

EBHV Connector



Online Newsletter for Supporting Evidence-Based Home Visiting to Prevent Child Maltreatment Grantees
Prepared by the FRIENDS NRCCBCAP



In the Spotlight: Le Bonheur Community Health and Well-Being

Le Bonheur Community Health and Well-Being, a division of Le Bonheur Children's Hospital in Memphis TN, embraced the EBHV grant as a major opportunity to build community infrastructure to support services for families with young children. The EBHV grant provided a vehicle to mobilize the private and public sectors through the creation of the Early Success Coalition (ESC), a broad-based collaborative dedicated to improving the lives of families with young children. Over 70 public and private, local, State, and Federal agencies and groups have participated in the development of the ESC and are led by co-chairs from Le Bonheur and from the county mayor's Office of Early Childhood and Youth.

The ESC operates with a Steering Committee, Core Leadership Group, and nine work groups. Work groups address concerns such as: measuring outcomes, data collection, early childcare and education, infant mortality, fatherhood, funding and public policy, teen pregnancy prevention and support, public awareness, and coordinating outreach and referral. The Early Success Providers Network (ESPN) has organized pri-



EARLY SUCCESS COALITION

transforming services for young children

mary providers of home visitation and clinic based services for pregnant women, mothers and their children and developed a "no wrong door" outreach and referral process to best match services to a family's needs. The ESPN is educating community partners about issues including housing, education, mental health providers, and welfare, to enable them to connect families to the ESPN primary services.

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Upcoming Events

March
3/16 3pm ET--EBHV Peer Learning Network
Call: EBHV Updates

April
4/30 Semiannual Progress Reports Due

FPO Corner: A Federal Update

Dear Grantees,

We hope that this edition of the newsletter finds you all doing well and hopefully seeing the first signs of spring! It has been a pleasure to speak with many of you during our check-in calls over the last few months. These calls have allowed us to get a more in-depth look at the current status of your program, and have served as another reminder of the exciting and important work that you all continue to do on a daily basis. Based on the information that you have shared with us during these calls, we know that the remainder of this year will be very busy as you continue to move forward by expanding or strengthening your service provision, adding new staff members, building new community

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In the Spotlight: Le Bonheur

Le Bonheur is implementing NFP as the home visitation model in the EBHV grant. Rapid enrollment has resulted in hiring two more nurses and increasing program capacity from 100 to 150. Through the EBHV grant, Le Bonheur's NFP has been enhanced through the addition of a mental health component. A psychologist acts as a consultant to the NFP nurses and provides

guidance, support, and education on mental health issues that clients are experiencing. Visit us at www.earlysuccesscoalition.com.

This article was submitted by Ruth Hamblen, Prevention Services Manager at LeBonheur Center for Children and Parents. &



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FPO Corner: A Federal Update

partnerships, or carrying out your planned evaluation activities. The OCAN staff have been busy as well working in collaboration with the HRSA and ACF staff to support the implementation of the new Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program. We will continue to keep you updated on our efforts in this area and look forward to hearing how you are partnering with the MIECHV Lead Agencies in your States.

In addition to the activities that you all have planned for the coming months, we would also like to share with you some information about exciting upcoming events that may be of interest to you and your staff. One such event is National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day, which will take place on May 3rd. This national event is organized by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and seeks to raise awareness about the importance

of children's mental health, and that positive mental health is essential to a child's healthy development from birth. Communities around the country will participate by holding their own Awareness Day events, focusing either on the national theme, or adapting the theme to the populations they serve. For additional information about this event, and to learn about how your community can get involved, please visit <http://www.samhsa.gov/children/>.

As you all are aware, April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. This annual event provides numerous opportunities to raise public awareness of child abuse and neglect, and to promote community involvement through State and local activities. To learn more about this event, including ways to engage your community and promote awareness of child abuse and neglect issues, a calendar of related activities, and information on additional ways to get involved, visit <http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth/>.

Lastly, you should also be aware that this year's annual grantees meeting will take place June 20-22 in Alexandria, Virginia in conjunction with the *Preventing Child Maltreatment and Promoting Well-Being: Network for Action Meeting*. Please see the "Save the Dates" section of this newsletter on Page 7 for additional information about these exciting events.

If you have questions or would like additional information about any of these events, please feel free to contact your FPO. We look forward to seeing many of you soon, and to working with all of you throughout the remainder of this exciting and busy year!

