

2011 Grant Recipients

Total Amount Awarded: \$227,847

STATEWIDE PROGRAMS

Best Beginnings/United Way of Anchorage

Alaska's Early Learning Guidelines

\$16,667 Serving Anchorage / Statewide

Best Beginnings is creating family friendly versions of the Alaska's Early Learning Guidelines (ELGs) in languages other than English. ELGs inform parents, caregivers, community members, and leaders about expectations for children's development and learning. Best Beginnings will share Alaska's Early Learning Guidelines with expecting, new, and first-time parents and other community members in the most common non-English languages read by Alaskans.

Resource Center for Parents and Children (RCPC)

Alaska Parent Line

\$51,799 Serving Fairbanks / Statewide

The Alaska Parent Line connected parents with parent educators offering parenting advice and referrals 12 hrs/day, 7 days/week, 9:00 AM=9:00 PM.

Resource Center for Parents and Children (RCPC)

Parent Community Café Grant

\$5,000 Serving Fairbanks / Statewide

Through this project, RCPC will expand the use of the Community Café model to strengthen families and promote healthy parenting in the Fairbanks community and increase parent involvement in the ownership of conversations. The goal of the Parent Community Café project is to promote family resiliency and knowledge of parenting and child development with one another around a shared issue.

Resource Center for Parents and Children (RCPC)

Statewide Cuddle Cure Project

\$8,750 Serving Fairbanks / Statewide

The Statewide Cuddle Cure Project is a primary prevention education program that targets parents who are expecting a newborn or are caring for an infant from birth to three months of age. Through this project, RCPC provides outreach services, instructor training, technical assistance, and support for Cuddle Cure Instructors residing in 11 rural communities, including: Barrow, Bethel, Dillingham, Fort Yukon, Haines, Homer, Kenai, Kotzebue, Nome, Tok, and Valdez.

SOUTHCENTRAL PROGRAMS

Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc. (CITC)

Child Wellness Project

\$16,667 Serving Anchorage

The CITC Child & Family Services Department Outreach for Child Wellness Project is aimed at increasing both awareness of and access to supportive services in the Anchorage community for Alaska Native or Native American adults and children who have recently relocated to this urban area or who have not utilized resources available to them. Resource information to prevent child abuse and neglect is disseminated directly to families through program volunteers as well as through monthly community orientation sessions. The Outreach for Child Wellness project connects families with both primary and secondary prevention services that promote healthy parenting skills and strengthening families within CITC and the larger system of resources in the Anchorage community.

Hillcrest Child Care Center

Community Café Grant

\$5,000 Serving Anchorage

Hillcrest Child Care Center will utilize Community Café to strengthen friendships and mutual support through expansion of parent dinners, and meet and greets. Parenting classes and staff training based on “Scream Free Parenting” and “Love and Logic” philosophies will support families in their knowledge of parenting and child development by giving them the opportunity to reflect on what works to create healthy, positive relationships.

March of Dimes

NICU Family Support Program

\$5,000 Serving Anchorage

The March of Dimes NICU Family Support Program aims to support the development of nurturing and attachment for parents and their premature or

seriously ill infant by providing information and comfort to families during the NICU hospitalization of their newborn and during the transition home. Through these efforts, the NICU Family Support program will equip parents who will be leaving a stressful environment to better cope when home with their infants who need additional care.

SeaView Community Services

SeaView Demonstration Grant

\$10,000 Serving Seward

The SeaView demonstration grant will support the various components developed as a result that was awarded during 2010 which revealed that alcohol is a major contributor to negative social issues in Seward. The project will be led by a coalition comprised of approximately 24 members from across the community. Programs to be developed and implemented include "Active Parenting Now," an evidenced-based best practice model, a series of six monthly parenting workshops; and the development of a Seward Community Resource Guide.

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Strengthening Families Support

\$35,000 Serving Anchorage / Rural Communities

Utilizing the five protective factors (parental resilience, social connections, knowledge of parenting and child development, concrete support in times of need, and healthy child social and emotional development) this project expands on current efforts that help early educators integrate family support principles in their programs. thread provides specific training, support, and financial incentives that help child care programs enhance their abilities to support families. Early Education Trainers in Alaska have been fortunate to receive national training on quality curricula around the prevention of child abuse and neglect. As a result, participating child care programs will have access to Partnering with Parents: Preventing of Child Abuse and Neglect by Zero to Three, the nation's leading resource on the first years of life, and the Stronger Together Curriculum, which is focused on helping staff who work with families become more "family-centered."

INTERIOR ALASKA

Deltana Community Services Partnership

Community Café Grant

\$9,900 Serving Delta Junction

Delta Community Services Partnership will host Community Cafes in the Deltana community with the goals of promoting the Protective Factors, including creating social connections, which is a support system of extended family, friends, co-workers and other parents with children of similar ages and increasing knowledge of parenting and child development by providing basic information about how children develop.

