

A low-angle photograph of the South Dakota State Capitol dome, showing its dark, ribbed structure and the ornate columns of the base. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment

2023 Advocacy Initiatives

*Advancing the effort
to end child maltreatment
in South Dakota.*

CPCM

KNOW | RESPOND | PREVENT

CENTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD MALTREATMENT

2023 Public Policy Statements

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2023 PUBLIC POLICY POSITION STATEMENTS

All policy issues point to the goal of ending child maltreatment in South Dakota. We understand that what is predictable is preventable. We need to strengthen what we know about, how we respond to, and how we prevent child maltreatment in our state. The following initiatives align with:

- **CPCM strategic plan:** <https://sdcpm.com/who-we-are/10-year-work-plan/>
- **CDC strategies for preventing ACEs:** <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/aces/prevention.html>

PREVENTING CHILD MALTREATMENT IN ALL FORMS

- Strengthen sexual abuse prevention programs and laws.
- Create holistic and culturally appropriate responses and strengthen laws and policies to address instances of abuse, neglect, and household disfunction.
- Strengthen and support resources, laws, and initiatives to address the co-occurrence of child physical abuse and domestic abuse.
- Support and strengthen laws focusing on the best interest of the child.

REPORTING CHILD MALTREATMENT

- Increase training for mandatory reporters in South Dakota.
- Increase public awareness for permissive reporting of child maltreatment. Increase the list of professions included as mandatory reporters in SDCL.
- Increase and support bystander awareness training.

SUPPORTING RISK & PROTECTIVE FACTORS FOR BUILDING RESILIENCE IN CHILDREN & FAMILIES

- Increase access services to families such as home visiting, early childhood education, and parent education.
- Promote access to mental health services to parents and all those affected by childhood trauma.
- Support efforts to increase safe, affordable childcare and early childhood education. Increase funding for evidence-based family support services and other necessary resources so they can be established in all communities.
- Promote the notion of a shared societal responsibility for investing in the healthy development of children and providing all families with the support and resources they need and deserve.
- Support a task force on coordinating victim services.
- Support a multi-agency coordination team for children's mental health services.

DATA

- Support data collection, analysis, and sharing to create opportunity within the community and the state for increasing protective and decreasing risk factors for children.

CENTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD MALTREATMENT

The Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment (CPCM) is developing sustainable solutions to reduce all forms of child maltreatment in South Dakota, beginning with child sexual abuse.

Child maltreatment prevention and response is a complex issue. Responsibility for prevention efforts and corresponding promotion of child wellbeing is shared across multiple agencies and programs in the child welfare system. CPCM brings unity to the work.

Established by the South Dakota Legislature in 2017, CPCM aims to align local, tribal, state and federal efforts to protect children. CPCM's work product revolves around the CDC Adverse Childhood Experiences prevention strategies. The activities performed by the CPCM partners advance better coordination of programs across systems to take full advantage of the use of available resources statewide.

CPCM is operated by a staff of ten and is housed within the School of Health Sciences at the University of South Dakota. The CPCM Advisory Board is made up of community leaders, policy makers, survivors, and advocates.

CPCM'S STATEWIDE EFFORT

- 500** South Dakota educators received Child and Adult Advocacy Studies training, building trauma-informed classrooms for our students.
- 291** Professionals participated in Court Improvement Program trainings, acquiring new tools and resources for handling childhood abuse and neglect cases.
- 550** South Dakotans attended the 22nd Annual Community Response to Child Abuse Conference, fostering multidisciplinary connections to benefit their communities and roles.
- 190** Nurses and medical providers provided training opportunities and technical assistance through the SANE learning collaborative, strengthening care for sexual assault victims.
- 5,080** Training attendants participated in 110 training and continuing education sessions sponsored by CPCM.
- 19,000** South Dakotans trained on adverse childhood experiences, creating awareness and encouraging stronger communities.

