



STRONG FAMILIES
Families raise their children in safe, stable and nurturing homes

OBJECTIVES

1. Enhance the system of effective family support and strengthening programs.
2. Reduce the number of children who are abused and neglected, and exposed to other forms of violence in their homes.
3. Increase the number of families who participate in programs that build and enhance protective factors that promote optimal development and reduce ACES.
4. Increase the percentage of parents and other caregivers with skills to use effective and appropriate discipline regarding their children’s behavioral issues.
5. Reduce the number of women who experience physical or psychological intimate partner violence, including during pregnancy.
6. Increase the availability of cross-professional training and technical assistance to organizations to provide a comprehensive approach to child and family needs.
7. Increase public awareness regarding the value of effective programs aimed at young children and their families.

PRIORITY STRATEGIES

- Targeted intensive and/or clinical family support services, including home visiting and trauma-informed care.
- Communication and awareness strategies including 2-1-1, public service announcements, bus boards, social media platforms, print, radio and television.
- Models that improve the relationship between parents and their children and keeping homes safe (e.g., SafeCare, Protective Factors).
- Community-focused and school-based hubs such as family resource centers that offer a comprehensive range of services to children and families, including information and referral, education classes, case management, home visits, screenings and services, and mental health counseling.
- Concrete support for basic needs such as food, clothing, housing, transportation, and access to essential services that address family-specific needs.
- Professional development for service providers to help families build and draw on natural support networks within their family and community.

COMMUNITY LEVEL INDICATORS

- Proportion of parents with improvement in self-assessed protective factors
- Proportion of parents who report improving positive parenting skills
- Number of substantiated cases of abuse and neglect per 1,000 children aged 0-5
- Percent of children ages 0-5 whose parents read books with them every day
- Number of 2-1-1 calls that connect to community referrals

