

Understanding the FRIENDS Annual Needs Assessment

WELCOME

Sarah Connelly | eteam

WHAT is the 2022 Needs Assessment?

**Online survey designed by ETEAM
and administered in July 2022**

Questions about respondents, and their
experiences in 2022 with:

- Collaboration with child welfare staff
- Training and technical assistance
- Advancing equity
- Peer learning calls
- New state lead community of practice webinars
- Discussion series
- Plans for American Rescue Act funds
- Regional meetings

WHO completed the 2022 Needs Assessment?

CBCAP state
lead agencies
or their
representatives

CBCAP
tribal/migrant
grantees

34
responses,
representing
27 states

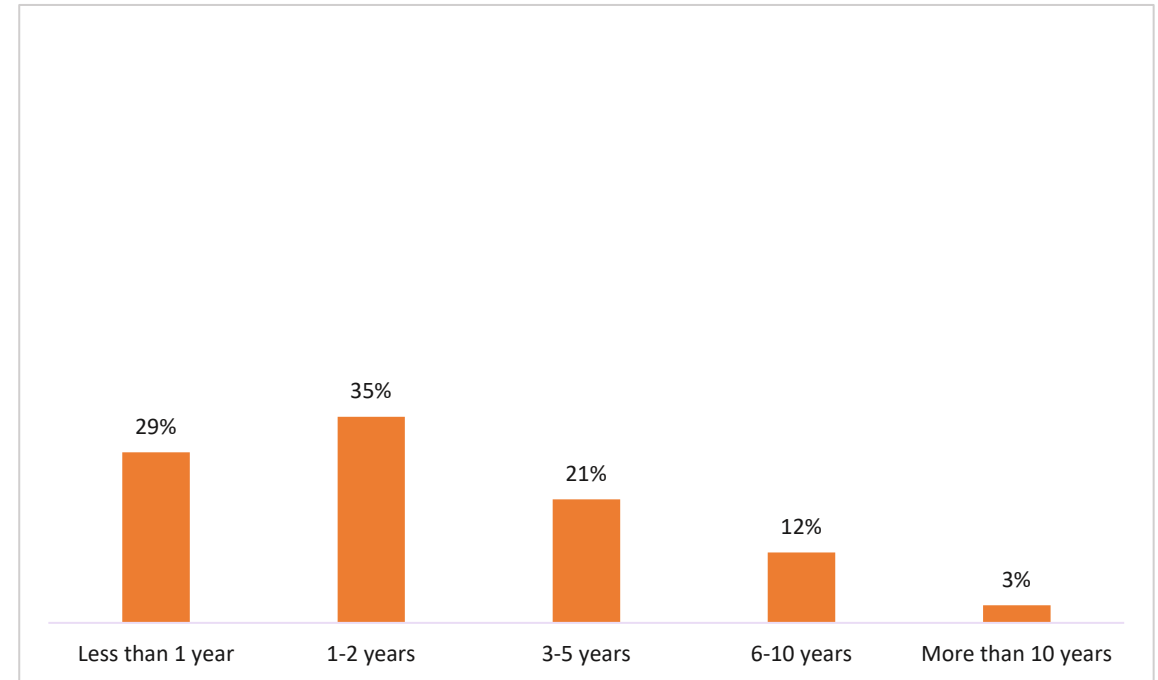


Figure 1. Amount of time respondents have been in their current role. (n = 34)

WHY

is the Needs Assessment
important?

The purpose of the needs assessment is to help FRIENDS, its partners, and the Children's Bureau focus on the areas of greatest need when developing training and technical assistance (T/TA) and prioritizing resource allocation for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and tribal/migrant grantees.



Shift to a Prevention Mindset

Some grantees explained that their state is still struggling with the shift to a prevention mindset.

