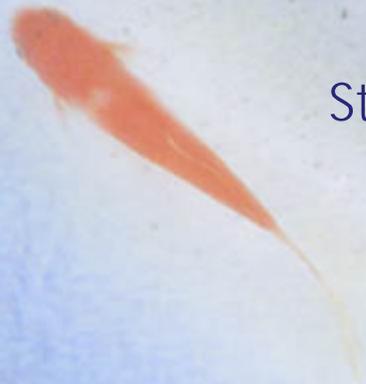


Partnering to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect and Promote Family Strengthening: A Systems Approach to Child and Family Welfare

Hawaii's Early Childhood Comprehensive System (ECCS) Grant in Partnership with Good Beginnings Alliance (GBA)

Strengthening State Systems to Promote Early Childhood Development,
Washington, DC
January 18 – 19, 2007



ECSS Grant

Five Components of ECSS Grant

- Family Support
- Medical Homes
- Early Care & Education
- Parenting
- Social Emotional Health

Family Support

- All of Hawaii's young Children will have a safe and supportive environment.

| Expected Outcomes | Indicators |
|---|--|
| Children are safe from intentional injuries and child abuse or neglect in their homes and communities | Child abuse and neglect incidence rate 11.8 (HI) 12.3 (US) |

Hawaii's Strategies to Strengthen Families and Reduce Child Abuse and Neglect

1. Systems Building - Child Safety Collaborative
2. Partnerships - Enhanced Healthy Start
3. Advocacy - Good Beginnings Alliance, Voices Chapter

Child Safety Collaborative

Hawaii's ECCS Plan included safety as a goal:

GOAL

- To have child safety systems that are coordinated, effective, and well funded.
- To identify the use of resources, i.e. what is being spent, where, and how it works.

ACTIVITY

- To accomplish this goal, ECCS is building on an already existing group, the Child Safety Collaborative

Child Safety Collaborative

MISSION:

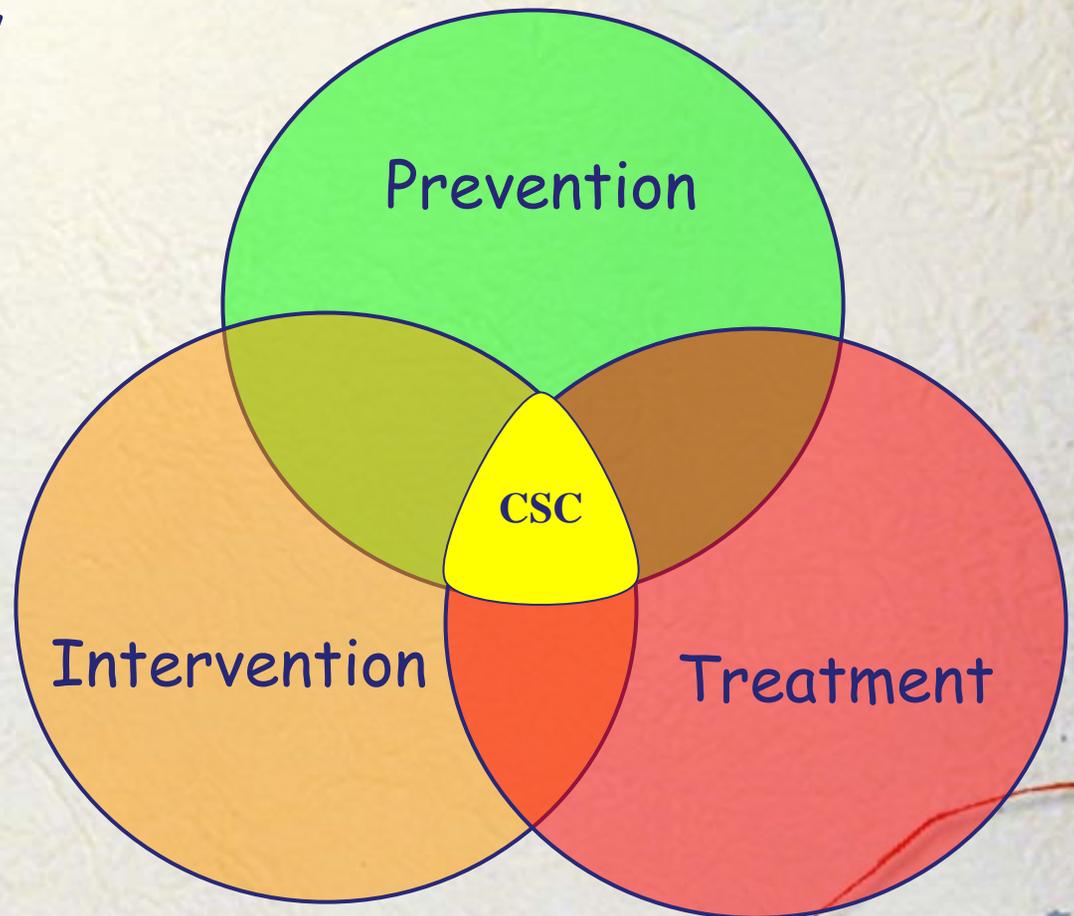
- To promote a safe and nurturing environment for children and youth.

