TCC Research Summit
(CACE/SSC sub-project 1)
April 28, 2016

Sub-Project 1 (OUTLINE slides):
Progress and Outcomes in Promoting Quality Parenting
Leadership and Early Childhood Policy and System Improvements in 13-states: A Closer Look
Official Statement

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**Background**

The vision of CACE is to reduce disparities in health, wellbeing and school readiness for every child age 0-5 years, in order to advance health equity.

**The Mission**

- Use quality parenting as an intervention for mitigating childhood obesity and mental health inequities.

**Impact Areas**

- Assess the extent to which existing early childhood policies (at all levels) and their implementation programs ensure:
  (i) equitable child development and school readiness at 5 years.
  (ii) parents are actively engaged in informing early childhood policy formation and the program implementation.
Specific Aims:

- SA1a: To use the SSC parenting intervention to increase the **physical activity levels** and improve **nutritional intake** among children ages 0-5.

- SA1b: To use the SSC parenting intervention to improve **parental mental well-being** among parents of children ages 0-5.

- SA1c: To use the SSC parenting intervention to increase **social competence skills** for school readiness among children ages 0-5.

- SA1d: To assess **changes in parents’ perceptions** about child abuse and neglect among parents of children ages 0-5.

- SA2: To evaluate the impact of CACE participation on engagement in strategies and activities that influence early childhood policy at the local and/or federal levels.

The Approach

- Build & **maintain** partnerships.

- Form local TCC on early childhood policy (a.k.a. **CACE**).

- Facilitate **SSC implementation** and **Policy improvements** through local CACE.

- Utilize breakthrough series (**BTS**) & SSC parent leadership approach.

- Translate findings into **sustained practice** and **improved policies**.
Multisite SSC Implementation (Year 4)

New pilots of SSC yr4: OR, MN, FL, MD, NC, (SC-pending RFA)
At least 1 SSC prior to 2016: TN, MO, MS, AL, TX, GA
Key Year Activities 4

- Multisite SSC Implementation: TN/MO, FL,
- Policy Action Plan Implementation –TX
- CACE Master SSC Training (multi-state): 9/2015
- Capacity Building: Internal—new subaward process; (CACE Partners): RedCap data entry, CITI training, COI Smart, DUNS/SAM, FWA,
- CACE BTS Supports (SSC technical support, monthly collaborative calls & 1-1 TA calls with states)
- Fidelity assessment & Evaluation
- SSC in Atlanta Housing Authority Choice Neighborhoods includes an SSC pilot project

McKinlay Model Framework for CACE Approach

Policies are in place to eliminate disparities by supporting ‘every’ child to have healthy age appropriate development, and encourage quality parenting

Programs and services: delivery systems are supported and ‘proportionately’ implemented to provide healthy early childhood development and quality parenting in the communities & neighborhoods

SSC (Smart & Secure Children) training for developing quality parenting knowledge & skills of parents and families to reduce childhood obesity and child neglect; while improving mental health & school readiness of children 0-5 years
Collaborative Action on Childhood Equity
Alabama

Policy Action Plan

Smart and Secure Children (SSC)
Parent Leadership Pilot Project

Alabama Blueprint for Zero to Five
Ready Families
+Ready Communities
+Ready Services (Health and Early Education)
+Ready Schools and + Ready States
=Ready Children Prepared for Success
Policy Action Plan

| Blueprint for Zero to Five (School Readiness) Comparison of Indicator Priorities 2014 and 2016 |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| I. Ready Families in Ready Communities |
| Emotional Insecurity – % of mothers experiencing depression; rates of substantiated child abuse and neglect; % of parents who have concerns about their child's development, including social and emotional development | 2014:  | 2016: |
| Community Coordination – % of communities that have well-developed and active groups to coordinate, promote, fund, and evaluate family support and school readiness activities |  | 2 |
| II. Ready Services: Health |
| Comprehensive Screenings and Referrals – % of children who receive periodic developmental screenings (social/emotional) and appropriate referrals and follow-up; % of children served by Early Intervention | 3/4 (2014) | 1 (2016) |
SSC Pilot in Alabama

- Pilot began Sept. 2014
- Montgomery County
- Lowndes County (ACJF)
- 17 participants, small data set
- General improvements in mental health and parenting knowledge
- Some statistically significant increases

Results:

1. Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3)

\[
\text{Communication Skills: P value} = 0.0781
\]

\[
\text{Gross Motor Skills: P-value} = 0.043
\]
ASQ Cont’d

Fine Motor Skills: P-value=0.129

Problem Solving Skills: P-value=0.082

ASQ Cont’d

Personal-Social Skills: P-value=0.0078

ASQ Social Emotional: P-value=0.137
2. Knowledge Assessment:
Set weekly parenting goals for child’s healthy brain development

Knowledge assessment cont’d
Set weekly parenting goals for Your child’s healthy emotional development
3. Self reported Parental Mental Health Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mental Health Continuum- Short Form (MHC-SF) Items (n=17)</th>
<th>Baseline mean score</th>
<th>Post SSC mean score</th>
<th>Mean difference</th>
<th>P value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>During the past 30 days, how often did you feel that you had something important to contribute to society?</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>During the past 30 days, how often did you feel that you belonged to a community (like a social group, or your neighborhood)?</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>0.002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>During the past 30 days how often did you feel that the way our society works makes sense to you?</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>0.006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Mental Health Score (all 13 items)</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alabama Parent Leadership Network (APLN)

- **Funding:** Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention

- **Purpose:** To develop the next steps in leadership development at the community level and the formation of an Alabama Parent Leadership Network (APLN). The program incorporates the mentoring structure of the SSC model with the conversation-based learning of the SSC and Community Café models, and adds more intensive leadership skill-building.
Parent Leadership

• 1 Peer Learner ➔ Parent Leader
• 2 Parent Leaders ➔ Parent Mentors
• 1 Parent Leader ➔ Board Member

Vadonna Williams

Leveraging SSC

• Alabama Civil Justice Foundation
• Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children’s Health) – includes SSC
• Nemours: National Early Care & Education Learning Collaboratives Project (ECELC)
• Child Care Aware: Healthy Child Care, Healthy Communities
• Kellogg: Don’t Be In The Dark About Child Care
Progress on Academic Publications

- **Published:**

- **Manuscripts near completion:**
  - Bolar, CL, Akintobi, TH, Sarpong, D, Ferguson, AS. *Parental stress and children’s externalizing behaviors: The effects of a peer-led parenting program*. Family Relations (Projected, August 2015)

It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.

Frederick Douglass