



# Asking for Help is a Sign of Strength

Changing Social Norms about Help Seeking as a Prevention Strategy





## **Our Presenters**



Valerie Spiva Collins Director, FRIENDS National Center for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention



Valerie Lebanion Parent Leader, Community Collaboration for Children



Sasha Rasco Associate

Commissioner for Prevention and Early Intervention at the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (TDFPS)



Nilofer Ahsan Lead, Knowledge and Partnerships Children's Bureau Learning and Coordination Center

### The Prevention Mindset Institute: Embracing Prevention Across Systems



**FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP** is coordinating this initiative and is funded by the Children's Bureau within ACF, USDHHS. FRIENDS is the training and TA provider for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) grantees.

National Partners

Action 4 Child Protection







**Parent Leaders** 









Ohio

South Carolina

Texas

Wyoming

## What's the Work?

#### **Activities:**

- Quarterly meetings strategic conversations
- Quarterly newsletter ideas and one question
- Individual TA available from national partners and TA staff
- Two-day Institute planned for all partners



#### **Outputs and Outcomes:**

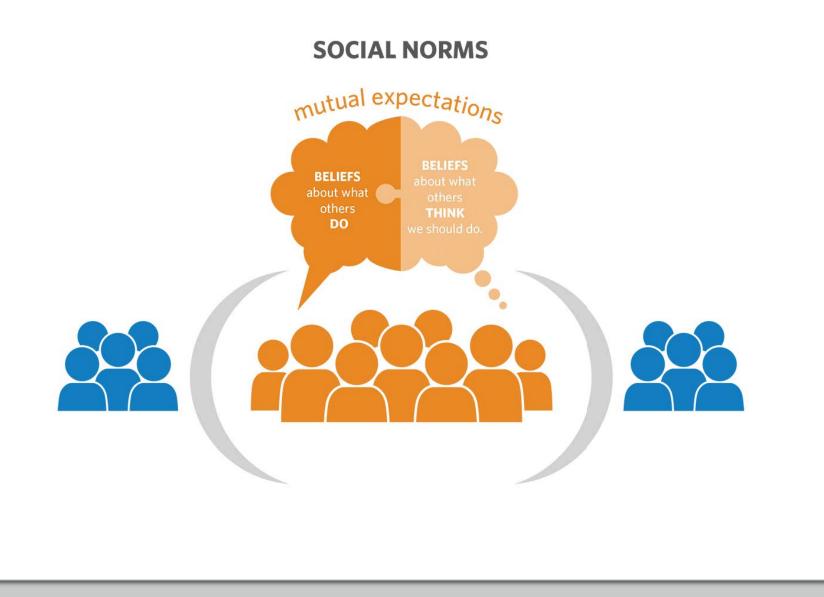
- Compiling lessons learned through states' work to share with other states
- A webpage with resources
- Bolster work of 6 states
- Meaningful contributions to diverse efforts to restructure CWS at local, state, and national level

## **Two Themes:**

How do our communities change the social norms around help-seeking as a prevention strategy?

How do we arrive at a shared definition of prevention?

Will hear a good deal from Texas and Kentucky today and can share some thinking from other states as well. The term is widely used by primary and secondary preventionists and is now also used at the tertiary level, referencing changes led by FFSPA. All states and most organizations in our field are struggling with how to best convey our purposes. Social Norms as a Tool for Change



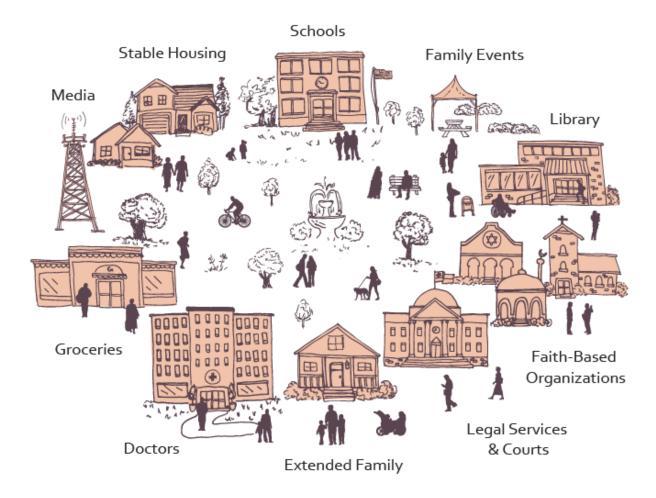
Graphic from: *Understanding social norms: A reference guide for policy and practice.* https://sites.Tufts.Edu/ihs/files/2019/10/sn\_corruptionrefguide\_aug2019-linked.Mr\_.Pdf