'Safe was defined for the purposes of this group to mean: Free from environmental, physical or emotional harm. The focus is on programs whose primary goal is safety rather than health, school readiness or education.

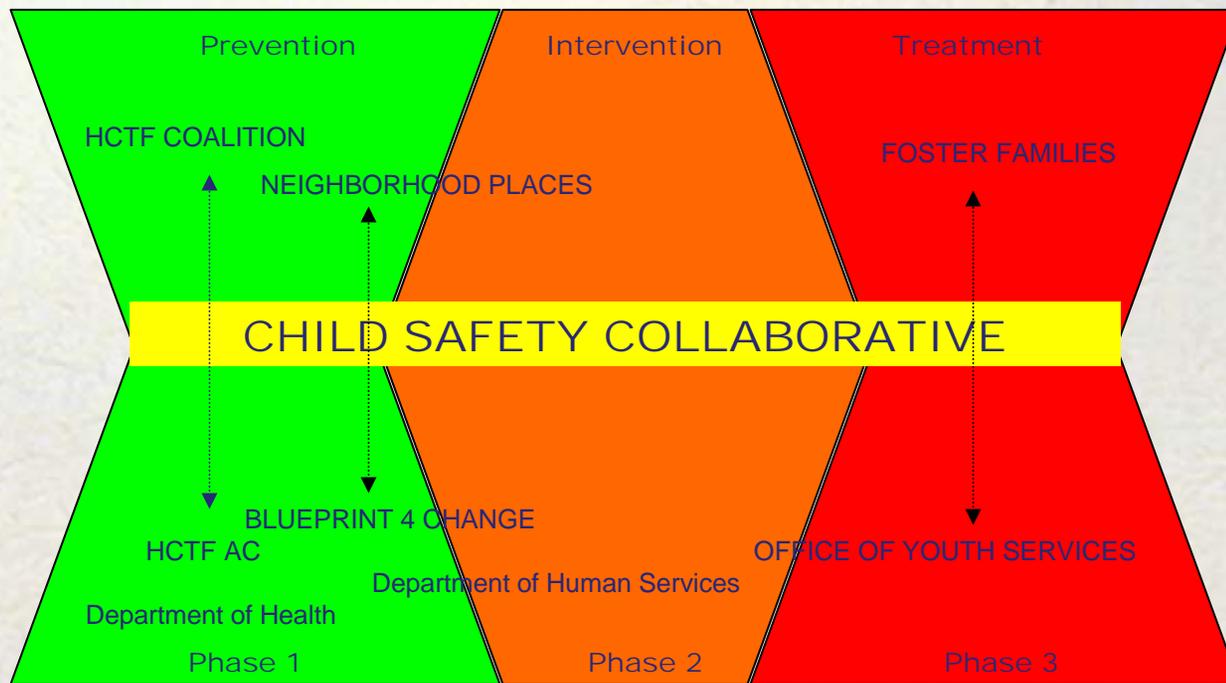
Child Safety Collaborative

Prevention-Intervention-Treatment Model*

Promote coordinated planning, implementation, and evaluation of quality prevention, early intervention, and treatment services for children, youth, and families at the state and local levels.