*Melissa Brodowski,
Charisse Johnson,
Jean Nussbaum, & Lauren Kass
Federal Project Officers*



Family Focus:

Celebrating the Successes of EBHV Clients

This new section of the EBHV Connector aims to highlight the successes of families served throughout EBHV programs. One success story will be shared in each upcoming edition of the newsletter. If you would like to submit a success story of a family that has been served by your EBHV program, please contact Lauren Kass at Lauren.kass@acf.hhs.gov. This month's success story comes to us from Child and Family Tennessee's Project Babies program.



Pregnancy can be a difficult time in a woman's life, especially as a young immigrant with little or no resources and no family support system on-hand.

This is reality for "Annie," who moved to Knoxville in August of 2010 following an arranged marriage in India to a university graduate student. Annie and her husband are expecting in March. Because her husband is in the U.S. on a student visa, he is unable to work to provide for Annie and their unborn child. The couple was referred to Child & Family Tennessee's Nurse Family Partnership program, *Project Babies*, by the Knox County Health Department.

When Annie lived in India, she was part of a higher social class and had many friends and family members to support her. Now that she lives in Knoxville, facing poverty and isolation, Annie looks forward to the interaction she shares with Nurse Angeline. At first, Annie and her husband were unwilling to open up about their struggles with moving to the United States. The couple was also very fearful to ask for help or to ask the wrong questions.

It was their belief that either


of those things could impact the status of their immigration.

In January 2011, the couple faced an additional challenge when paying student fees to the university depleted their funds, making it impossible to pay their rent. Annie was unaware of their financial situation until the last minute when her husband reluctantly shared it with her. She immediately contacted Nurse Angeline who has become Annie's go-to person. Angeline is working with the couple to assure them that asking for help is not shameful and will not negatively impact their visa status. Annie and Angeline went together to visit multiple agencies and church groups that partner with *Project Babies*. Annie was empowered to gather enough money to pay their rent.

Nurse Angeline continues to empower Annie to speak up, ask questions, and seek the resources she needs. Annie and her husband are now involved with a local pregnancy resource center that offers classes as well as supplies for expectant families. Additionally, Angeline located free individual and couples counseling with a local Indian therapist. She is working with the couple to overcome many of the cultural unknowns they are experiencing.

Annie has gained confidence, is interested in becoming involved with the community, and wants to eventually pursue the additional education she needs to continue her work as a Physical Therapist. Nurse Angeline counts it as a huge success that, after helping the couple pay their rent, Annie's husband sent her a heartfelt message of thanks.

Annie and her husband have a long road ahead; however, with the support of Child & Family Tennessee's *Project Babies* program, their Nurse Home Visitor Angeline, and the community, their path will be bright and paved with success.

This article was submitted by Laura Denton, Program Evaluator at Child and Family Tennessee. 



FRIENDS National Resource Center Focus: Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program Grantee Kickoff Meeting and Tribal Early Learning Communities Consortium

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families (ACF), in collaboration with the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), has awarded 13 grants for the Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program. The goal of this home visiting program is to address the diverse needs of at-risk American Indian and Alaska Native children and families.

On January 18-19, 2011 the Administration for Children and Families sponsored the Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program Grantee Kickoff Meeting, which brought together the program's 13 grantees and other Tribal partners. The goals of the meeting were to: 1) clarify the vision and goals of the Tribal Home Visiting Program, 2) provide an opportunity to meet and learn from one another, and 3) provide grantees with a variety of tools and resources to conduct Year 1 activities and to prepare their Implementation Plan.

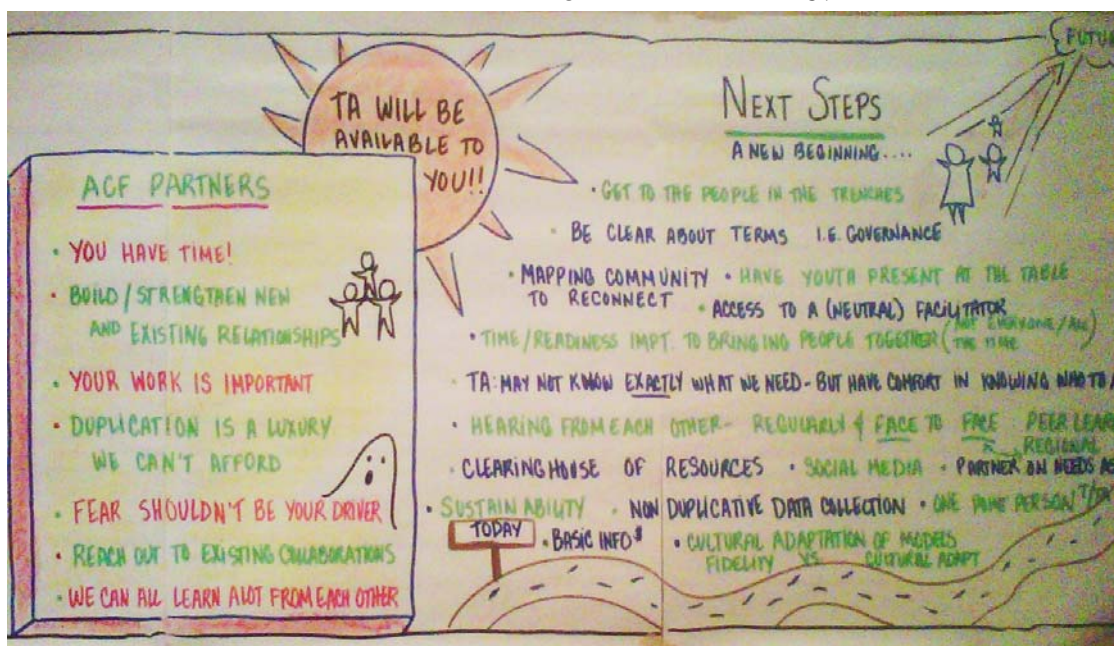
The FRIENDS National Resource Center managed the logistics for the meeting, and FRIENDS staff and part-