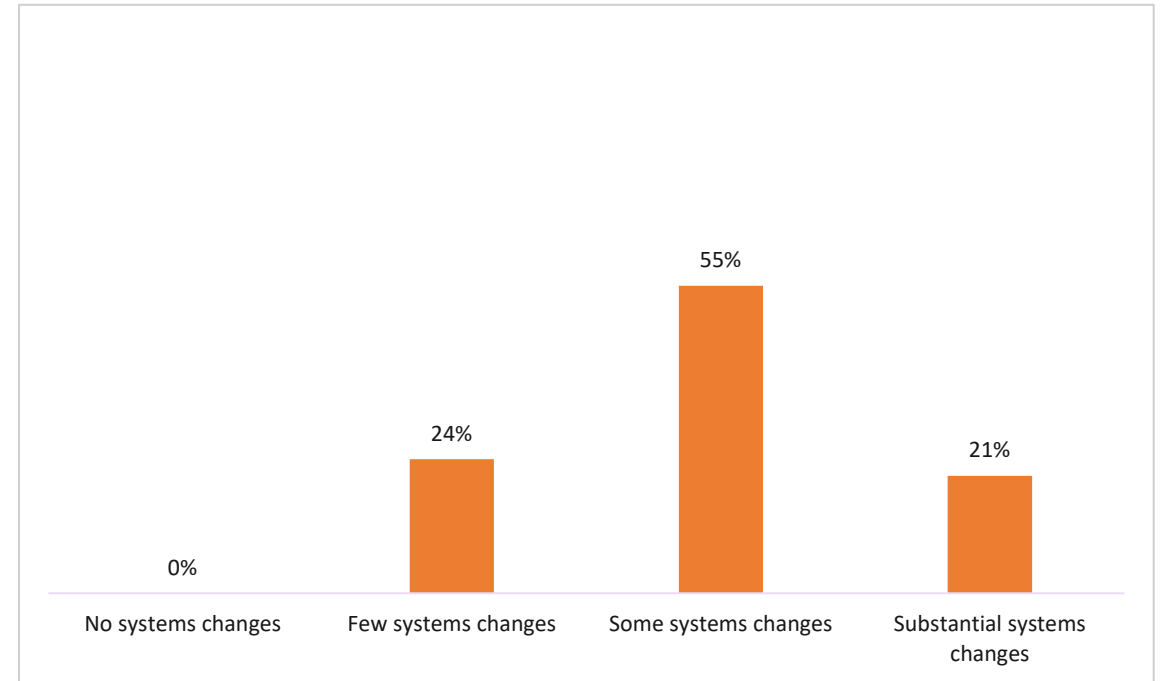


Figure 2. Respondents' rating of how far their state has gone in shifting to a prevention mindset. (n = 33)



Response

Prevention Mindset Institute: Embracing Prevention Across Systems (PMI) was started in 2020, and a second cohort of six additional states was added in winter of 2022.



<https://friendsnrc.org/cbcap/prevention-mindset-institute/>

TA on systems change is available to any CBCAP grantee upon request, and many states not engaged with the PMI have received support in developing strategic plans.



Collaboration with Child Welfare Agencies and Family Strengthening Organizations

Table 1. Ways to Support Grantees in Collaborations with Child Welfare Agencies and Family Strengthening Organizations (n = 33)

Assistance Needed	n	%
Provide information on existing child protection and family strengthening collaboratives	12	36%
Create opportunities for learning discussions with child protection and family strengthening organizations	11	33%
Other networking opportunities	4	12%
Other	6	18%



Response

PMI focuses on child protection and family strengthening organizations and collaboratives.

PMI mini-conference in March 2023, which provided help for PMI teams through breakout sessions that allowed for discussion, and a panel of representatives with child protection and family strengthening backgrounds.

Quarterly meetings with PMI teams.

Sessions at the CBCAP Annual Grantees Meeting.



