







CTF connects with DWD & DHFS to respond to SF RFP. (2004)

WI selected as pilot state; State Leadership Team begins meeting. (2004-present)

SF made most progress when there was a lead coordinator. Then she had a baby... crisis! Now we're getting back on track.






wisconsin

Helping ECE providers build protective factors

- CCR&R agencies train providers at 812 centers (41% of centers) on SF and the protective factors. (2005-2006)
- 186 centers (15%) complete the self-assessment. (2006)
- 51 centers receive mini-grants to address weaknesses identified in their self-assessments. (2006)
- "Building Protective Factors with Families" training developed and disseminated. (2007)
- "Building PF" training translated into Spanish by SF-NJ! (2007)
- Training on social-emotional development for ECE providers and CPS workers from 5 pilot counties. Included classroom observation and consultation for ECE providers. (2006)

Professional development/ Coordination across fields

- Supporting Families Together Association (joint CCR&R and FRC membership organization) created. (2007)
- Common Core Competencies document includes ECE, family support, infant mental health competencies. (2008)
- WI chosen as a CSEFEL state. (2009-2012)

Linking ECE and child welfare

- State Leadership Team's Pilot Committee selects pilot counties rather than pilot ECE programs, with a focus on CW/ECE connections (2005)
- 5 pilot counties identified. Relationships and partnerships built/revitalized at the county level.
- Pilot counties receive grants for local CW/ECE activities, incl. resource fairs, cross-trainings, foster parent training.
- SF info shared with CPS staff in pilot counties.
- Counties with champions for the initiative achieve successes.
- Counties were chosen as pilots rather than applying – some were not prepared to take action.

Tracking and evaluation

- Self-assessments and program data collected by UW Child Care Research Partnership from participating ECE centers. (2005-2006)
- "Assessing the Impact of a Statewide Collaboration on Strengthening Families through Early Care and Education" –published in *Early Education & Development* Fall 2009.

2009-2010 Goal: Integrate the SF philosophy across systems

- Policy goal: Expand eligibility for WI Shares child care subsidy program, provide transitional support for families no longer eligible.
- Policy goal: Transitional support for families leaving the CPS system.

- Research goal: Continue research on children in out-of-home care and ECE enrollment.
- Partner with Governor's Advisory Council, CSEFEL, others.

Evaluation goal: Assess the effects of SF in the CW/ECE pilot counties.

Professional development goal: Environmental scan of PD offerings across systems.

Research goal: Survey ECE providers regarding expulsion policies and practices.

- State level partners work to support pilot counties and address state-level issues, pressing to keep SF at the forefront with the creation of the new Dept. of Children & Families.
- "10 Great Reasons to Partner with ECE Providers – and 10 Great Ways to Do It" (adapted from SF-IL). (2007)
- Crosswalk: Protective factors and protective capacities. (2007)
- "Building PF" training modified for use with foster parents. (2008)
- SF information shared with Coordinated Services Team coordinators, WI County Human Services Association, CW Training Council, others.

- Research on ECE enrollment of kids in out-of-home care leads to greater CW awareness of priority placement in Head Start – which is then added to foster parent handbook.

Participation in national meetings (2007 Leadership Summit, Cherry Hill/Mailman meeting, etc.) creates state- and county-level champions, and builds partnerships within WI and with other states.

