child Development Services

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Key partners:

Public Sector

- Child welfare
- Differential or alternative response
- Public health/ maternal and child health
- Education and special education
- Early childhood
- Home visiting
- Substance abuse
- Mental health
- Head Start/ Early Head Start
- Child care
- TANF or cash assistance
- Tribal programs
- Fatherhood programs

Private Sector

- Advocacy organizations
- Parent organizations
- Foundations
- Adolescent pregnancy organizations

SYSTEM CHANGE EFFORTS

- **Early Childhood**: Staff from the CTF in coordination with Child Safety and Permanency and Community Partnership Divisions developed the "Strengthening Minnesota Families through Early Childhood: A road Map for Integration and Sustainability." The goal was to prevent child abuse and neglect, and to promote the health and well-being of Minnesota children, families and communities by improving cross-disciplinary Strengthening Families practices, communication, and policies at the state and local level. Strengthening Families approach and protective factor framework has been infused into child care and education programs.

- **Child and Family Service Reviews/Program Improvement Plan (CFRS/PIP)**: The CTF staff has been involved in the CFSR and is an active member of the Program Improvement Plan underway. The overall PIP was constructed around the framework of Strengthening Families.

- **Home Visiting**: The CTF funds six different home visiting models one of which is the evidence based Nurse Parent Partnership.

- **State Interagency Coordinating Council for Part C**: The CTF participates on the State Interagency Committee which oversees and makes key decision about implementation of IDEA, Part C.

- **Strengthening Families:** Strengthening Families approach and the protective factor framework has been integrated into the CFS Administration as well as throughout all of the six initiatives funded by the CTF.

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- **Interagency Child Abuse Prevention Task Force:** The CTF participated in the development of the Child Abuse Prevention Plan that set the priorities and strategies for child abuse and neglect prevention.

FUNDING AND FISCAL LEVERAGING

Fiscal Leveraging

Innovative funding mechanisms:

- Birth Certificate fees

State Allowable Claims	**22,408,872**
Population-based Allocations	**427,688**
Leveraged-Funds-Based Allocations	**759,086**
Final FY 08 Federal Grant Amount	**1,186,774**

EVIDENCE-BASED AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED PRACTICES

Level per Program Assessment Rating Tool	CBCAP Funding
Programs Lacking Support or Positive Evidence/Undetermined/Harmful	
Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices	$1,386,278
Promising Programs and Practices	$37,4122
Supported Programs and Practices	
Well Supported Programs and Practices	$123,171

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Training

The Children's Trust Fund implement statewide educational workshops, trainings and other activities to promote the Strengthening Families approach and the protective factors framework as strategies for the prevention of abuse and neglect. The CTF in collaboration with the Wilder Research Center provided training to the grantees on evaluation, outcome measures, and data analysis.

Administrative and Management Topics

- collaboration and partnerships for prevention
- fiscal leveraging
- evaluation and data management
- program monitoring and continuous quality improvement
- grant reporting requirements
- strategic planning
- grant reporting requirements
- other (specify)

Programmatic and Service Topics

- cultural competence
- 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
- marketing, messaging and public awareness

RESOURCES

Annual State Profiles: www.friendsnrc.org/...