

2016 Kentucky Family Impact Seminars

Reducing Child Abuse and Neglect: Evidence-Based Parent Education and Other Effective Support Programs



OUR CHILDREN DESERVE TO BE PROTECTED AND SAFE.

Child abuse and neglect, also known as child maltreatment, is a serious national concern that has negative repercussions on children's development and well-being.¹

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHILD MALTREATMENT?²

Physical abuse is described as the intentional use of physical force against a child that results in, or has the potential to result in, physical injury.

Psychological/emotional abuse refers to the intentional caregiver behavior that conveys to a child that she/he is worthless, unloved, unwanted, endangered, or valued only in meeting somebody's needs.

Sexual abuse involves any completed or attempted (non completed) sexual act, sexual contact with, or exploitation (i.e., noncontact sexual interaction) of a child by a caregiver.

Neglect is defined as a caregiver's failure to meet a child's basic physical, emotional, medical/dental, or educational needs—or combination thereof.

WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS OF CHILD MALTREATMENT ON CHILDREN?³



Physical effects

- Skin lesions
- Fractures
- Head trauma
- Cognitive deficiency



Psychological effects

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Eating disorders
- Suicide attempts
- Fear or anger



Behavior effects

- Aggression
- Risk for smoking and alcohol and drug abuse
- Delinquency
- Low academic achievement



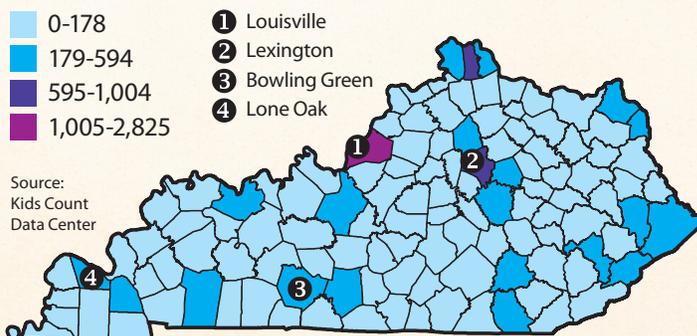
Death

The effects of abuse and neglect on children can be severe and long-lasting.

HOW MANY KENTUCKY CHILDREN HAVE BEEN ABUSED AND NEGLECTED IN RECENT YEARS?

17,917

Kentucky children were determined to have been victims of abuse and neglect in 2013. The number of cases vary from county to county (see map) and from urban to rural areas.⁴



From 2010-2014:

208 children were involved in child maltreatment resulting in death or severe injury.⁵



of fatalities and near fatalities involved a parent as perpetrator.⁵

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO PREVENT THE OCCURRENCE OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT?

Evidence-based (EB) and other programs can prevent child maltreatment. It's important to consider these three factors:

Conceptualization of Child Maltreatment⁶

It's essential to understand the role of culture in parenting and in making interventions across different cultures.



► **Definitions of culture in research, practice, and policy.** Important to have fluid considerations of culture in order to discuss in practical ways how prevention and intervention programs adapt to diverse families.

► **Research and applied work in child maltreatment.** Critical to recognize the heterogeneity in experiences, beliefs, and practices within ethnic minority groups.

► **Culture, parenting, and child maltreatment in societal context.** Crucial to attend to the cultural forces influencing parenting practices across diverse families.

Implementation of Evidence-Based Practice Programs⁷

Important aspects for successful large-scale implementation:



► Workforce willing and able to implement new EB practice programs, no matter how much it would take.

► Organizations (stakeholders) that support new EB practice programs.

► Referral sources in the community that are sufficiently informed about the programs.

► Integration of the new EB program into electronic referral system to be used in all counties across the state.

Relational Approaches to Secondary Prevention of Child Maltreatment⁸

Positive parenting is vital in supporting young children's cognitive development.



► The Reminiscing and Emotion Training (RET) approach can facilitate elaborative and emotion-rich reminiscing between maltreating parents and their preschool-aged children.

► During elaborative reminiscing, parents learn to talk to their children in ways that invite children to participate in the conversation (ask open-ended questions and fill in details when children don't remember).

► In emotion-rich reminiscing, parents discuss how children feel, label their emotions, and explain why they feel as they do and how they can resolve emotions.

► Maltreated children commonly have significant deficiency in memory, self-system functioning, and emotion regulation. RET may increase the protective effects of positive parent-child relationships and enhance parental sensitivity.

References:

1. Child Welfare Information Gateway. (2013). Fact Sheets for Families. Impact of child abuse & neglect. Retrieved from <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/can/impact>
2. http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/cm_surveillance-a.pdf
Leeb, R. T., Paulozzi, L., Melanson, C., Simon, T., & Arias, I. (2008). Child maltreatment surveillance. Uniform definitions for public health and recommended data elements, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta.
Hines, D.A., & Malley-Morrison, K. (2005). Family Violence in the United States: Defining, Understanding, and Combating Abuse. Sage Publications, Inc. Thousand Oaks, CA.
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Injury Prevention and Control: Division of Violence Prevention. (2014). Child Maltreatment: Consequences. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/childmaltreatment/consequences.html>
Hines, D.A., & Malley-Morrison, K. (2005). Family Violence in the United States: Defining, Understanding, and Combating Abuse. Sage Publications, Inc. Thousand Oaks, CA.
4. Kentucky Kids Count/Kentucky Cabinet for Health & Family Services. (<http://datacenter.kidscount.org>). © 2008 The Annie E. Casey Foundation.
5. Division of Protection and Permanency, Department for Community Based Services, Cabinet for Health and Family Services (2014). Child abuse and neglect annual report of fatalities and near fatalities. Retrieved from http://chfs.ky.gov/NR/rdonlyres/8A7A72CA-BFD4-4183-8827-AED7D6C36AD4/0/DOC_20140916133736.pdf
6. Finno, M., Velasquez, Shuey, E.A., Kotake, C., & Miller, J.J. (2015). Cultural considerations in refining intervention designs. In D. Daro, A. C. Donnelly, L. A. Huang., & B. J. Powell (Eds.) Advances in Child Abuse Prevention Knowledge: The Perspective of New Leadership. New York, NY: Springer.
7. Whitaker, D. J., Ryan, K. A., Wild, R. C., Self-Brown, S., Lutzker, J. R., Shanley, J. R., Edwards, A. M., McFry, E. A., Moseley, C. N., & Hodges, A. E. (2012). Initial implementation indicators from a statewide rollout of SafeCare within a child welfare system. Child Maltreatment, 17, 96-101.
8. Valentino, K., Comas, M., Nuttall, A. K., Thomas, T. (2013). Training maltreating parents in elaborative and emotion-rich reminiscing with their preschool-aged children. Child Abuse & Neglect 37, 585-595.

