

Children's Cabinet

March 24, 2025

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Vote on adoption of February meeting minutes
- SUCCESS: Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation
- RI Parent Support Network
- Public Comment
- Adjournment

SUCCESS

Supporting Children's Competencies in Emotional and Social Skills

Rebecca Silver, PhD

Clinical Psychologist, Bradley Hospital

Director, SUCCESS Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation

**RHODE
ISLAND**



SUCCESS

**Supporting Children's Competencies
in Emotional and Social Skills**



SUCCESS is offered through the Rhode Island Department of Human Services and Rhode Island Department of Education in partnership with Bradley Hospital.



RIDE Rhode Island
Department
of Education



Early Childhood Collaborative, Bradley Hospital



Rhode Island
Department
of Education



Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation

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graph LR; A[Promotion] --> B["Prevention  
(Universal, Selective,  
Indicated)"]; B --> C["Intervention  
(Identification,  
Assessment, Treatment)"]
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Promotion

Prevention
(Universal, Selective,
Indicated)

Intervention
(Identification,
Assessment, Treatment)

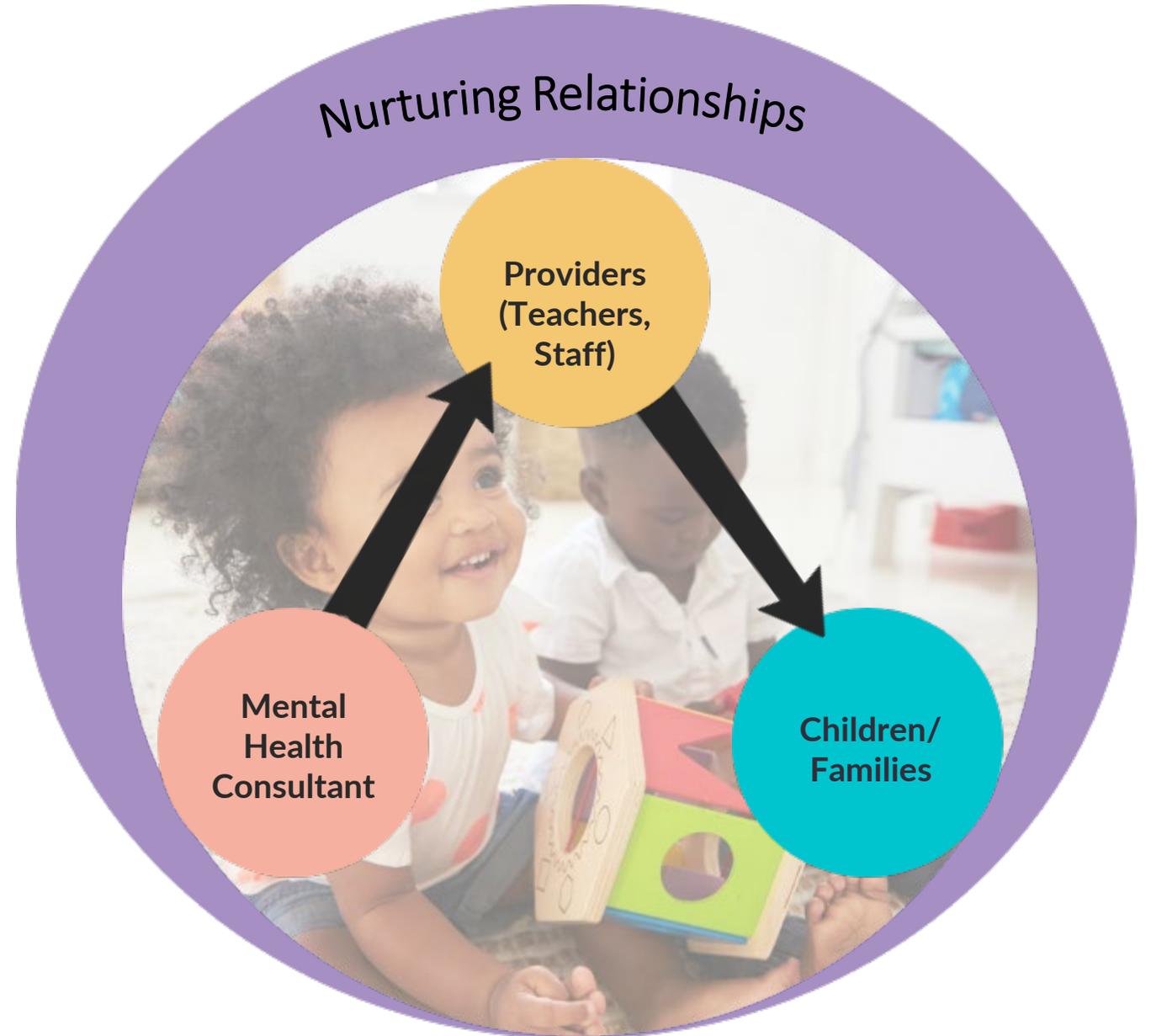
Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC)

