



Bringing the Protective Factors Framework to Life in Your Work – A Resource for Action

The National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds (Alliance) is pleased to make available an online training to support implementation of the Strengthening Families™ Protective

This resource is free of charge.
For more information and a link to the online training, visit the Alliance website at www.ctfalliance.org/onlinelearning.

Factors Framework in multiple settings. This curriculum includes new materials on partnering with parents and addresses promising strategies to strengthen families for practitioners.

This important resource for action was developed through the generous support of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and builds on earlier

work of the Alliance, state children's trust and prevention funds and state and national partners. The Center for the Study of Social Policy has been a critical partner in developing this work.

Overview

The curriculum consists of seven courses, each designed to be about two hours in length: the introductory course, a course focused on each of the five protective factors (each exploring one or two program strategies) and a final review and reflection course that helps participants move from knowledge to action. The introductory course can serve as a brief, stand-alone Strengthening Families™ 101 training. This resource is for anyone who works with children and families, including parents, practitioners and supervisors. At several points, participants have the option to select material that relates to specific areas of work, such as early care and education, child welfare or family support.

Using the Curriculum to Help Build Strong Families and Communities

The Alliance is providing this resource to support, expand and enhance work to strengthen and support families. Contact us by email at onlinelearning@ctfalliance.org to discuss the options and tools in the course, including whether you will award CEUs or other recognition for course users. If so, we can list your organization and contact information on the learner site. The Alliance is not granting credit, CEUs or professional development hours for courses in the curriculum, but many state systems and organizations will be doing so.

Tools to Enhance Your Use of the Curriculum

- ✦ Global Glossary, short instructional videos to maximize the learner's experience and FAQs in each course containing a Learn and Share forum
- ✦ Downloadable outline and a Certificate of Completion for each course
- ✦ Key sources, references and websites as an addendum to each course
- ✦ Users ability to create a personal profile and store work on the course site
- ✦ Portfolio feature, enabling users to save and share their work
- ✦ Portfolio Review Guide for instructors to use the curriculum as part of a face-to-face training
- ✦ Each Protective Factor course links directly to the Strengthening Families™ GEMS online self-assessment site

Outline of the Curriculum

Introduction/Strengthening Families 101

- ✦ Background information on the Strengthening Families™ Protective Factors approach
- ✦ Introduction of the Protective Factors Framework
- ✦ Strength-based work with families
- ✦ Introduction of the Strengthening Families™ Protective Factors Framework Self-Assessment
- ✦ Appropriate as a stand-alone orientation to the Framework

Five Protective Factors Courses

Each course includes:

- ✦ Purpose and learning objectives for the course
- ✦ Definition and explanation of the protective factor
- ✦ Definition and explanation of program strategy (or strategies)
- ✦ Quizzes, activities, and reflective questions
- ✦ Real-life parent stories, documenting the power of building protective factors
- ✦ An opportunity to connect with other learners through an online forum
- ✦ Engaging mix of written text, video and audio examples
- ✦ Individualized Action Plan (IAP) work
- ✦ A direct link in the Websites and Resources section to the Strengthening Families™ Self-Assessment for that Protective Factor

Moving from Knowledge to Action

- ✦ Recap of the curriculum, using the logic model as a visual summary
- ✦ Introduction to the systems concepts of the Strengthening Families™ "Levers for Change"
- ✦ Review of the user's portfolio and Individualized Action Plan (IAP)
- ✦ Add user reflections and update the IAP to reflect progress made while completing the curriculum
- ✦ Print the complete portfolio and IAP in a format suitable to submit for credit