



Implementing an Evidence-Based Program in a Diverse Community—Lessons Learned

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Background

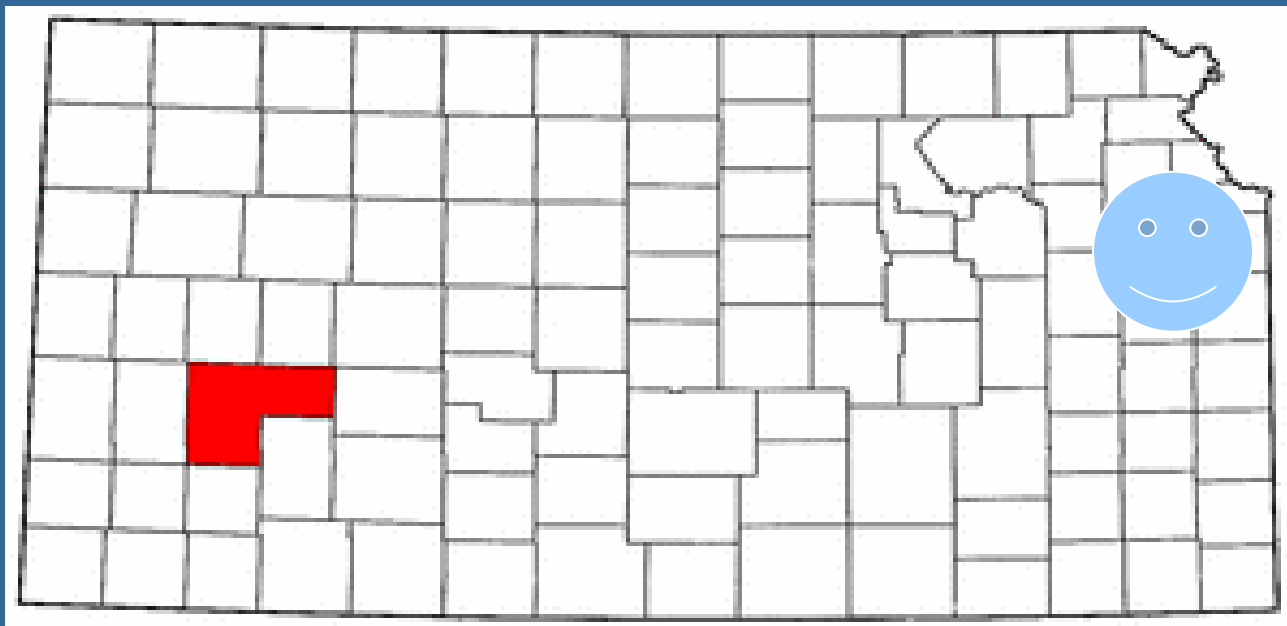


Project Launch



- Birth through age 8
- Goal: For all children to reach physical, social, emotional, behavioral, and cognitive milestones.

Finney County, Kansas



Finney County Demographics



- Pop. 40,000
- Diverse population
- 22 languages spoken in schools
- Tyson Beef Packing largest employer

Incredible Years—Basic

- **Preschool/Early Childhood BASIC Series (Ages 3-6 Years)**
- Strengthening Children's Social Skills, Emotional Regulation and School Readiness Skills
- Using Praise and Incentives to Encourage Cooperative Behavior
- Positive Discipline - Rules, Routines and Effective Limit Setting
- Positive Discipline - Handling Misbehavior

Finney County Implementation

- Increase number of families participating in culturally competent evidence based parent education programs.
- Develop a community model to sustain efforts
- Spread cost
- Engage diverse population

Implementation Drivers



Staff selection

- Hire IY Coordinator to manage groups, training, adaptations, fidelity, evaluation, resources
- Develop implementation team of trainers and agency representatives

Training

- Two-day onsite training from developers
- Facilitator materials
- Trained 22 participants (12 in Finney County-4 bilingual)
- Cross-agency training for facilitator depth and diversity

Coaching

- Ongoing consultation from developer about adaptations
- Implementation Team

Administrative Support

- Organizational infrastructure to provide facilitators, meeting space, child care, background process, fiscal agent.
- Implementation team addresses logistics and problem solves, and provides communication mechanism

Systems Intervention

- Several agencies partnering to deliver IY
- All agencies recruit for groups through school & community functions
- Coordinate with other programs offering family services
- Radio broadcasts, including 1 hour show in Spanish
- Community recruitment plan to engage Somali and Burmese populations
- University partnership

Program Evaluation

- IY Coordinator responsible for fidelity assessments across groups and trainers
- Trainers use fidelity checklist each week
- Pre/post evaluation, including protective factors (PFS) and knowledge of child development
- Lessons learned shared with Implementation Team

Challenges and Lessons Learned



Challenges

- Stigma of parenting classes
- Length of class—14 weeks
- Significant amount of paper work
- Literacy of parents and materials
- Translation issues
- Coordinating groups with parent work schedules

Lessons Learned

- Conduct weekly check-ins with parents/grandparents, phone buddy
- Choose locations that reduce barriers to participation
- Utilize implementation team for collaboration and coordination of parent education
- Allow adequate time for recruiting activities and logistic planning
- Have mental health consultant at groups as needed for children having behavioral concerns

Lessons Learned

- Early Involvement and Buy-In from Local Community
- Flexibility and Adaptation

Contact Information

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Thank you!