Partnership between two
professionals
- consultant (specialist)
- consultee (asks for help)

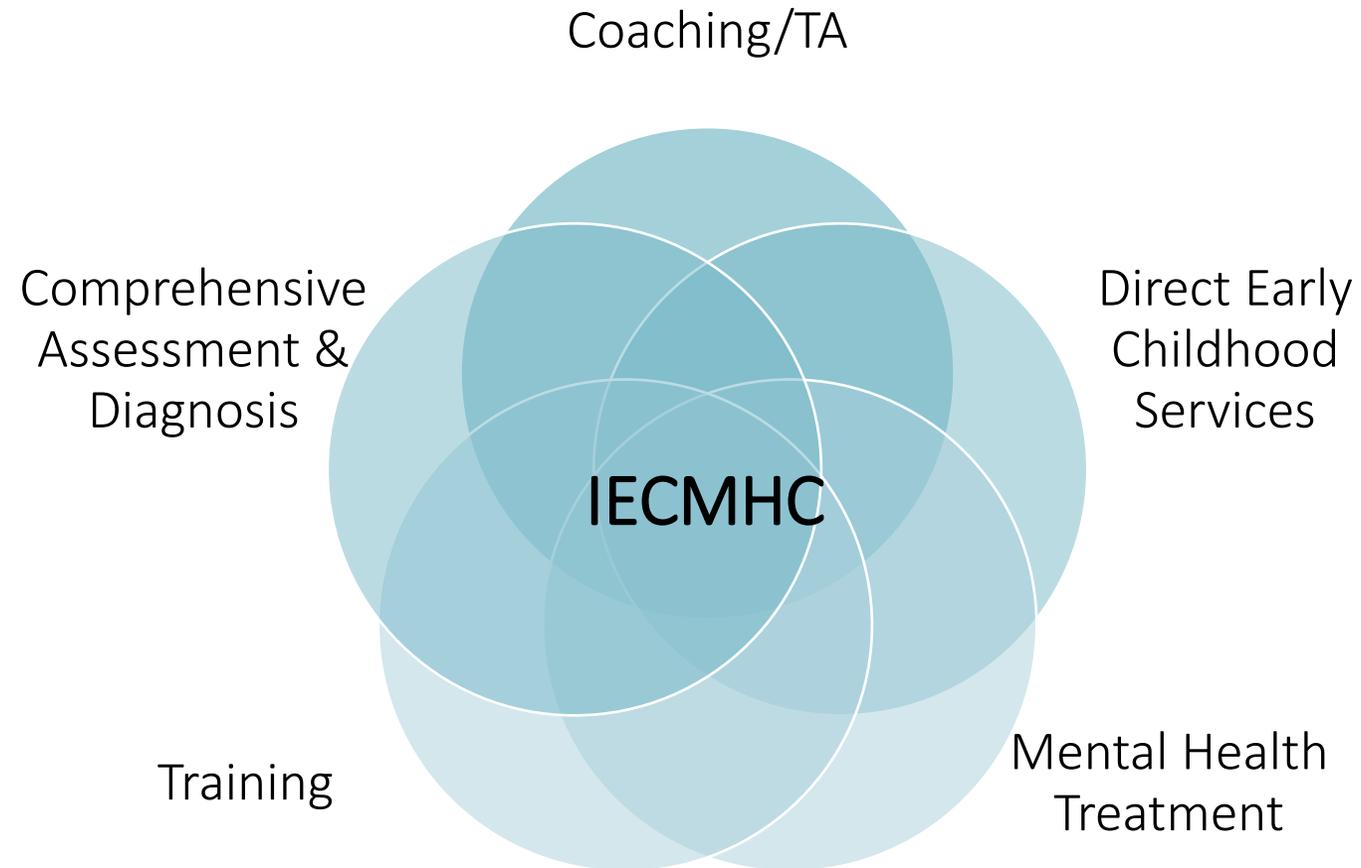
Indirect, triadic, capacity building

Increase access, reduce stigma

Evidence to support effectiveness



