



**NATIONAL CENTER ON
Parent, Family and Community Engagement**

Head Start Community Partnerships with Child Welfare

June 2, 2020

Community Engagement Webinar Series

Please Use the Left Side Bar to Ask Questions, Submit Comments, or Download Handouts.



Ask your questions and submit your comments here

Download handouts from Event Resources

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Welcome and Introductions



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Community Engagement Webinar Series

1. Strengthening Family Well-Being Through Engaged Community Partnerships. March 17, 2020.
2. Community Partnerships for Family Engagement in the Transition to Kindergarten. April 14, 2020.
- 3. Head Start Community Partnerships with Child Welfare.
June 2, 2020.**

Webinar Time: 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. ET

Join the Chat After the Webinar! 4:30 – 4:45 p.m. ET



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Featured Presenter and Federal Partner



Brandi Black Thacker,
MA, MSW



Kiersten Beigel,
Comprehensive Services & TTA Division,
Office of Head Start



Joshua Sparrow, MD



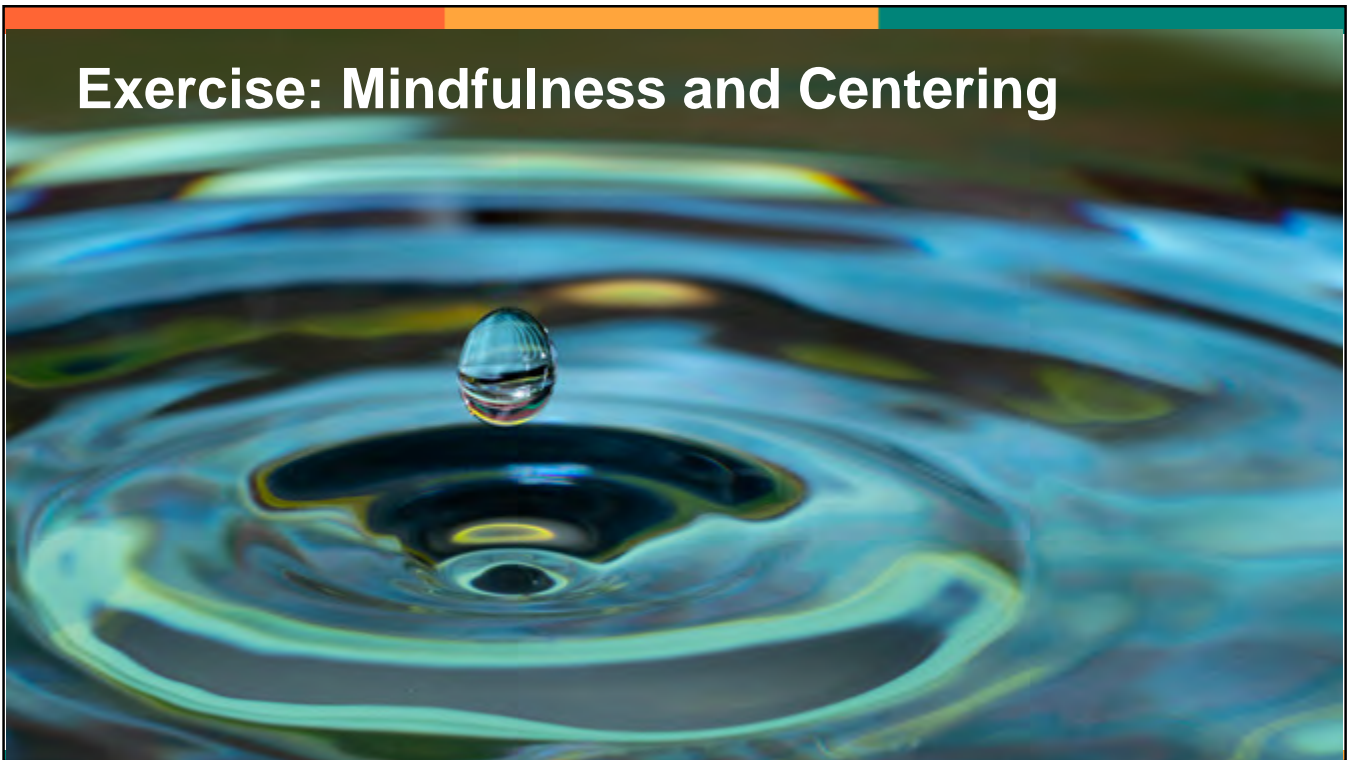
Catherine Ayoub, M.N.
Ed.D.