## Why Focus on Help Seeking

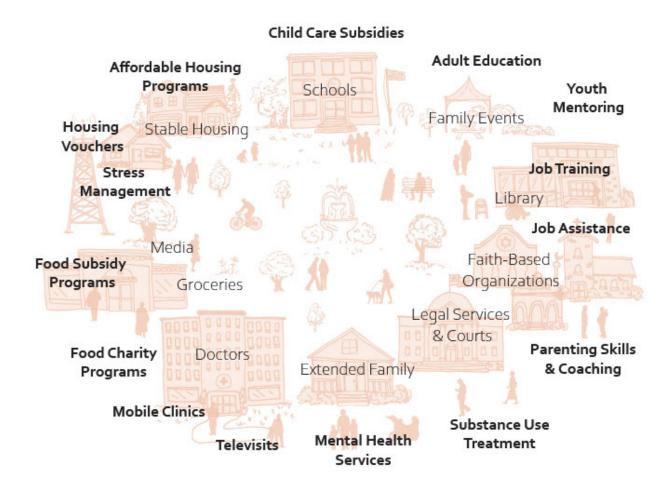
"Don't be afraid to ask questions. Don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it. I do that every day. Asking for help isn't a sign of weakness, it's a sign of strength. It shows you have the courage to admit when you don't know something, and to learn something new." — Barack Obama



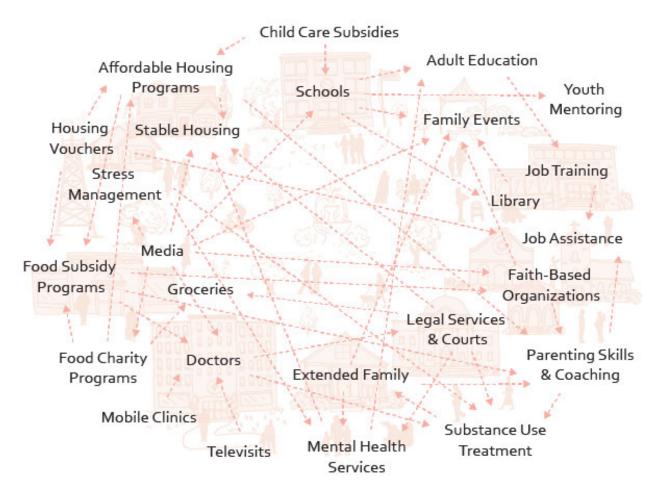
## We all benefit from community support. A community functioning in a strong and healthy way is all that many families need to succeed.



Strong communities work to address the hard obstacles families can face by helping families find solutions or by working together as a community to remove the obstacle.



Strong communities do not just have solutions for families, they have connected resources and solutions that are responsive to changing needs of families.



What barriers do parents face when trying to get help?

## **Re-imagining Our Public Outreach Campaign**



- Started with a Tertiary prevention message
- The tone still implies a rescue
- While we shifted to more positive advertisements, there was still a sense that you were doing something wrong

## GetParentingTips.com

- Matched how parents were searching
- Parents want more in-depth advice that is realistic
- Longer articles, written by/with experts
- New articles added monthly

GetPar	entingTips.co	m			<u>En Español</u>		٩
BABIES	TODDLERS	KIDS	TWEENS & TEENS	ALL AGES	PARENTS	POPULAR TOPICS	FIND LOCAL SUPPORT

### The Best Gift You Can Give Is Time.

We are here to help you find that balance.