IECMHC Is Distinct From....



Our Services



Child Focused
IECMHC



Classroom &
Program Focused
IECMHC: Coord. of
Care



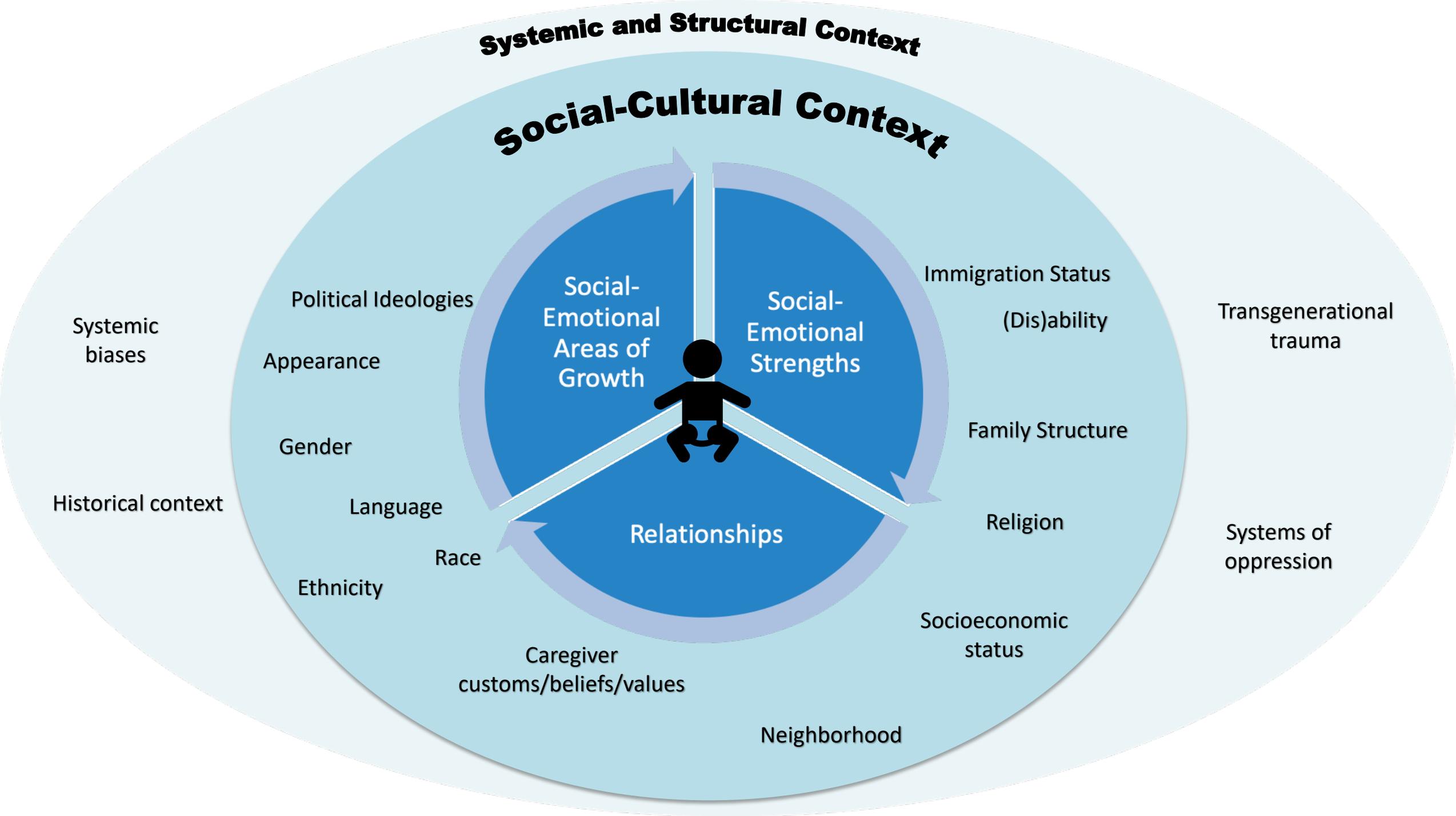
Family Child Care:
Early Childhood
MH Workshop