Francie Zimmerman,
MSW

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Exercise: Mindfulness and Centering





Head Start Act The Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007 authorizes the Head Start program to promote the school readiness of low-income infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.	Head Start Program Performance Standards HHS has made the first holistic revision and complete reorganization of the Performance Standards since they were originally published in 1975. Effective starting November 2016.	Information Memoranda (IMs) IMs are targeted communication tools from OHS which provide policy information to Head Start and Early Head Start grantees and delegate agencies.
Explore Resources →	Explore Resources →	Explore Resources →

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/im/acf-im-hs-15-04>

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Head Start Program Performance Standards

Requires programs to:

- A program must take an active role in promoting coordinated systems of comprehensive early childhood services to low-income children and families in their community through communication, cooperation, and the sharing of information among agencies and their community partners, while protecting the privacy of child records in accordance with subpart C of part 1303 of this chapter and applicable federal, state, local, and tribal laws. [45 CFR 1302.53(b)]
- (2) A program must establish necessary collaborative relationships and partnerships, with community organizations that may include:
 - (iii) Family preservation and support services and child protective services and any other agency to which child abuse must be reported under state or tribal law; [45 CFR 1302.53(a)(2)(iii)]

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Learning Objectives

- Discuss how the Head Start Program Performance Standards and the Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFCE) Framework help strengthen opportunities for collaborative partnerships with child welfare agencies
- Provide language and approaches for navigating sensitive conversations with families when there is child welfare involvement
- Highlight exemplary practices for coordinating outreach and working with state and community providers serving families when there is child welfare involvement
- Examine six key action steps for planning with child welfare agencies

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Key Messages

- When families experience challenges, safe and trusting relationships strengthen family well-being.
- Head Start and Early Head Start Programs and Child Welfare partnerships are important partners.
- Communities can serve as powerful partners in promoting family well-being and preventing child abuse and neglect.



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

PFCE Framework: Family and Community Engagement

Building Strengths-based Partnerships with Families When Child Welfare is Involved



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Head Start PFCE Framework



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

What Is Community Engagement?



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

What Is Child Welfare?



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Family-Head Start Programs-Child Welfare Interactions

- Initial contact with families referred to your program by child welfare
- Partnering with Head Start and Early Head Start families with open child welfare cases
- Reporting suspected child abuse and neglect involving a family currently enrolled in your program
- Supporting families of children in your program who are placed in out-of-home care



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Using a Strengths-Based Approach

- Families are the first and most important teachers of their children
- Families are our partners and play a critical role in their family's healthy development
- Families have expertise about their children and family
- Families' contributions are important and valuable

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Communicating with Families



- Engage in honest and open discussions
- Using family-centered language
- Communicate regularly
- Clarify expectations, roles, responsibilities, and goals

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Culture Matters

- Begin from a place of curiosity and respect
- Learn about a families' beliefs, values, and priorities
- Ensure culturally supportive practices and policies are in place and adhered to by program staff



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Building Strengths-Based Partnerships with Families When Child Welfare Is Involved

- Focus on building trusting, respectful, positive goal-oriented relationships
- Incorporate principles of a trauma-informed approach
- Recognize your own personal biases and experiences
- Seek confidential supports

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Key Message

When families experience challenges, safe and trusting relationships strengthen family well-being.



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Head Start and Early Head Start Programs and Child Welfare Partnerships



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Head Start and Early Head Start Programs and Child Welfare Agencies

The Office of Head Start promotes collaboration with child welfare agencies because:

“Children whose families are served by the child welfare system often are developmentally vulnerable due to trauma stemming from early abuse and neglect, and from risk factors that commonly co-occur, such as prenatal drug exposure, prematurity, low birth weight, poverty, homelessness, parental depression, and other mental health problems.”

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

What We Know About Child Maltreatment

- Over 3,54,000 suspected cases reported to Child Welfare in 2018
- Over 678,000 suspected cases substantiated
 - Neglect 60.8% 10.7 % Physical abuse 7.0 % Sexual abuse
- Children under age 3 years are most vulnerable
 - 71.8% of fatalities are in children under age 3years
 - 27,709 infants with prenatal substance abuse
- Most children enter the foster care system with child neglect
(29th Edition of the Child Maltreatment Report, January 2020, Children’s Bureau, ACF, HHS).

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Head Start and Early Head Start Programs- Child Welfare Partnerships

- Benefits
- Barriers
- Making the Connection



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Head Start and Early Head Start Programs-Child Welfare Partnerships

Benefits

Children who receive Head Start services are less likely to be placed in foster care as compared to children with no early childhood education

- 93% lower odds of foster care placement

Strengthens

- Parenting Behaviors: positive and emotionally responsive parenting
- Family Well-being
- Child Developmental Status

Reduces/Decreases

- Family conflict and stress
- The likelihood of abuse and neglect later in life

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Head Start and Early Head Start Programs-Child Welfare Partnerships

Barriers

- Staff
- Program level
- Community level



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Head Start and Early Head Start Programs-Child Welfare Partnerships

Making the Connections

- Family
- Program level
- Community level



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Connecting with Local and State Child Welfare

- State, local and territory laws may vary in a number of ways.
- To see how your state addresses this issue, visit the State Laws on Child Abuse and Neglect page of the Child Welfare Information Gateway website.
- <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/laws-policies/can/>

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Partnering with Child Welfare in Uncertain Times



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Key Message

Head Start and Early Head Start Programs and Child Welfare partnerships are important partners.