Training and Technical Assistance

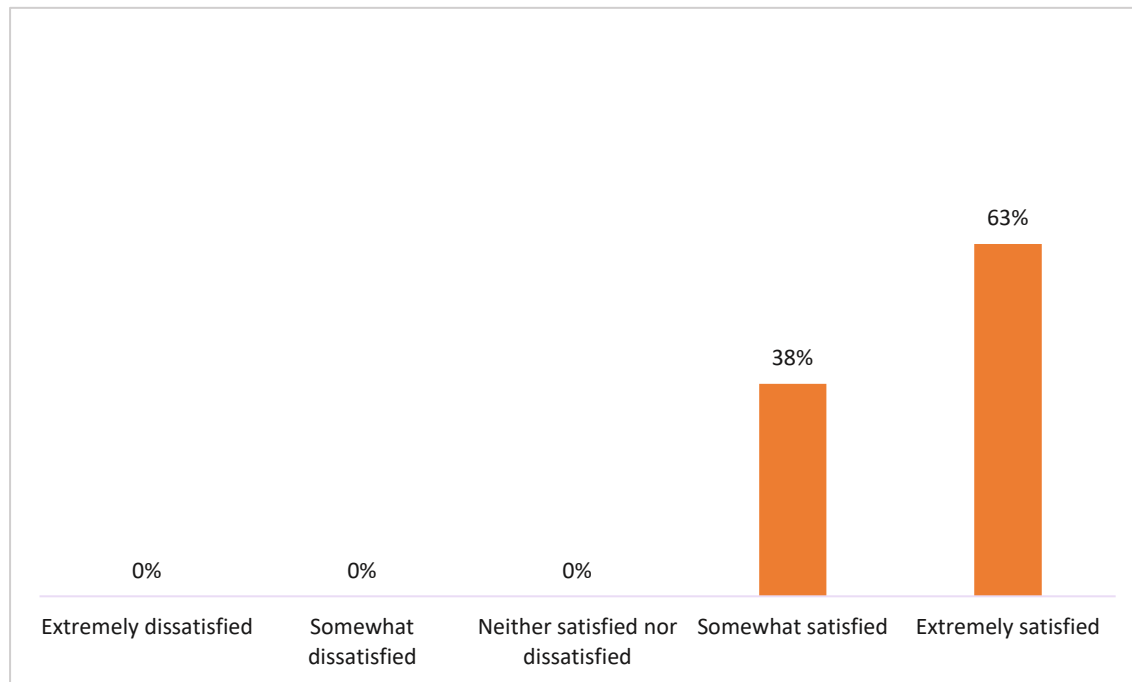


Figure 3. Respondents' rating of their satisfaction with the T/TA they received. (n = 32)
Note. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

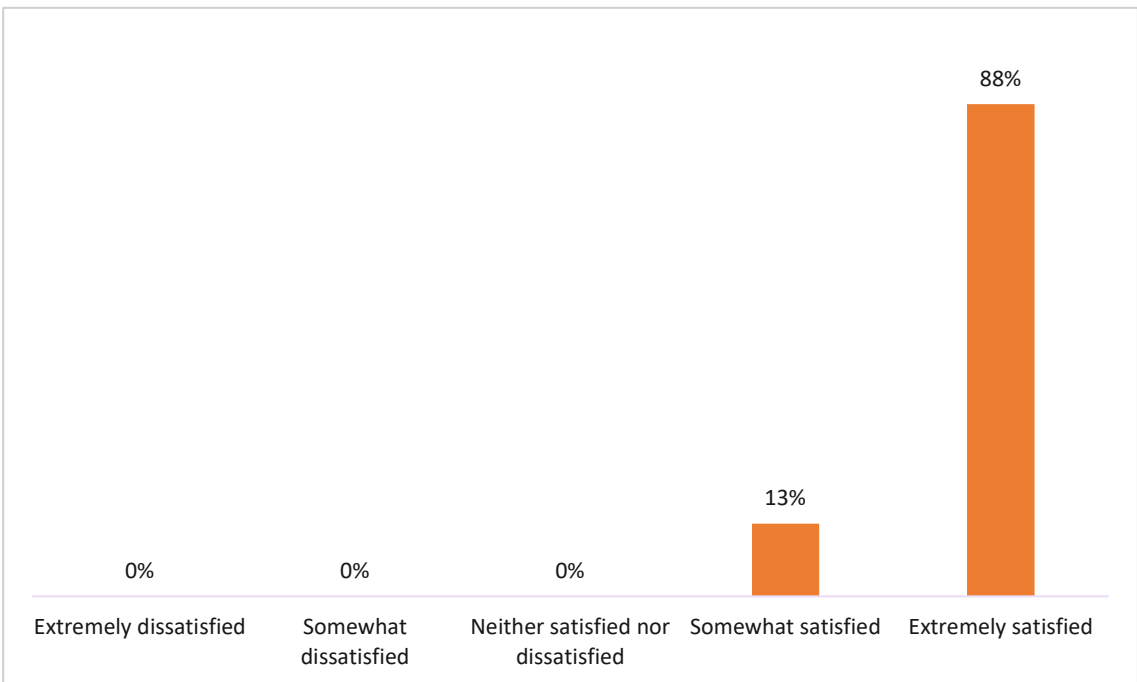


Figure 4. Respondents' rating of their satisfaction with the access and responses they had with their FRIENDS coordinator. (n = 32)



