

Invitation to Participate™

Ages 0-3 Healthy Starts Committee

Secure Attachment Collaborative – Phase 2

Date of release: November 15, 2011

Responses must be submitted by: January 20, 2012

Project overview:

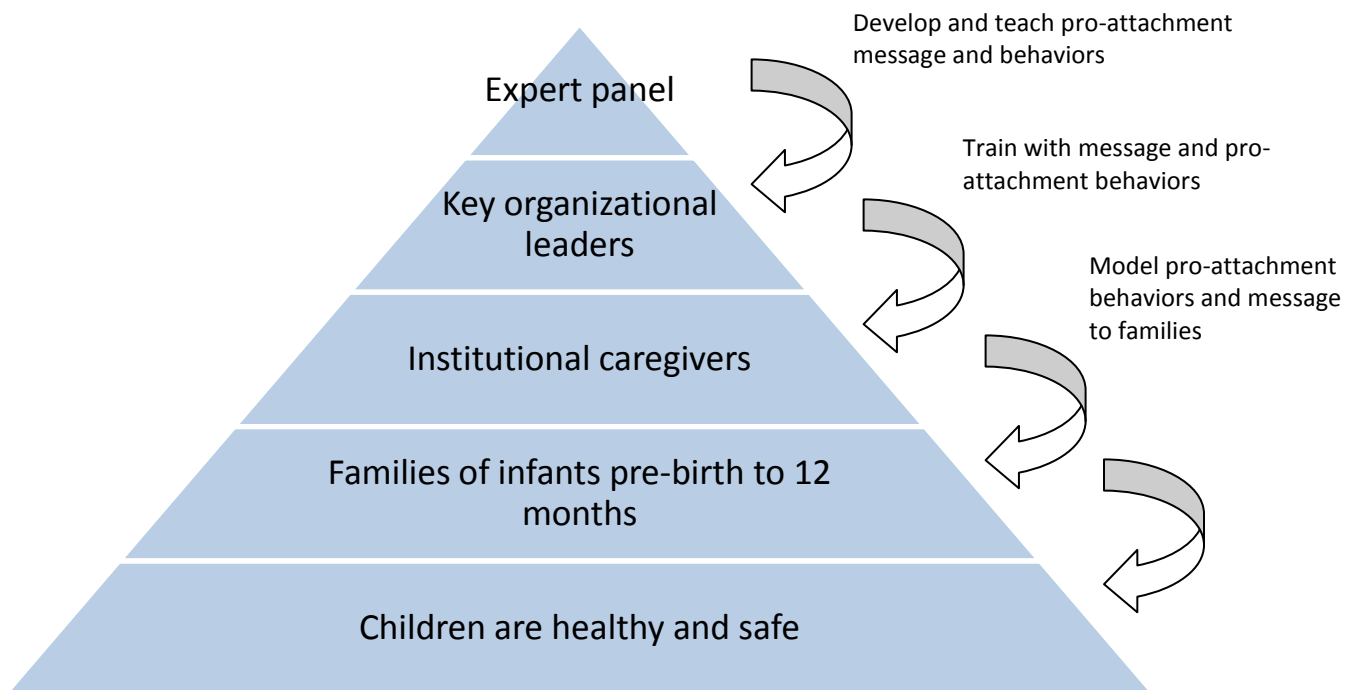
The Alignment Rockford Healthy Starts Committee is inviting all youth-serving organizations to increase their understanding about and model behaviors which will promote secure attachment for infants pre-birth to 12 months by attending informational workshops. These workshops will be train-the-trainer sessions designed to assist community organizations that work with families with children pre-birth to 12 months to model and teach pro-attachment behaviors with parents, guardians and caregivers of infants. We are inviting participants from social service agencies, child care, faith communities, clinics, hospitals and other community groups to join us. We are also seeking services that will help us convene these meetings.

RPS goal:

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

Tactic designed by committee:

The Healthy Starts Committee will utilize a *train-the-trainer tactic*, illustrated by the following diagram:



Services requested:

This *Secure Attachment Collaborative ITP™* is requesting organizations to participate in one, or more, of the following ways:

Primarily, we are seeking organizations to:

- Send us the name of one or more key representative(s) to attend a one-hour pro-attachment training event in January or February, 2012. After the training event these representatives will be prepared to train your employee caregivers to:
 - 1) Model pro-attachment behaviors; and
 - 2) Train families of children pre-birth to 12 months about the critical developmental importance of a secure attachment.
- Teach the pro-attachment message and behaviors to community members with families of children pre-birth to 12 months (i.e. church groups, school groups, neighborhood associations, parenting groups, etc.).

