

Invitation to Participate™

Ages 0-3 Healthy Starts Committee

Secure Attachment Collaborative

Date of Invitation Release: June 20, 2011

Deadline for Submission of Responses: July 15, 2011

Project overview:

In order to increase positive social and emotional learning between infants ages 0-12 months and their parent(s) and other caregivers, we seek the expertise of professionals to define a uniform, culturally diverse message about behaviors which promote secure attachment between infants and their parent(s) and other caregivers. Research demonstrates that the development of secure attachment lays a strong foundation for lifelong learning.

Services requested:

The committee has identified the need for the following services from the community:

- Professionals with expertise in the areas of infant social/emotional development to collaborate on a simple, consistent best-practice message which will be disseminated through various institutional caregivers to all infant parent(s) and other caregivers.

Goal:

Children will be healthier and safer as their caregivers utilize improved social/emotional learning methods.

RPS strategy:

5.1.9 Create a preschool program that gives families access to the resources to properly prepare their children for their educational experience.

Tactic:

Conduct a series of “train the trainer” sessions throughout Rockford led by child development professionals to teach a simple, consistent message of secure attachment.

General project description:

Research shows that a critical component to children's ability to explore, play and learn on their own is the secure caregiver attachments that are established in infancy. A consistent social/emotional learning message will be developed and delivered in language tailored to various groups, with a goal of training institutional caregivers (e.g. medical caregivers, faith workers, childcare providers, recreation specialists, social service providers, and teachers) to return to their respective organizations and train their staff providers who would themselves utilize the message and in turn relay that message to parent(s) and other caregivers of children ages 0-12 months.

For example, daycare providers would receive training focused on daily activities geared to help children reach appropriate milestones. Healthcare workers would receive the message adapted to developmental assessment in a brief clinic or hospital encounter. Community centers or faith communities would be taught methods in talking with parent(s) and other caregivers about powerful social and emotional interactions with their children. Professional caregivers would model the simple, consistent message and also relay it to family caregivers.

This project will have three phases:

- Phase 1 issues this initial Invitation to Participate™ to professionals who will convene to craft a simple, consistent social/emotional learning message.
- Phase 2 will be to disseminate the message through “train the trainer” sessions to service and care providers.
- Phase 3 will take place when service and care providers disseminate the message to family caregivers and assessment data is gathered from focus groups.

Target population:

This initial ITP™ is targeted to child development experts in the areas of infant social/emotional development.

Expected dates of implementation:

Phase 1: Experts will convene on Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. for an initial overview meeting to begin crafting the simple, consistent message. They will finalize their message by Sept. 30, 2011.

Phase 2: Trainer(s) will receive the message and craft training sessions in November and December, 2011.

Phase 3: The message will be disseminated to service providers and caregivers beginning January 2012 who will in turn coach families of children birth to 12 months about powerful social and emotional interactions with their children. Effectiveness will be assessed by surveying supervisors.

Expected outcomes:

- A simple, consistent social/emotional learning message is crafted.
- Increase in service provider and caregiver understanding and skills in social/emotional development.
- Providers pass the social/emotional learning message on to parent(s) and other family caregivers so that children are more likely to be healthy and safe.

Assessment strategies:

- Highly qualified child development experts participate in crafting the simple, consistent message.
- Highly qualified trainers accept the simple, consistent message.
- Provider participants attend training sessions.
- Provider participants adopt the simple, consistent message and their employees model the interactions.
- Survey participants to assess adoption and implementation by providers.
- Survey participant clients to evaluate if they know and implement the simple, consistent message.

Overview of Alignment Rockford:

The purpose of Alignment Rockford (AR) is to align community resources in support of public school strategies to raise student achievement, improve the health and happiness of our children, and advance the economic and social well-being of our community. Our goal is to improve the achievement of all school children through a citywide partnership initiative that will provide important and needed services to the schools. Your expertise and programs are critical to the success of Alignment Rockford. We hope you will join us in this effort.

Invitation to Participate™ Process:

The Healthy Starts Committee has developed a pilot project to align the resources of community organizations – non-profits, government agencies, colleges and universities, businesses, faith-based organizations, and others – in support of a common goal. The Invitation to Participate™ (ITP™) process provides these community organizations with an opportunity to propose ways that they can align their existing resources for increased impact on student outcomes. The committee will review proposals based on organizational capacity and expertise, willingness to collaborate, and likelihood of success.

Benefits to participating organizations:

Participation in this pilot provides your organization with the following benefits:

- Improvements in outcomes for all Rockford children, particularly those who need additional support to realize their potential.

- Opportunities to contribute in areas in which you have specific skills and capacities.
- Opportunities for collaboration and for building individual agency capacity.
- Data and measurable results to support outcome reporting to funding agencies.
- The opportunity to be a partner with a community-wide initiative to redesign, elevate, and increase the effectiveness of the delivery of services to Rockford’s school children.
- The ability to work directly with Rockford schools, and to establish a strong relationship with key administrators and teachers.
- The opportunity to receive matching funds through grant requests by AR to foundations and other sources of support. Your organization’s contribution of resources to the work of AR will enhance your potential to be a recipient of related funding.

Healthy Starts Committee members:

Co-Chair:	Glen Burress, M.D.	SwedishAmerican Children’s Medical Center
Co-Chair:	Colleen Cyrus	RPS 205
	Bev Cicolello	RPS 205 – Fairview Early Education Center
	Becky Cook Kendall	Rockford Health Council
	Mitch Davenport	Mildred Berry Center
	Darcy Dunn	RPS 205 – Fairview Early Education Center
	Jane Erikson	Early Learning Council
	Cheryl Floyd	Winnebago County Health Department
	Omer Francis	Spirit of Truth Church
	Mike Gallagher	Celtic Consultants
	Nancy Halverson	Crusader Community Health
	Jennifer Jaeger	City of Rockford
	Rebecca Kopf	PR Etc.
	Juliette Kula	YWCA of Rockford
	Kathleen Kurtz	Easter Seals Children’s Development Center
	Joanne Lewis	City of Rockford Head Start
	Steve Lidvall, M.D.	SwedishAmerican Health System
	Dorothy Reddic	Zion Michael Enterprise
	Kathy Reese	Lutheran Social Services of Illinois
	Karen Rossi	Rockford Early Childhood Program
	Elias Soria	Rockford Housing Authority

Secure Attachment Collaborative ITP™ Response Form

ITP™ Release Date: June 20, 2011

Responses Due: July 15, 2011

Contact Information

Organization	
Street Address	
City State ZIP	
Phone	
Contact Name	
Title	
Email Address	

Your Organization

Please describe ***your organization's*** expertise in the areas of infant social/emotional development.

You

Please describe ***your*** expertise in the areas of infant social/emotional development.

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Submitted by

Name (printed)	
Date	

Submit

Please submit this completed form before July 15, 2011, by faxing to 815-637-7629 or emailing to dianepeters@alignmentrockford.com. Thank you.