

ESSENTIALS FOR CHILDHOOD:

Safe, Stable, Nurturing Relationships and Environments

Did you know?

- Children who experience child abuse and neglect are more likely to develop depression, substance abuse, obesity and chronic diseases late in life.¹
- Children aged 0-4 years are at greatest risk for child abuse and neglect, too often with fatal consequences.²
- **Colorado is one of only five states to be awarded federal funding initiative to promote safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and environments for children.**



What is Colorado's focus for this work?

Using a **collective impact** framework we will:

- Collaborate with a wide variety of partners, both traditional and non-traditional to promote the following **Common Agenda-**

Advance policy and community approaches to:

- Increase family-friendly business practices across Colorado
- Increase access to childcare and afterschool care
- Increase access to preschool and full-day kindergarten
- Improve social and emotional health of mothers, fathers, caregivers and children

What is *Essentials for Childhood*?

- **Essentials for Childhood: Safe, Stable, Nurturing Relationships and Environments** is the name of this exciting new initiative from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- Essentials for Childhood promotes the types of relationships and environments that help children grow up to be **healthy** and **productive** citizens so they can then build stronger and safer families and communities for their children.
- This initiative is **groundbreaking** because it targets change at systems, society and community levels.
- CDC will use knowledge and results of Essentials for Childhood in Colorado to create a **case study** to inform similar work across the nation.



What is Collective Impact?

- Collective Impact is a framework wherein organizations from different sectors agree to solve a specific social problem using a common agenda, aligning their efforts and using common measures of success.
- Collective Impact initiatives share five conditions:
 1. Common agenda
 2. Shared measurement
 3. Mutually reinforcing activities
 4. Continuous communication
 5. Backbone organization
- The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment is the backbone organization for this project.



The Five Conditions of Collective Impact



Using collective impact to address child abuse and neglect in Colorado...

- Child maltreatment can be prevented.
- Everyone in the community has an important role to play in helping.
- We can build a shared understanding that child abuse and neglect affects families in all walks of life, and that prevention needs to address the whole community.

For more information, visit the **Essentials for Childhood** project link at www.colorado.gov/cdphe/isvp or contact Giorgianna Venetis, Project Coordinator, at giorgianna.venetis@state.co.us or 303-692-6444.

Additional info from CDC can also be found at www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childmaltreatment/essentials



¹ Felitti, VJ, Anda, RF, Nordenberg, D, et al. (1998) *The relationship of adult health status to childhood abuse & household dysfunction*. The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 14(4): 245-58.

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Child maltreatment: Risk and protective factors*. Retrieved on June 14, 2013 from <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childmaltreatment/riskprotectivefactors.html>