How the Child Safety Collaborative can Work



CSC could work on prevention for 1 -2 years then move on to Intervention and Treatment

or

Key Stakeholders from Each Section could meet together at CSC

Hawaii's Healthy Start

Healthy Start is a voluntary home visitation program that provides services to families of newborns who, due to various economic and social factors, are at high risk for child abuse and neglect. The program offers parent education, care coordination, information and referral, problem-solving and coping techniques, and child-health and developmental assessment--all provided in families' homes by trained paraprofessionals.

Hawaii's Enhanced Healthy Start

- Enhanced Healthy Start provides home visiting and support services through a team approach that works with biological families as well as foster parents to promote and enhance healthy child development, increase healthy family functioning, and decrease the risk factors for child abuse and neglect. EHS services are available to families with children up to the age of 3, who are currently involved in the Child Welfare System, and who meet environmental risk criteria.

Enhanced Healthy Start Interagency Task Force

- Dept. of Health and Dept. of Human Services Partnership (**SCR 13/SCR 45**) statewide interagency task force ("Task Force") to develop a plan for better coordination and expansion of services provided through the Healthy Start programs to young children and their families.

Enhanced Healthy Start Department of Human Services Child Welfare Services

- Concurrent to the Task Force carrying out its work, the Department of Human Services was involved in developing a Federally mandated Performance Improvement Plan ("PIP") for its Child Welfare Services ("CWS") program

Enhanced Healthy Start MOA

Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Dept. of Health and Dept. of Human Services

- The MOA cited the Task Force goal of “improving outcomes among children age 0 to 5 in Hawai`i including reducing maltreatment by improving the system of prevention and treatment services”, as a goal shared by the two Departments.
- It outlined responsibilities of each Department and established mechanisms for communication and dispute resolution.
- It was signed by the Directors of both Departments in May, 2004

Enhanced Healthy Start

Other Accomplishments

- agreement to expand Healthy Start (HS) eligibility to include families also active with Child Welfare Services, including increasing the age eligibility for referrals from CWS;
- ensuring better communication and cross-training of workers within the CWS and HS programs. Federal funds of up to an additional \$3.2 million from the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program had been earmarked by the DHS to expand *Enhanced Healthy Start services statewide beginning with fiscal year 2005-2006.*
- Other changes made in 2004 include specific DOH policy changes within the HS program to allow for HS services to young children in foster care and new provisions for carrying out prenatal screening and assessment of families enrolling in the HS program on O`ahu.

Good Beginnings Alliance

- Good Beginnings Alliance is a statewide public-private initiative for Hawaii's youngest children and their families. We strive to ensure the safe and healthy development of all children from pre-birth to age five. Good Beginnings is designated in [Act 77](#) of the 1997 Session Laws and is responsible for building Hawaii's early childhood system.

Good Beginnings Alliance

- ***Our Mission***

Good Beginnings Alliance works in partnership with families, communities, policy makers, early childhood providers, businesses, and advocates to shape public will and public policy; mobilize action; and maximize resources, to ensure that all of Hawaii's children are safe, healthy, and ready to succeed.

- ***Our Vision***

Through a strong commitment all of Hawaii's keiki will be safe, healthy and ready to succeed.

Good Beginnings Alliance

“Voices for America’s Children”

Chapter

- Good Beginnings will umbrella the VOICES membership and connect VOICES to its Champions for Children.
- VOICES is a comprehensive effort for children that is inclusive of all ages and covers the domains of health, safety, education and economic security.
- A VOICES organization is an advocacy group, not a policy-making entity.

Thank You!

- Liz Chun, Good Beginnings Alliance, Executive Director
- Loretta "Deliana" J. Fuddy, Family Health Services Division, Chief
- Keiko Nitta, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Coordinator