Advancing Equity

Table 2. Additional Resources Needed to Better Address Equity Issues (n = 32)

Additional Resources Needed	n	%
Curated resources	15	47%
Webinar trainings offered by experienced consultants	22	69%
In-person training or technical assistance provided by experienced consultants	14	44%
Strategic planning assistance	16	50%
Opportunities to interact with other CBCAP leads	14	44%
Other	2	6%
I do not need resources or additional support to address these issues	1	3%

Note. Respondents could select more than one option.



Response

In September 2022, a peer learning call webinar, **Adverse Community Experiences and Resilience Framework**, was offered, with the presentation provided by the Prevention Institute.



<https://friendsnrc.org/resources/september-2022-cbcap-plc-adverse-community-experiences-and-resilience-framework-acer/>

In October 2022, **Welcome to Conscious Anti-Racism Half-Day Training**, a half-day virtual training was provided by Drs. Jill Wener and Maiysha Claiborne.

Friends released a seven-part framework for **Culturally Effective Organizations**. Online tools and resources can be found on the website, and training and TA is available.



<https://friendsnrc.org/prevention/cultural-effectiveness/>

FRIENDS has worked with many states on developing strategic plans over the last year.



Peer Learning Calls

Recommendations to make call more useful included:



**More
opportunities
for small group
discussions**



**Presentations
from peers**



**Providing more
structure**



**Giving notice
further in
advance about
PLC topics**



**Providing
agendas and
learning
outcomes**



Response to make PLC calls more useful

Most of the PLCs this year had peer presentations.

Overview of the scheduled presentation is included in the PLC invitation.

The February 2023 PLC on **Parent Leadership** had small group breakout discussions.

Organizers are also continually working to provide more advance notice of session topics.



Peer Learning Calls

Recommendations for future PLC topics included:



Collaboration



**Works in other
states**



**Family
Resource
Centers**



Response to recommendation for PLC topics

In **December 2022**, we started a four-part quarterly discussion series on Family Resource/Family Support Centers.



<https://friendsnrc.org/resources/family-resource-center-discussion-series-session-1-introduction-to-frcs-and-frc-networks/>

The **Culturally Effective Organizations Framework** incorporates many supports and resources to help with collaboration.

In **August 2022**, six state teams in the second cohort of the PMI went to Baltimore to meet for 2 days, share resources and experiences, and learn from staff, parents, and other partners.

The **Region 3 meeting on March 28-29, 2023**, included a site visit to a Family Resource Center and allowed for directly working and communicating with other states.

The **Building Effective Parent Practitioner Collaborations (BEPPC)** resource is being used with several states, and a workgroup has been reviewing the materials, and making updates since September 2022.



<https://friendsnrc.org/resources/family-resource-center-discussion-series-session-1-introduction-to-frcs-and-frc-networks/>



New State Lead Community of Practice

Suggestions for future topics included:

- Racial equity in rural populations
- Pre-work
- Collaboration strategies
- Data analysis
- Program evaluation
- Sustainability
- Funding

