

Connecticut Early Childhood Partners 2009 Goals

Goal 1: To expand the number of pediatric practices and clinics providing medical homes for all children, particularly those with special health care needs.

- **Objective 1:** Develop and maintain a medical home provider network of at least five (5) new pediatric practices per year.
 - Collaborate with contractors in Connecticut's Medical Home Initiative for CYSHCN to present workshops for pediatric primary care providers delivered in the five statewide regions utilizing resources.

Responsibility: DPH CYSHCN Program, CT Medical Home Initiative for CYSHCN

- **Objective 2:** By June 2010, provide technical assistance and/or training to 500 parents and families through the CT Medical Home Initiative for CYSHCN
 - Publish and disseminate *Get Creative About Respite* and *Directions: Resources for Your Child's Care*, a manual that allows families to organize information about health, education and community resources
 - Assist families with the development and use of comprehensive care plans and how to integrate with other community systems and support groups serving CYSHCN
 - Provide emergency preparedness planning for CYSHCN and transition planning for youth with special health care needs.

Responsibility: DPH CYSHCN Program, CT Medical Home Initiative for CYSHCN, pediatric providers, Family Support Network, United Way Child Development Infoline

Goal 2: To increase the number of parents and providers trained and participating in their communities as advocates for children.

- **Objective 1:** By December 2009, train 50 parents in five (5) communities statewide through Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI) programs funded by the Parent Trust Act. The PLTI teaches parents to advocate for their children on school and other community boards and how to foster more positive outcomes by becoming involved in the legislative process.

Responsibility: Connecticut Commission on Children

- **Objective 2:** By August 2009, provide one (1) Ages & Stages (A&S) Train the Trainer workshop on the A&S Basic and A&S Social-Emotional questionnaires to 20 pediatric care providers to better equip parents to partner with practitioners to identify potential developmental delays.

Responsibility: Children's Trust Fund

- **Objective 3:** By December 2009, train 50 parents enrolled in WIC to serve as advocates for meeting the oral health needs for children and families.
 - Develop oral health advocacy curriculum including a pre/post test evaluation for WIC parents
 - In collaboration with DPH-funded WIC sites, train 50 parents as oral health advocates
 - Conduct five (5) oral health advocacy trainings per year at local WIC sites
 - Provide oral health information to the Commission on Children for distribution to parents during their Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI)
 - Invite 10 parents trained in advocacy to oral health events throughout the state and provide incentives to participate.

Responsibility: DPH Office of Oral Health, WIC Program, Commission on Children

Goal 3: To meet the developmental needs of children through access to comprehensive health, mental health and education consultation for families and early care and education providers.

- **Objective 1:** By February 2010, support Child Care Health Consultation (CCHC) in the state and provide technical assistance and support to 100 consultants
 - Provide five or six-day CCHC training presented by the Connecticut Nurses Association in each of the three years through a DPH contract utilizing the CCHC training program based on the DHHS, MCHB, and University of North Carolina National Training Institute (NTI) curriculum.
 - Participate in Leadership Team monthly meetings. The team, which includes the ECP Coordinator, CNA's Senior Consultant on child health initiatives, the DPH liaison to Healthy Child Care CT, the Executive Director of CNA, and the Director of the CT Head Start State Collaboration Office, monitors the progress of various CCHC initiatives and strategizes the best use of limited resources for the enhancement of CCHC projects.
 - Write articles for the quarterly publication Connecticut Nursing News that is delivered to 55,000 Registered Nurses and Legislators in the state
 - Expand DPH database to include all health consultants.

Responsibility: CT Nurses' Association, HCC-CT, DPH Child Care Licensing

- **Objective 2:** By December 2009, build the child care health consultation workforce utilizing three (3) different approaches through implementation of strategic communications initiatives and networking.
 - Host two (2) educational/support opportunities for health consultants and include invitations to professionals working on asthma, injury prevention, CYSHCN, lead and environmental health
 - Write articles for the quarterly publication Connecticut Nursing News that is delivered to 55,000 Registered Nurses and Legislators in the state
 - Disseminate regulatory, standards, accreditation and problem-solving information.

Responsibility: CT Nurses' Association, HCC-CT, DPH

- **Objective 3:** By September 2010, provide support for Mental Health Consultation in the state through the Early Childhood Consultation Partnership (ECCP) in order to build the infrastructure of a mental health consultation system, and to provide early care and education training, technical assistance and support to 20 mental health consultants.
 - By December 2009, facilitate twelve (12) Community Based Mental Health Consultation Networking Meetings throughout the state, which are open to all early childhood providers. Membership includes teachers, directors, family child care providers, Department of Children and Families (DCF) case workers, and Birth to Three providers. The groups provide consultation, training, and networking opportunities for those working with young children.
 - By June 2010, provide six (6) Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Services trainings to Head Start and Early Head Start Programs based on the ECCP model
 - Participate in six (6) DCF-Head Start Partnership meetings, serving as a resource on early childhood mental health and wellness
 - Provide information through the ECCP Classroom Service to early care and education workers about enhancing young children's social and emotional wellness (as requested by CT Charts a Course).

Responsibility: Department of Children and Families

- **Objective 4:** By February 2011, support infant/early childhood mental health and parent-child attachment by developing a pediatric workforce of 15 providers that will be qualified to provide culturally sensitive, relationship-focused infant and young child mental health services.
 - Conduct a planning meeting to explore competencies that describe the knowledge, skills and experience required to support infant/early childhood mental health and parent-child attachment.
 - Conduct a needs assessment of early childhood mental health providers through focus groups and surveys to determine the supply of mental health services for families of young children ages 0–5.
 - Review and modify existing curricula for Connecticut providers and develop an outline of training needs.
 - Train five practices in reflective supervision with support from mentors qualified to provide culturally sensitive, relationship-focused infant and young child mental health services.

Responsibility: Connecticut Children’s Trust Fund

Goal 4: To meet the developmental needs of children through the increase of perinatal depression screenings among postpartum mothers.

- **Objective 1:** By May 2010, ensure positive mother/child relationships through training of 10 pediatricians, OB/GYNs and other providers on how to identify and treat perinatal depression.
 - Promote the use of a perinatal depression provider consultative line staffed by Yale University mental health clinicians. This consultative line provides consultation, information and resources on the symptoms and treatment options.
 - Develop an online perinatal depression training that is available for all healthcare providers nationwide and post on the DPH website
 - Modify contract language to include screening for perinatal depression in at least two (2) Maternal and Child Health (Healthy Start and Healthy Choices for Women and Children) programs
 - Monitor the number of health care providers utilizing the Perinatal Depression Provider Line and/or participating in the online training.

Responsibility: DPH, Yale University School of Medicine’s Perinatal Depression Program, United Way of CT

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