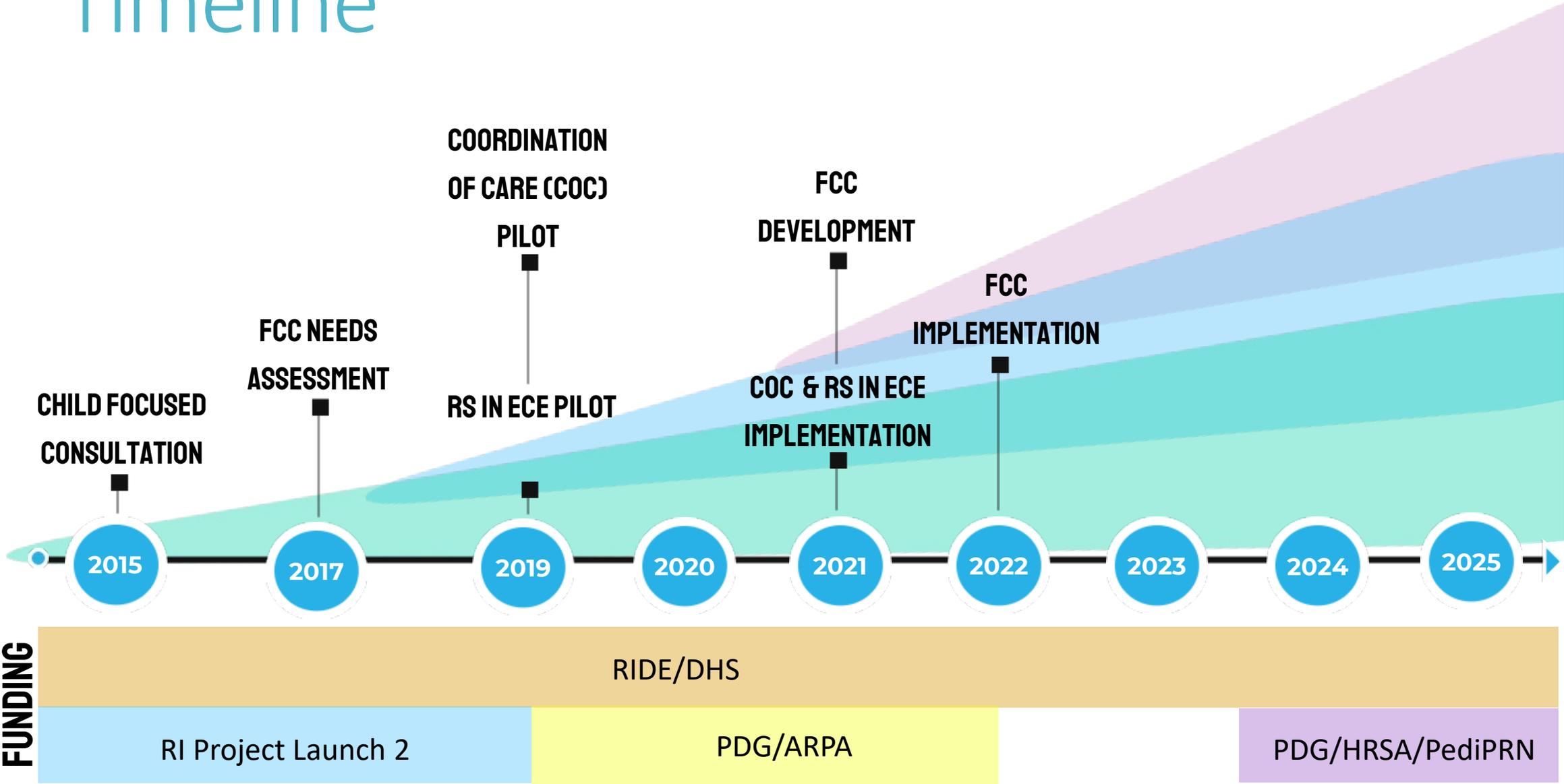
Rhode Island
Reflective
Supervision
Series in ECE