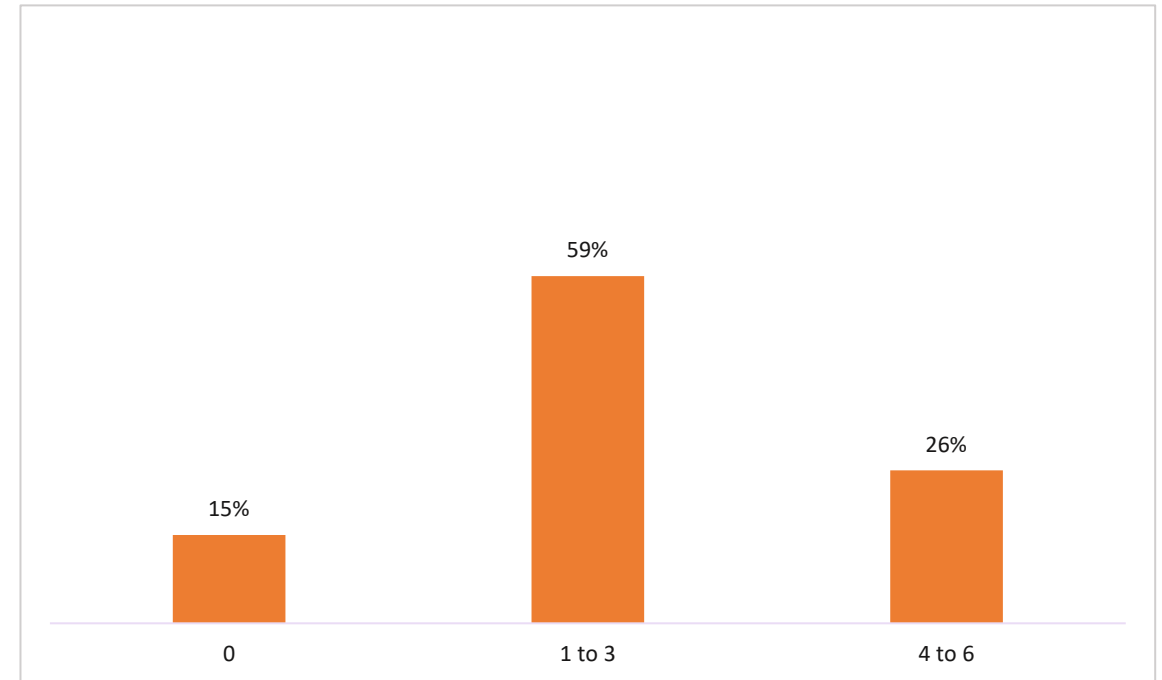


Figure 5. Numbers of New State Lead Community of Practice webinars attended in last 12 months. (n = 27)



Response

September 2022 topic:
**Data Reporting Requirements
– The Efficiency Measure**

January 2023 topic:
**Connecting with State Leads:
Opportunities for Peer
Sharing & Learning**



Discussion Series

Suggestions for future discussion series included:

- Engaging tribal communities
- Building services through community providers around protective factors
- Advancing equity & addressing inequities in the system
- Data-driven decision making
- Special populations (veterans, fathers, relatives, youth, court-involved, homeless/housing insecure)
- Family Resource Centers

Look inside the
FRIENDS media library



<https://friendsnrc.org/media-library/>



Response

In December 2022, we started a four-part quarterly discussion series on Family Resource/Family Support Centers.

A special populations discussion series is starting in June 2023 with a fathers panel.

The second session in the Family Resource Center Discussion Series will be on June 1 and feature Oklahoma Family Resource Centers.



American Rescue Plan Act Funds

Table 3. Respondents' Intended Uses of Supplemental Funds (n = 27)

Intended Use	n	%
Provide concrete supports	19	70%
Enhance work in reducing racial and economic disparities	17	63%
Strengthen parent leadership and family engagement	18	67%
Expand Family Resource Centers/Family Support Centers	19	70%
Develop public awareness	19	70%
Strengthen prevention infrastructure	18	67%
Evaluate program services	13	48%
Increase number evidence-based/evidence-informed prevention programs	9	33%
Provide support to underserved communities	20	74%
Other	3	11%

Note. Respondents could select more than one option.



American Rescue Plan Act Funds

Anticipated challenges:

- Legislative changes
- Workforce challenges
- Competing priorities and projects
- Engagement
- Sustainability



Response

Funding was discussed during several webinars and strategic planning sessions with individual states.

These topics also were discussed during the regional calls held throughout the country over the last 12 months.

TA Coordinators hold regular check-in calls with most State Lead Agencies and these topics arose during some of the check-in meetings.



Regional Meetings

More than half of respondents (**58%**) indicated that if FRIENDS offered trainings in 2023 and 2024 for multiple grantees to attend together in person, they would be interested in attending and paying for their travel expenses. Thirty-five percent were unsure, and 6% said they would not be interested (n = 31).

