

Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Strategic Plan

Draft Vision, Principles and Goals

Vision:

- All of Iowa's children will be healthy and safe from child maltreatment.

Guiding Principles:

- **Impact** – We prioritize prevention work that has the greatest impact on families and communities, including approaches that reach those most vulnerable to maltreatment and services that provide the strongest evidence of effectiveness.
- **Cultural Competence** – We engage diverse stakeholders to plan and implement prevention activities and provide those activities in a manner in which families can relate.
- **Collaboration** – We stretch our universe to encompass various disciplines and providers working together and target interventions based on the needs and risk factors identified by each community to prevent child maltreatment.
- **Data-driven decision-making** – We evaluate prevention services for their effectiveness and modify programs to achieve continuous quality improvement.
- **Innovation** – We support innovative practices and new, emerging interventions.

Strategic Plan Goals:

Timeframes will be placed on the following goals and strategies to create short-, mid-, and long-term goals

Goal 1: Reduce child maltreatment by targeting risk factors presented by families which are most closely correlated with abuse and neglect.

This means having information available for any gateway service that addresses the conditions of poverty, teen births, low birthweight, domestic violence, adverse childhood experience, mental illness and substance abuse.

- a. Identify resources for each of these areas for the whole state and provide them to all ICAPP and CBCAP grantees to share with families.
- b. Coordinate with the 2-1-1 United Way and Family Support Network services available throughout Iowa for making family referrals.
- c. Develop innovative strategies and partnerships to reach families such as integrating prevention services into existing programming, and removing barriers to services such as child care and transportation.

Goal 2: Coordinate maltreatment prevention funding sources across multiple service sectors (e.g., public health, early childhood, human services) to use each source strategically in combatting abuse and neglect.

This means working collaboratively across funding sources to identify common goals, target services and quality standards using the needs assessment and strategic plan as a starting point.

- a. Use ICAPP and CBCAP funding to complement the programming handsomely funded by other sources (e.g., early childhood and home visiting).
- b. Promote CPPC and council membership so that families and stakeholders from all service sectors are represented and active throughout the state.
 - 1. Build the capacity of parents and other family members to contribute to the planning and implementation of prevention services in their communities.
- c. Streamline the funding application process for provider organizations similar to a common college application process serving multiple funding streams.

Goal 3: Balance funding between primary and secondary prevention with a greater emphasis on reaching more vulnerable families.

- a. Employ a 70-30 split for CBCAP/ICAPP funding between programs that target high risk groups and those with universal audiences.
- b. Target some primary prevention activities to the reduction of stigma associated with seeking help.

Goal 4: Embed culturally competent practices in prevention services.

- a. Expand the prevention service work-force so that it is more culturally representative of the people being served.
- b. Provide services in settings that are culturally representative of the people being served.
- c. All CBCAP and ICAPP grantees should:
 - 1. Do a cultural competence self-assessment
 - 2. Adopt and demonstrate culturally competent standards of practice.
 - 3. Conduct a trauma-informed agency assessment to assure that they are not compounding the harm of ACES.

Goal 5: Increase the use of informal and non-stigmatizing supports for families and youth.

- a. Develop or adopt peer mentor or family support programs that are based on informal supports.
- b. Encourage community events which involve all family members that are fun and non-stigmatizing.

- c. Help communities engage and support families in a manner that addresses their particular identified needs.

Goal 6: Increase the use of evidence-based practices (EBPs) in child maltreatment while introducing and evaluating innovative approaches.

- a. Increase the programs using only EBPs from 40 percent to 65 percent.
- b. Identify a single standard or rubric to identify evidence-based practices and innovative interventions and adopt it across funding sources.
 - 1. Develop a menu of EBPs for selection by ICAPP and CBCAP grantees as well as standards for identifying and selecting innovative approaches.
- c. Provide funding to support evidence-based curricula at a group rate for all groups that want to implement common programs, thus reducing the cost for individual programs.
- d. Assure evidence-based practices are delivered with fidelity.
 - 1. Build the capacity of prevention providers to monitor and report on fidelity.

Goal 7: Engage in a robust statewide evaluation of prevention services' effectiveness, monitoring protective and risk factors at the organization and community-level.

- a. Use one or more common measurement tools (e.g., the Protective Factors Survey, Life Skills Progression) across all child maltreatment prevention services and share data for statewide evaluation.
 - 1. Establish data sharing agreements between programs using the Protective Factors Survey and a common set of standards for administration of the surveys.