Development in Context





Timeline



Impact: Kids and Families



~ 100 child
consultations
annually



child functioning



risk for expulsion

So incredibly grateful for and impressed with the SUCCESS program. The commitment on behalf of the consultant, clear communication about roles and next steps, and partnership with the school were all fantastic. Our child is more confident at school and our family has the language and tools to address problem behaviors in a healthy and constructive way as a result of the program.

This is the most amazing service! My consultant went above and beyond...She always listened and made me feel validated and was 100% the reason I had better knowledge to advocate for my son even more.

Impact: ECE Professionals

~ 50 programs/over 75 classrooms annually

65 FCC providers

86 supervising professionals trained in RS

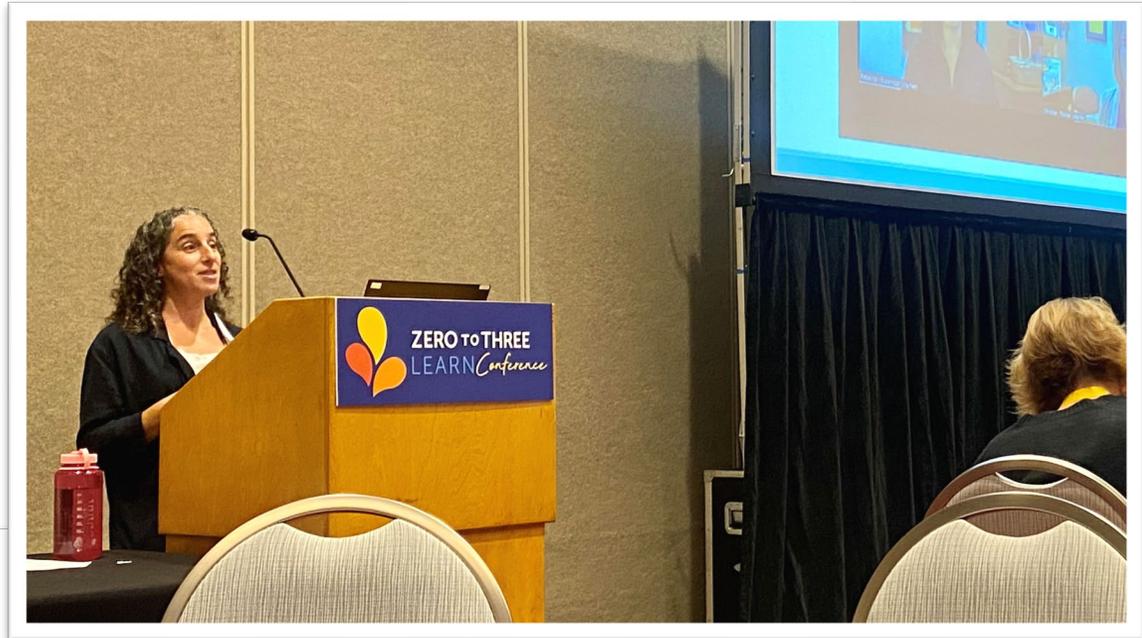
The program was amazing because it filled that gap that was missing between the parents and teachers. Success also gave me new tools and different ways to think about [child] in my classroom. It was a WELCOME change. I took what tools SUCCESS gave me and was able to use it for not only [child] but other children in the program.