ners presented in several of the sessions. The 169 registrants had many stimulating sessions to choose from, including sessions on needs assessments, continuous quality improvement, data management, organizational readiness, recruitment and retention of families, and selecting benchmark indicators and tools. Two *Sharing Your Story* sessions offered grantees an opportunity to meet and learn from each other, begin to build relationships, and find opportunities for peer learning. A working lunch provided the participants with the opportunity to hear from, and meet with, several home visiting model developers with experience in working with Tribal populations.

The Grantee Kickoff Meeting was followed by a Tribal Early Learning Communities Consortium on January 20, 2011. This event engaged several Tribal Home Visiting, Child

Care, and Head Start Grantees in a discussion of the "Early Learning Communities" concept, and how this concept has been and could be applied in Tribal communities and Native populations. The FRIENDS National Resource Center facilitated a Community Café model to support conversations among tribal members. The Cafés used questions designed to solicit input on goals, needed stakeholders, and next steps for these Early Learning Communities. A graphic recording was created that conveys the highlights from this day. A section of this 20-foot graphic recording can be seen in the photo below.

Visit <http://supportingebhv.org/resources/miechv-tribal-grantees-meeting> to view the Tribal Home Visiting Kickoff Meeting agenda, participant list, PowerPoint Slides, and video recordings from selected sessions. &



Cross-site Evaluation News

Mathematica Policy Research and Chapin Hall

Maintaining Fidelity: Lessons Learned from Grantee Experience

Maintaining fidelity to a program's design is critical both for achieving effective outcomes and for taking programs to scale. As discussed during a recent EBHV-sponsored webinar, local agencies implementing national home visiting programs face a number of challenges in ensuring that services are replicated in a manner consistent with model expectations. Presentations by representatives from the Mathematica-Chapin Hall cross-site evaluation team and two of the 17 Supporting Evidence-Based Home Visiting to Prevent Child Maltreatment initiative grantees offered similar advice on how to structure program implementation and evaluation to enhance model fidelity and quality.


The webinar provided an overview of the Mathematica-Chapin Hall cross-site system for documenting the fidelity of home visiting programs being implemented by the 17 grantees, including guidelines for determining a program's initial fidelity and compliance with model standards and indicators for assessing ongoing fidelity at the staff, participant, and service delivery level. In addition, representatives from DePelchin Children's Center in Houston, Texas and St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center in Toledo, Ohio discussed the strategies they have employed in their replication of the Triple P (DePelchin) and Healthy Families America (St. Vincent) models.

Although approaching the issue from different perspectives

and contextual realities, all three presentations underscored three essential strategies for strengthening the fidelity of program replication efforts. These strategies include:

- **In-depth training** for all home visitors and supervisors prior to implementation about the structural and dynamic aspects of the model, which addresses both the content and manner in which services are provided. In many cases, this training involves the direct observation of home visitors interacting with families to ensure quality of the participant-provider interaction and full familiarity with key practice principles.
- **Ongoing supervision** of home visitors to ensure that key practice principles are evident in a provider's interaction with all of her program participants. Key supervisory strategies include direct or taped observations, one-on-one supervisory sessions, and team meetings to review common challenges and potential service enhancements.
- **Consistent documentation** by home visitors and supervisors of all di-

rect service activities, including the content covered during the home visits and the nature of the interaction between the home visitor and the participant. Such documentation is fully integrated into the service delivery process and reflects the importance that a program places on the consistent use of key practice principles.

