

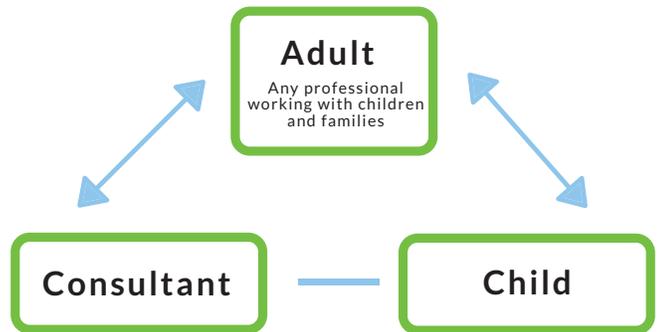


HELPING ADULTS HELP CHILDREN SUCCEED

Mental Health Consultation Belongs in all Early Childhood Settings to Create Healthier, Stronger Communities in Wisconsin

What is Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation?

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation is an evidence based collaborative intervention provided by a professional with mental health expertise that improves outcomes for all children. It builds adults' capacity to strengthen and support children's social and emotional health and development.



Why it Matters:

3.5x

Children (ages 0-4) are expelled 3.5 times more than children in the K-12 education system.

(Gilliam, 2005)



Almost **one in three Wisconsin educators** are replaced every year.

(Wisconsin Early Childhood Association, 2016)

8x



Children who are expelled or suspended are 8 times more likely to be incarcerated later in life.

(American Psychological Association, 2008)

50%

Fewer reported expulsions by teachers who have ongoing mental health consultation support.

(Perry, Brennan, Bradley, and Allen, 2006)



How Does it Work?

Consultants equip adults with the tools and insights to support healthy social and emotional development in infants and young children by:

APPROACHES

Promoting strong relationships and a supportive environment.

Partnering with parents and other adults to build capacity and skills to understand and support children.

Helping all children feel safe, supported and valued.

OUTCOMES



Reducing Adults' Stress



Reducing Challenging Behaviors



Reducing Expulsion



Goal: Create an early childhood mental health consultation system in Wisconsin where consultants help adults support healthy growth and development, preventing expulsion, nurturing young learners and keeping their parents at work.

Create an Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation System in Wisconsin

- 1. The Right Supports at the Right Time:** Consultants who are trained in the unique needs of infants and young children.
- 2. Infrastructure:** Administrative structure to support implementation and systems to track and monitor data.
- 3. Help the Helpers:** Ongoing training and support for adults working with children and families.
- 4. Links to Community Resources:** Access to an extensive network and resources to support children and their families.

\$9 Per Child

References:

Gilliam, W.S. (2005) Prekindergarteners left behind: Expulsion rate in state prekindergarten systems. New York, NY: Foundation for Child Development.

Perry, Brennan, Bradley, & Allen, 2006. The evidence base for mental health consultation in early childhood settings: a research synthesis addressing children's behavior outcomes Early Education and Development 20(10); 795 - 824. and Gilliam, W.S. (2005) Prekindergarteners left behind: Expulsion rate in state prekindergarten systems. New York, NY: Foundation for Child Development.

Vitela-Irvin, L. (2010). Child retention in Wisconsin child care settings: Understanding the attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors that impact expulsion and retention in early care and education. Madison, WI: Supporting Families Together Association.