

Child Welfare Research and Training Project

Community Partnerships for Protecting Children

Purpose: To educate, empower, support, and collaborate with human service professionals and community members to ensure and protect the welfare of Iowa's children and families.

Community Partnerships for Protecting Children (CPPC)	ISU supports Community Partnerships for Protecting Children (CPPC) through an agreement with the Iowa Department of Human Services (IDHS), to provide technical assistance, training, and capacity building. CPPC is a community-based approach to strengthen families, keep children safe, and create community collaborations. Community Partnerships work to reduce negative childhood experiences, promote responsibility in protecting children, and build safety networks. The CPPC team works with communities to integrate the work and expertise of professionals and community members to bolster supports for vulnerable families and children. Currently, forty CPPC local decision-making groups, involving ninety-nine Iowa counties, guide the implementation of CPPC. Funding for this agreement supports a broad range of community and child welfare stakeholders through trainings and capacity building as mentioned below.
4 CPPC Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Shared Decision Making ✓ Individualized Course of Action ✓ Neighborhood/Community Networking ✓ Policy and Practice Change
Cultural Equity Statewide Coordination	Cultural Equity Statewide efforts promote and implement activities to address race and ethnicity disproportionality and disparity in the child welfare system. These efforts include providing technical assistance, capacity building, advocacy, outreach, and reporting. The Cultural Equity Statewide Coordinator actively collaborates with and serves as a liaison to the Iowa Department of Human Services, collecting and analyzing relevant data regarding disproportionate and disparate outcomes in child welfare to inform system policy and practice.
Cultural Equity Learning Exchanges	ISU, through IDHS funding, offers two full-day learning exchanges with the goal of reducing disparity and disproportionality in Iowa's child welfare system. Race: the Power of an Illusion (RPI) and Understanding Implicit Racial: Rewiring Our Perceptions and Intentions (UIRB) bring together child welfare professionals, volunteers, and community members for conversations about the intersections of race, equity, and child welfare. With support of local community hosts, approximately 15 sessions each of RPI and UIRB occur throughout the State of Iowa during the state fiscal year (SFY).
APPC Partnership	The AmeriCorps Partnering to Protect Children (APPC) , supported by matching funds from CPPC, places AmeriCorps Members statewide with up to 12 CPPC and Allied Agency sites to build local capacity to address the key strategies of the CPPC.
Parent Cafes and Safe and Together Trainings	<p>Parent Café Trainings, through an agreement with Be Strong Families, support CPPC sites in building their capacity via the Parent Café Training Institute. Four community members became Parent Café certified trainers in SFY21 and provide training to CPPC sites in SFY22.</p> <p>Safe and Together Model/Domestic Violence Trainings, through an agreement with Safe and Together Institute, provided over 100 IDHS field staff three Domestic Violence In Child Welfare eLearnings in SFY21 and continue to build skills through additional courses in SFY22.</p>
Research	Graduate Research Assistants conduct research, literature reviews, and focus groups to refine CPPC and Equity strategies and provide data support on behavioral changes in the field through 60 day follow up Learning Exchange surveys.
FY21 Funding	Funded by Iowa Department of Human Services Bureau of Child Welfare and Community Services

