

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)	Community Partnerships for Protecting Children (CPPC) is a community-based approach to protecting children implemented throughout the state by the Iowa Department of Human Services (IDHS) in 2007. CPPC involves all community members and works to prevent child abuse, neglect, and re-abuse. The CPPC approach aims to safely decrease the number of out-of-home placements and promote timely reunification when children are placed in foster care. CPPC works to protect children by changing culture and improving child welfare processes, practices, and policies. Since 2011, the CPPC Team at Iowa State University (ISU) Child Welfare Research and Training Project (CWRTP) has coordinated learning opportunities, facilitated technical assistance, developed the CPPC approach within CPPC sites, and implemented program activities. This work contributes to strengthening community partnerships and decreasing disproportionality and disparity in child welfare. There are 40 CPPC local decision-making groups statewide in all 99 Iowa counties. For more information on CPPC, visit https://dhs.iowa.gov/child-welfare/CPPCfamilies
4 CPPC Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">✓ Shared Decision Making <li style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">✓ Family and Youth Centered Engagement <li style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">✓ Neighborhood/Community Networking <li style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">✓ Policy and Practice Change
Cultural Equity Statewide Coordination	Cultural Equity Statewide Coordination efforts promote and implement activities to address race and ethnicity disproportionality and disparity in the child welfare system. These efforts include 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 Cultural Equity Learning Exchanges with the goal of reducing disparity and disproportionality in Iowa's child welfare system. <i>Race: the Power of an Illusion (RPI)</i> and <i>Understanding Implicit Racial: Rewiring Our Perceptions and Intentions (UIRB)</i> learning exchanges bring together child welfare professionals, volunteers, and community members for conversations about the intersections of race, equity, and child welfare. With the support of local community hosts, approximately 15 sessions each of RPI and UIRB occur throughout Iowa during the state fiscal year (SFY).
APPC Partnership	The AmeriCorps Partnering to Protect Children (APPC) , partially supported by matching funds from CPPC for 2021-2022, 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	Parent Café Training , through an agreement with Be Strong Families, supports CPPC sites in building community and family capacity via the Parent Café Training Institute.
Connect and Protect CAP Seminars	The CPPC team coordinates and hosts the biannual CAP (Connect and Protect) seminars for IDHS child welfare supervisors and field staff, domestic violence advocates, family-centered services providers, and Parent Partners.
Research	Graduate Research Assistants conduct research to refine CPPC and equity strategies and logic models and compile data on the Cultural Equity Learning Exchange evaluations.
FY21 Funding	Funded by the Iowa Department of Human Services Bureau of Child Welfare and Community Services