Fairbanks Resource Agency

Supported Parenting Program

\$16,667 Serving Fairbanks / North Pole

The Supported Parenting Program has been recognized for its innovative approach to parenting education and to meeting the diverse learning styles of parents who fall into high risk groups for substance abuse, ineffective coping skills and/or poor socialization skills due to cognitive disabilities. Through its unique interactive curriculum design, the project focuses on the prevention of substance abuse and alcohol related birth defects while strengthening the resiliency and skills of parents. Two components of the project, onsite childcare and home visits, serve to encourage regular class attendance and help parents apply learned class skills to practical use in other settings. A third component, which helps parents to independently connect to community resources and services, provides additional skills and assist parents with problem solving and choosing healthy and safe alternatives to coping with life challenges. Classes are offered every other Tuesday from September through June. Families are welcome to attend together and actively participate in parent child interactive nights that are planned once a month.

Open Arms Child Development Center

Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect

\$41,378 Serving Fairbanks

Open Arms offers full time care and education for children ages 6 weeks to 10 years of age. Services offered through the ACT grant include a Four Point Connect plan with new families, Parents Navigators, Parent Coaching, Professional Counseling Services, Parenting Classes, and Wednesday Evening Family Dinners and activities. These new services are available throughout the year and are intended to build on three of the five protective factors highlighted in the Strengthening Families Initiative.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA

Catholic Community Services (CCS)

Family Resource Center: Expanding Capacity

\$16,667 Serving Southeast Alaska

The Catholic Community Services' Family Resource Center and the Young Parent Healthy Teen Center utilize the "Powerful Families" curriculums, developed by the Casey Family Programs. These programs include: Financial Literacy, Parent Advocacy and Parent Leadership. Classes run on scheduled cycles. Additionally CCS facilitates Our Time parent support groups which meet at different locations weekly.

City of Saxman

Saxman Homework Club

\$10,000 Serving Saxman

The Saxman Homework Club provides children with a safe, supervised, culturally supportive environment where they will feel loved, complete school assignments and augment classroom learning, have a sense of belonging, and can socialize in healthy, safe ways with other children. Through shared use of the Saxman Homework Club program, children and parents will develop and strengthen relationships with extended family, friends, co-workers, and other parents with children of similar age.

Juneau Family Birth Center

Strength in Families Program

\$15,000 Serving Juneau

The Strength in Families Program, a program of the Juneau Family Birth Center, is a prevention and support program designed to positively influence families, parents, and children before child abuse or neglect occurs. This free educational and social support program has been designed to serve all families – but especially families who are at-risk and under-served – and exists within the context of a community family center, birth center, and clinic. The program utilizes education, support, and health care from a team of provided including a physician, midwives, a doula, and educators. Services are received voluntarily and seek to promote positive family functioning built upon participants' strengths. Services also attempt to influence social forces (birthing and parenting practices) which impact parents and children, and are culturally responsive to the program participants, building on the cultural strengths of the family and community.

Juneau Family Birth Center

Strength in Families: Community Cafes

\$5,000 Serving Juneau

The Strength in Families Program is a prevention and support program designed to positively influence the community, families, parents, and children before child abuse or neglect occurs. This free education and social support program has been designed to serve all families – but especially families who are at-risk and under-served – and exists as a program within the context of a community family center, birth center, and family practice clinic. This grant includes Community Cafes; valuable ‘round table’ discussions are aimed at gathering collective information and creating ideas to strengthen families.

REACH, Inc.

STAR Project

\$8,750 Serving Juneau

STAR Project goals include providing screening, assessment and early intervention services for 25 children and their families, increasing staff skills for understanding and supporting infant/toddler mental health, and increasing families’ capacity to contribute to their young child’s social, emotional and behavioral well being.

Youth Advocates of Sitka, Inc.

Family Skills Development

\$9,998 Serving Sitka

Youth Advocates of Sitka (YAS) will research best practice Family Skills Development models to help develop a home-based program that utilizes existing foster parents as paid parent mentors for other foster parents, as well as other high risk families. YAS seeks to identify one or more best practice models that promote positive family functioning that will motivate parents to participate and remain involved.

SOUTHWEST ALASKA

Kodiak Area Native Association

Parenting – Pass It On

\$10,000 Serving Kodiak Borough

Kodiak Area Native Association (KANA) will use the grant funds in a planning project to train a cohort of 16 regional parent educators in the Becoming a Love and Logic Parent curriculum. The project, Parenting – Pass it On includes two protective factors in the Strengthening Families approach: 1) promoting parental resiliency; and 2) knowledge of parenting/child development.