- Teacher

I enjoyed sharing my concerns and the active listening on [consultant]'s part. I felt heard and that helped us come up with ideas, tips to use with the child/in the classroom. It was helpful to get fresh ideas from another point of view.

- Administrator involved in CoC

Impact: Evaluation and Dissemination



> [Infant Ment Health J.](#) 2025 Jan 28. doi: 10.1002/imhj.22165. Online ahead of print.

One state's journey with a reflective supervision professional development series: Development, implementation, and adaptation

Rebecca B Silver^{1 2}, Christine M Low^{1 2}, Lindsay Huffhines
Rachel Herman^{1 2}, Stephanie H Parade^{1 2}

> [Infant Ment Health J.](#) 2024 May;45(3):249-262. doi: 10.1002/imhj.22104. Epub 2024 Jan 24.

Child-focused infant and early childhood mental health consultation: Shifting adult attributions to reduce the risk for preschool expulsion

Rebecca Newland^{1 2}, Rebecca B Silver^{1 2}, Rachel Herman^{1 2}, Karyn Hartz³, Alice Coyne⁴,
Ronald Seifer⁵



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RI Parent Support Network

Lisa Conlon

Executive Director

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Mission Statement

We are a group of parents, family members, transition age youth, and adults with behavioral health lived experience who are committed to supporting and assisting peers and working with statewide and national partners to empower children, youth, families and individuals through dynamic supports, education, and advocacy to prevent abuse and neglect, reduce disparities, and progress towards universal health, wellness, and recovery.

We believe in System of Care Approach

A system of care is: A spectrum of effective, community-based services and supports for children and youth with or at risk for mental health or other challenges and their families, that is organized into a coordinated network, builds meaningful partnerships with families and youth, and addresses their cultural and linguistic needs, in order to help them to function better at home, in school, in the community, and throughout life.

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We utilize Wraparound Principles

- **Family Voice and Choice:** Putting the child or youth and family at the center.
- **Team-Based:** Honoring the team as the primary venue for critical decision making.
- **Natural Supports:** Utilizing existing community and family resources.
- **Collaboration:** Working together with all stakeholders.
- **Community-Based:** Providing services in the community.
- **Culturally Competent:** Being sensitive to cultural differences.
- **Individualized:** Tailoring services to the unique needs of each child or youth.
- **Strengths-Based:** Focusing on strengths rather than deficits.
- **Unconditional:** Providing support without conditions.
- **Outcome-Based:** Measuring progress and success.

PSN History

- 1986 –1993: Founded as a group of parents who had our children in Bradley Hospital, MHA-RI and became an independent 501c3 nonprofit organization-recognized by Federal- Substance Use Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), as a Statewide Family Network Grantee.
- 1993 to present: RI Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) to develop statewide system of care as family and youth leaders and provide family and youth peer support-recovery services.
- 1993 to 2023: RI Department of Education (RIDE) to provide family peer support services around education related needs for children with behavioral health challenges.
- 2016-2024: RI Behavioral Healthcare Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals and RIDOH partnership delivering statewide peer recovery services and workforce training.
- 2017 to present: Became Prevent Child Abuse America – RI Chapter and expanding our focus on the prevention of abuse and neglect and building protective capacity of parents.