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Strategies for Effective Head Start and Early Head Start Programs-Child Welfare Partnerships



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Family First Prevention Services Act (Family First or FFPSA)

- Landmark legislation and federal financing reform law
- Allows states to use money previously reserved only for foster care to invest in prevention and family services to help keep children safe and supported at home.
- State plans include focus on children 0 – 5

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Goal-Setting

What can you accomplish together?



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Community Partnerships with Child Welfare Agencies

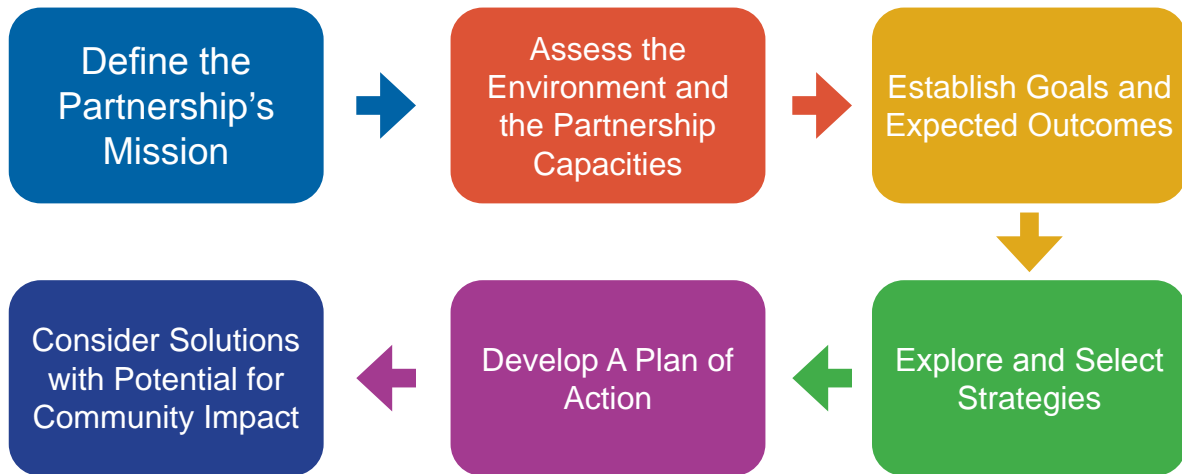
Opportunities for Action

- Program Leadership
- Professional Development
- Continuous Learning & Improvement
- Family Partnerships



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Six Key Action Steps for Planning with Child Welfare Agencies



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Community Partnerships with Child Welfare Agencies

Define the
Partnership's
Mission



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Community Partnerships with Child Welfare Agencies

Assess the
Environment
and
Capacities



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Community Partnerships with Child Welfare Agencies

Goals and
Expected
Outcomes



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Community Partnerships with Child Welfare Agencies

Explore
and Select
Strategies



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Community Partnerships with Child Welfare Agencies

Develop A
Plan of Action



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Community Partnerships with Child Welfare Agencies

Solutions
with Potential
Community
Impact



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Head Start and Early Head Start Programs- Child Welfare Partnerships

Some Ideas

- Early Childhood Specialists Within Child Welfare Agency
- Infant-Toddler Courts
- Parent Advisory Groups
- Expectant and Parenting Families



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Key Message

Communities can serve as powerful partners in promoting family well-being and preventing child abuse and neglect.



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Resources



Understanding Trauma and Healing in Adults

- Brief 1. Defining Trauma
- Brief 2. Caring for Ourselves as We Care for Others
- Brief 3. Coping and Healing
- Brief 4. Building Knowledge and Skills for a Trauma-Informed Culture
- Brief 5. Creating a Program-Wide Trauma-Informed Culture
- **Family First Prevention Act**
- **Bridging the Gap**

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Key Takeaways

- When families experience challenges, safe and trusting relationships strengthen family well-being.
- Head Start and Early Head Start Programs and Child Welfare partnerships are important partners.
- Communities can serve as powerful partners in promoting family well-being and preventing child abuse and neglect
- Programs and individual staff do not have to work in silos.
- When partners work well together, it is a win-win for Head Start/Early Head Start, Child Welfare agencies, and, most importantly, for children, their families and communities.

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

MyPeers Communities

✓ PFCE Deepening Practice Communities

- Already a MyPeers member? Find the **PFCE Deepening Practice** community in MyPeers under “All Communities” and select the blue “Join” button.
- Not a member of MyPeers? Sign up!
 - ✓ Visit the MyPeers page on the Early Childhood Learning Knowledge Center (ECLKC).
 - ✓ Scroll to the bottom and select “Create an Account.”
 - ✓ Fill out the form and within a few days you will receive an email from MangoApps with your login information.

National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Want to Take Your Family Engagement Practice to the Next Level?

Sign Up for Text4FamilyServices Today!

- This FREE text messaging service was designed for family services providers.
 - It is also available in Spanish (español).
- Just text **“PFCE”** to **22660** to sign up!



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Evaluation Link and Wrap-up



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Reflections and Questions

Stay and chat with us!

The speakers will stay on the line an additional 15 minutes to continue the dialogue.



National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement



PFCE@eclkc.info or call (toll-free) 1-866-763-6481
<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/family>