Table 4. Topics of Interest for Regional Meetings (n = 31)

Topic	n	%
Outcome accountability and evaluation	10	32%
Building effective parent and practitioner collaborations	3	10%
Selecting the best evidence-based or evidence-informed programs for target population	0	0%
Culturally effective organizations – a framework and resources	7	23%
Storytelling and program messaging	5	16%
Other	4	13%



Response

Outcome accountability and evaluation was a topic in some of the regional meetings this year.

FRIENDS is offering a national training on outcome accountability and evaluation in September 2023, which will be held in the central part of the country and open to a limited number of interested states.

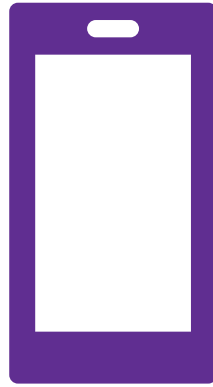


Multi-Year Comparison of Needs Assessment Results

Topic	2019	2020	2021	2022
CBCAP State Leads	<ul style="list-style-type: none">32 respondents28% < 2 years as SL38% 2-5 years as SL16% 6-10 years as SL19% > 10 years as SL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">43 respondents42% < 2 years as SL28% 2-5 years as SL16% 6-10 years as SL14% > 10 years as SL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">32 respondents38% < 2 years as SL41% 2-5 years as SL13% 6-10 years as SL9% > 10 years as SL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">34 respondents64% <= 2 years as SL21% 3-5 years as SL12% 6-10 years as SL3% > 10 years as SL
Training/Technical Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">87% received T/TA93% were satisfied with T/TA94% were satisfied with Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">92% received T/TA92% were satisfied with T/TA97% were satisfied with Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">100% received T/TA97% were satisfied with T/TA100% were satisfied with Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">97% received T/TA100% were satisfied with T/TA100% were satisfied with Coordinator

Previewing the 2023 Needs Assessment

Participate in our Live Poll!



All you need
is your phone!

Text ETEAMADMIN817
to **22333** once to join

What is your role?

State CBCAP Lead

CBCAP
Tribal/Migrant
Programs

Parent
Leader/Caregiver

CBCAP Local
Program

Other State
CBCAP Staff

Other

How long have you been in your current role?

Less than 1 year

1 - 2 years

3 - 5 years

6 - 10 years

More than 10 years

How far has your state gone in shifting to a prevention mindset?

We are seeing SUBSTANTIAL systems changes (i.e. policies are changing, mindsets are focused on community and family strengthening, not surveillance, state offices are collaborating)

We are seeing A FEW systems changes (i.e. some recognition that the system is flawed, a few policies supportive of families have been instituted)

We are seeing NO systems changes (i.e. conditions are not changing, family voices are not included)

 Text **ETeamADMIN817** to **22333** once to join

What is the TOP WAY the Children's Bureau or FRIENDS can support further collaborations with child welfare agencies and family-strengthening organizations?

Provide information on existing child protection and family strengthening collaboratives.

Create opportunities for learning discussions with child protection and family-strengthening organizations.

Provide resources that include information on other states' strategies your state may be able to adapt.

Other

What are additional ways FRIENDS can support further collaborations with child welfare agencies and family-strengthening organizations?

Are CBCAP staff in your state engaging in work to address anti-racism, disproportionality, LGBTQ+ prejudice, or similar issues related to advancing equity?

Yes , we have a good start.

Yes, we are doing a little.

No , not yet.

Not sure.

If yes, are there any examples you would like to share about what is being done?

If not, what are some of the obstacles to work starting?

 Text **ETEAMADMIN817** to **22333** once to join

FRIENDS hosts and facilitates multiple events every year, including monthly Peer Learning Calls (PLCs), regional meetings, and discussion series. Please indicate topics you would be most interested in learning about during these events over the next year

Co-designing between parents and practitioners: what does it look like?

Prevention strategies used by states to contribute to systems change.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Storytelling: how to tell the prevention story to improve services and systems and contribute to policy changes.

Public Awareness

Collaborating across services and child welfare systems change.

Neglect versus poverty – identifying the differences and helping programs to better support families.

Selecting and implementing evidence-based practices.

Outcome accountability—creating an evaluation plan and evaluating services.

I have another topic idea.

What other topic ideas would you be interested in learning about over the next year?

Do you have any efforts that you would like to share with your CBCAP peers?

QUESTIONS?





Thank you!

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*Scan to save
contact info to
your phone.*