Family & Youth Voice in State Policy & Practice

- SAMHSA, Statewide Family Network Grantee for RI
- RI Governors' Council for Behavioral Health & Subcommittees
- RI Governor's Overdose Prevention & Intervention Taskforce & workgroups
- EOHHS–Children's Behavioral Health System of Care Family Engagement Organization
- RIDOH –Community Health Worker Strategic Blueprint & Workgroups
- DCYF – Children's Justice Act Meetings
- Coalition for Children and Families and workgroups
- Substance Use Mental Health Leadership Council
 - Children's Behavioral health committee
- Rhode Island Fatherhood Initiative Steering Committee

Assist all State agencies and National partners with organizing parents/family members, youth and individuals to participate in focus groups and other opportunities to provide input and recommendations on policy and practice

Family & Youth Peer Service Delivery

- PSN serves as SAMHSA, Statewide Family Network Grantee building capacity to provide statewide family peer support information and services to reduce disparities and is currently serving about 200 children, youth, and their parents.
- PSN contracts with DCYF to serve 150 children, youth and their families who have experienced trauma, have behavioral health needs, and are involved with child welfare, juvenile justice and who are parents/caregivers struggling with opioid addiction and other substance use to prevent formal involvement.
- PSN contracts with RIDOH for start up of Medicaid reimbursable community health workers services to expand our statewide capacity to provide family and youth peer support services- to address social determinants of health that impact behavioral health.
- PSN contracts with JBS International to support start up of Medicaid reimbursable statewide family centered peer recovery services with children and youth with trauma and at risk of behavioral health needs due to impact of parent's opioid addiction/substance.
- PSN partners with agencies statewide to provide our family-peer services.

Family-Peer Service Workforce Development

- PSN developed dual certification –peer recovery specialist –community health worker 70 certificate course recognized by the RI Certification Board and has delivered to over 1600 individuals in RI and assisted 101 individuals who are actively certified on the RI Certification Board website.
- PSN developed and implemented dual certification of peer recovery specialist and community health worker apprenticeship program with the Department of Labor & Training and is now working on specializing it to family centered peer support and recovery services for families of children, youth and young adults who have experienced trauma and at risk or who have behavioral health challenges.
- PSN is working with JBS International and other grantees to develop and deliver family centered peer recovery curriculum aimed at supporting children, youth and families who have suffered victimizations due to family member's substance use disorders.

RHODE ISLAND Statewide Family Network

Families Helping Families

Individualized Family & Youth Peer Support Services

Educational Behavioral Health Specialist Services

Peer Recovery Support Services

Circle of Parents Virtual & In Person Groups

Nurturing Parenting Classes

Supervised Visitation

Family & Community Events

Workshops

Youth Leadership Group

PSN 2025 Outcomes

- PSN has 20 family and youth leadership staff and 26 family and youth volunteer leaders who are all participating in the children's behavioral health statewide family and youth engagement workgroup and participating on state and local policy and advisory boards impacting behavioral health.
- PSN assisted with recruiting 127 families and youth leaders to participate in state agency focus groups to give input and recommendations on children's behavioral health and child welfare.
- PSN staff provided 433 diverse parents/family members with children with behavioral health needs family peer support services which has reduced ED visits and hospitalizations, support connection to community-based treatment and services, reduced out of home placement, increased school related services and IEPs, and reduced more restrictive forms of care.
- Served 208 pregnant women/parents with opioid addiction/substance use and prevented them from becoming more formally involved with DCYF, decreased overdose prevented out of home placement, linked and connected them to medicated assisted treatment, IOP, detox, treatment and medical visits and children remaining home and increased
- PSN reunified 134 families with their children who had been removed from the home due to abuse, neglect, children's behavioral health, and parents overall health and wellbeing and reduced health disparities in race and ethnicity and increased family satisfaction with the services they received..
- Increased workforce development opportunities for parent and youth leaders representing this population.



**POWERED
BY HOPE**

STRENGTHENED BY PREVENTION



PREVENT CHILD ABUSE RI CHAPTER

- **State Chapter-Prevent Child Abuse America**
- **Partners in Prevention Network**
- **Prevention Public Education & Outreach**
- **April- Child Abuse Prevention Campaign**
- **Rhode Island Fatherhood Initiative**
- **Fundraising**

PSN receives
statewide
referrals with
parental consent
www.psnri.org
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Public Comment

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