#### GetParentingTips.com



THEFTIN A TETTO





13



GetParentingTips.com

Raising a family is one of the biggest jobs parents can face. We have topics that can help with understanding child development, keeping your kids healthy, tackling discipline, and ensuring you are in the know on how to keep your kids safe.

#### **Popular Topics**



A child's first five years of development are critical.

Health

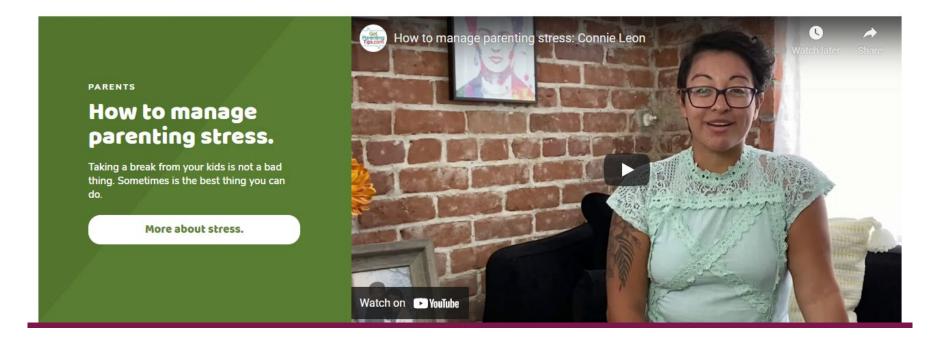
Teach your child healthy habits.



When kids act out it can be tough, but the key is to remain calm and consistent.

ips.com

## GetParentingTips.com



## **Online Support for Families**

#### **Common Parenting Challenges**



BABIES Making a Family Calendar

Making a daily schedule for babies can keep your whole family on track.



#### TODDLERS Handling Toddler Tantrums

Losing your cool over toddler tantrums? We have mom-tested tips to help.



#### TWEENS & TEENS Setting Boundaries for Teen Behavior

Ten tips to stop rude teen behavior like backtalking, slamming doors, and more.

Online Support for Families

#### **Find Local Support**

These services are offered by local agencies under contract to the <u>Prevention and Early Intervention</u> division of the Texas Department of Family & Protective Services. These programs offer services to parents and children to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect. To learn more more about our programs, <u>visit our website</u>.

Select Your County

V

#### WATER SAFETY

#### Keep water activities fun and safe for all

Some of the best family memories involve time near the water. No matter where you are, water can be fun if you pay attention and be safe.

More about Water Safety



## Don't ask parents what they need. Ask them how you can help.

Lived Experience To Guide Our Approach



## **Bright Spots**

We invite our participants to share success stories about work you or others are doing that you think can really impact the norms around help seeking.

## Resources

- Prevention Mindset Institute, FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP <u>https://friendsnrc.org/cbcap/prevention-mindset-institute/</u>
- GetParentingTips.com, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services <u>https://getparentingtips.com/</u>
- Find Help with a Personal Situation, Child Welfare Information Gateway <u>https://www.childwelfare.gov/aboutus/find-help/</u>
- Changing norms and transforming cultures, The Montana Institute <u>https://www.montanainstitute.com/</u>
- WE CAN, CBLCC social media messages targeted toward parents and families; adapt with your organization's message. <u>https://cblcc.acf.hhs.gov/shareablemedia/we-can/</u>



## Join us on April 27!



Commemorate #NCAPM with the Children's Bureau's Associate Commissioner

### Race Equity within Our Prevention Work

April 27, 2021, 2–3:30 PM EDT



Register: <a href="https://kauffmaninc.adobeconnect.com/ncapmapril272021/event/event\_info.html">https://kauffmaninc.adobeconnect.com/ncapmapril272021/event/event\_info.html</a>

## Discussion

Please type your questions into the chat box.

## Thank You!

#### Valerie Spiva Collins

friends@friendsnrc.org

friendsnrc.org

#### Valerie Lebanion

vlebanion@gmail.com

Sasha Rasco

Sasha.Rasco@dfps.texas.gov





cblcc.acf.hhs.gov

fy