Replicating evidence-based programs is challenging even when such models are highly specified. The use of these three strategies provides implementing agencies with important tools to ensure consistent adherence to model standards as well as provide early indications of when implementation efforts fall short. The identification of such difficulties offers program planners the opportunity to adjust their implementation approach or, in some cases, create necessary and timely adaptations to the model to fit local participant needs and community context. 



Resources

Mental Health Resources to Explore

Child Welfare Training Toolkit-Helping Child Welfare Workers Support Families with Substance Use, Mental, and Co-Occurring Disorders

National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare

<http://www.ncsacw.samhsa.gov/training/toolkit/default.aspx>

This training package consists of six modules containing a range of materials that can be adapted to meet the needs of child welfare trainers for in-person workshops or training sessions. The modules address a variety of topics aimed at helping workers understand substance use, mental, and co-occurring disorders; engage and intervene with parents experiencing these disorders; and understand the needs of children of parents experiencing these disorders.

Mental Health-Working with Families

Child Welfare Information Gateway

<http://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/mentalhealth/working/>

This site contains resources and helpful links for professionals regarding the provision and monitoring of mental health services for families. Specific information is provided regarding assessment, diagnosis, treatment, support services, secondary trauma, and more.

Strengthening Families through Early Care and Education: Mental Health Consultation

Center for the Study of Social Policy

http://www.strengtheningfamilies.net/images/uploads/program_tools/04_Mental_Health_REV4.pdf

This issue brief describes how program strategies can strengthen families and promote protective factors. The document also addresses how mental health services benefit children and families and reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect.

Hard Choices: Caring for the Children of Mentally Ill Parents

Child Welfare Watch

<http://www.newschool.edu/Milano/nyc affairs/documents/CWW-vol17.pdf>

This issue of Child Welfare Watch documents issues facing parents with psychiatric problems who come in contact with New York City's child welfare system.

Mental Health, United States, 2008

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA10-4590?WT.ac=EB_2011_0201_SMA10-4590

This document provides information on the mental health status of the U.S. population; the providers and settings for mental health services;

the types of mental health services and rates of utilization; and costs and sources of funding for mental health services.

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services in Medicaid, 2003- State Charts and Tables

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA10-4608?WT.ac=EB_20110201_SMA10-4608

This resource looks at the increasing amount of mental health and substance abuse services that are provided using Medicaid funding. The report may help inform policy discussions regarding the complex needs and high expenditure levels of the beneficiaries of these services.

Additional Resources

Mathematica Public Research recently released two new briefs entitled "Supporting Home Visitors in Evidence-Based Programs: Experiences of EBHV Grantees" and "Replicating Evidence-Based Home Visiting Models: A Framework for Assessing Fidelity". Please visit <http://www.supportingebhv.org/crossite> to view all EBHV-related briefs that Mathematica has produced.





SAVE THE DATES!

2011 PREVENTION GRANTEES MEETING
AND
PREVENTING CHILD MALTREATMENT AND
PROMOTING WELL-BEING:
NETWORK FOR ACTION
JUNE 20-22, 2011 ■ ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

The 2011 Children's Bureau Prevention Grantees Meeting and our joint meeting, *Preventing Child Maltreatment and Promoting Well-being: Network for Action*, will be held June 20-22, 2011 in Alexandria, Virginia. Our EBHV Grantees Meeting, portions of which will be held jointly with other Children's Bureau grantees, will take place on the first day of the meeting. Grantees will then join the larger *Network for Action* meeting for the next two days. The *Network for Action* will be a working meeting that will bring a diverse group of representatives from many networks and organizations to gather and support national action to prevent child maltreatment and promote well-being for children and families. Portions of this meeting will be held jointly with other Children's Bureau prevention grantees and other national prevention partners. The Children's Bureau is committed to encouraging collaboration across our programs and we hope this joint meeting will enrich the experience for all who attend. Additional details about this meeting, including logistics and registration information, will be provided to you in the coming weeks. We look forward to seeing you in June!

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About EBHV

In 2008, The Children's Bureau within the Administration for Children and Families at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services funded 17 cooperative agreements to support the infrastructure needed for the widespread adoption, implementation and sustaining of evidence-based home visitation programs. Grantees are leveraging their grant funds with other funding sources to support the implementation of EBHV programs with fidelity, the scaling up of these high-fidelity home visiting models, and the sustainability of the models. Grantees are also conducting local implementation and outcome evaluations, along with economic evaluations. The program's overarching goal is to generate knowledge about the use of evidence-based home visiting programs to prevent child maltreatment, including obstacles and opportunities for their wider implementation. For additional information, please visit the EBHV website at <http://www.supportingebhv.org>.