Secondarily, we are also seeking organizations to:

- Provide a facility to host one or more train-the-trainer sessions. Audiovisual and food service support would be helpful.
- Provide expertise and access to specific groups such as non-English speaking populations, developmentally disabled populations, foster care, etc.
- Provide food services.
- Provide publications, newsletters or bulletins in which the simple, diverse secure attachment message could be printed for parents and caregivers of children pre-birth to 12 months to read.
- Offer mass media access to present the topic for discussion.
- Provide other services which would promote pro-attachments messages and behaviors.

General project description:

Research shows that a critical developmental component of 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 has been developed by a group of community child development experts based on research and best practices. This message will be delivered in language tailored to various service provider groups, with a goal of training 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 to model pro-attachment behaviors and in turn relay and reinforce that message to parent(s) and other caregivers of children pre-birth to 12 months.

For example, daycare providers would receive training focused on daily activities geared to help children reach appropriate social/emotional/physical developmental milestones and to relay that to clients/parents. Health-care workers would receive a message adapted to developmental assessment and providing the attachment message in a brief clinic or hospital encounter. Community centers and faith communities would be taught messages geared to talking with parent(s) and other caregivers about their powerful social and emotional interactions with children.

This ITP™ represents Phase 2 of our project:

- Phase 1 issued an initial Invitation to Participate™ to professionals, who convened to craft a simple, consistent social/emotional learning message in September, 2011.
- **Phase 2 is the training. This Invitation to Participate™ invites organizations to be trained 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.

Primary target population:

Any organizations which provide services to families of children pre-birth to 12 months of age, including but not limited to:

- Social service providers
- Higher education institutions
- Student training programs
- Schools, including home schools
- Hospitals
- Prenatal caregivers
- Faith organizations
- Recreation specialists

Expected dates of implementation:

Phase 1: Experts created an attachment message in September, 2011.

Phase 2: Trainers will hold training sessions in January and February, 2012 for employee caregivers.

Phase 3: The message will be disseminated to service providers and caregivers beginning March, 2012 who will in turn coach families of children pre-birth to 12 months about powerful social and emotional interactions with children. Effectiveness will be assessed by surveying individuals who supervise institutional caregivers.

Expected outcomes:

The desired outcome is that children develop secure attachments in order to be healthy and safe.

Assessment strategies:

- Key organizational leaders accept the simple, consistent pro-attachment message.
- Number of community organizations which attend training sessions.
- Provider participants teach the message to their employees who model pro-attachment behaviors and train families and caregivers.
- Survey participants to assess adoption and implementation by providers.
- Survey participant clients to evaluate if they know and implement the simple, consistent message.

Short term	Number of organizations offering services
Mid term	Number of participants in the training sessions
Long term	Agency visits to observe pro-attachment behaviors
	Number of sessions conducted by each trainer with their target audience
	Focus groups to evaluate success

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.

If your organization would like to participate, please visit www.alignmentrockford.com and complete the ITP™ Response Form. Alternatively, the ITP™ Response Form can be found at the end of this ITP™ and can be completed and faxed to 815-637-7629.

Please submit your response by January 20, 2012. If you have questions, please contact Laurie Preece at 815-637-7623 or lauriepreece@alignmentrockford.com.

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
	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	Speech/Language Pathologist
	Elias Soria	Rockford Housing Authority

Secure Attachment Collaborative – Phase 2 ITP™ Response Form

ITP™ Release Date: November 15, 2011

Responses Due: January 20, 2012

Contact Information

Organization	
Street Address	
City State ZIP	
Phone	
Contact Name (trainer)	
Title	
Email Address	

Your Mission

Please describe the mission of your organization.

Community Access

What community groups do you have access to for community conversations?

Services

What services, identified on Page 2, could your organization provide?

Benefits

What benefits will this training provide to your organization?

Submitted by

Name (printed)	
Date	

Submit

Please submit this completed form before January 20, 2012, by faxing to 815-637-7629 or emailing to dianepeters@alignmentrockford.com. Thank you.