

2023

ANNUAL REPORT



CPCM

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CENTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD MALTREATMENT



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Students are vital in the work of CPCM

Thank you supporters, partners, and trainers

Advisory Board

Thank you. For the work you do in your profession, as an advocate, a volunteer, a community member – as a supporter of South Dakota children's well-being. The work done in child maltreatment response and prevention is carried out by hundreds of people across the state. The work can be difficult and done knowing that our greatest impact may be yet to come for future generations.

Through a year of transition, the work of CPCM continued. In the past year we continued to help our state know about, respond to, and prevent child maltreatment in all forms. In the past year, we:

- Celebrated 3 new communities collaboratively working together through the Resilient Communities tools to increase resiliency for families and children.
- Trained 30 post-secondary educators on the Adverse Childhood Experiences Interface Presenter training.
- Published the *State of South Dakota Children's Well-being: 2023 Report*.
- Completed the first phase of Child & Adult Advocacy Studies K-12 Educators Training and trained 1,000 educators on identifying and responding to trauma.
- Reached 352 professionals and advocates with the monthly Court Improvement Program training series.
- Launched a new online learning course, *Recognizing & Reporting Child Maltreatment* and piloted the course within USD's School of Health Sciences, to reach 300+ students.
- Held the first SANE-A Clinical Skills Lab in Rapid City.
- Recognized two representatives selected to serve on the national ECCS Evaluation Project.
- Supported the legislation signed to allow courtroom modifications for child victims.
- Received a \$1 million grant to innovatively connect families to WIC services.
- Co-hosted 430 professionals at the Community Response to Child Abuse Conference.



Of course, this progress is only made possible through the valued collaborations and partnerships held with our fellow fighters in the effort to end child maltreatment in the state. Together, we continue to develop sustainable solutions to reduce all forms of child maltreatment in South Dakota. And you play a valuable role in our ongoing effort. I hope that as you read through Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment's annual report, that you see that it is truly your report, as it is all of our responsibility to move forward in the effort to keep all children safe in our state.

Representative Taylor Rehfeldt
2023 Advisory Board Chair

2023 Advisory Board

Dr. Haifa AbouSamra, University of South Dakota
Shirley Bad Wound, Rosebud Sioux Tribe
Pamela Bennett, SD Department of Social Services
Pamela Carriveau, SD Board of Regents
Dr. Shana Cerny, University of South Dakota
Beth Dokken, SD Department of Health
Daniele Dosch, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Linda Duba, SD House of Representatives
Helene Duhamel, SD State Senate
Nikki Eining, USD Center for Disabilities
Sherri Fischer, Sanford Children's Hospital
Krista Hereen-Graber, SD Network Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault
Dr. Brooke Jones, Child's Voice at Sanford Health
Sara Kelly, SD Unified Judicial System

Wendy Kloeppner, Lake County State's Attorney
Kathy LaPlante, University of South Dakota
Tatewin Means, Thunder Valley CDC
Terri Mielitz, East Central CASA
Teresa Nieto, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of Interior
Brittany Novotny, Children's Advocacy Centers of SD
Tifanie Petro, Children's Home Society
Pauletta Red Willow, Maggie's House
Tim Reed, Chair, SD State Senate
Taylor Rehfeldt, SD House of Representatives
Stacy Reitmeier, Avera Health
Toby Russell, Internet Crimes Against Children Unit, SD Division of Criminal Investigation
Laura Schiebe, SD Department of Education
Sergeant Paul Stevens, Pennington County Sheriff's Office

CPCM Team

I am honored to be the Director of the Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment. Since starting on November 1, 2023, I have had a chance to get to know my talented team, many of our Advisory Board Members, as well as several other service providers and community members. It is clear there is a desire to end child maltreatment in our state and I am excited to embark on this journey.

When interviewing for this position in October 2023, I presented my vision for CPCM if hired as Director. The main point of my presentation was that while the child welfare system's responsibility is the safety, permanency and well-being of the child, the conduit for providing this is through the parent(s). To truly prevent child maltreatment, we should focus interventions on parents.

Having worked in child welfare for 10 years, I learned most parents deeply love their children. However, many of the parents I worked with were themselves victims of abuse and neglect as children. Unfortunately, their trauma and adversity continued into adulthood and beyond starting their own families. This unresolved trauma manifests in substance abuse, domestic violence, mental health struggles, financial insecurity, and other areas. Children's exposure to these parental issues often results in their own traumatic experiences and maltreatment, perpetuating the cycle across generations.

If we want to end child maltreatment in South Dakota, we must target research and interventions at parents. We need to help them overcome their own adverse experiences so as to prevent them from happening to their children.

It is important to acknowledge this is what Horst Kittel and Melvin Webber (1973) termed a "wicked problem" – it is complex, multifaceted, and influenced by interconnected factors. Stakeholders perceive the problem and solutions differently. This makes agreeing on solutions challenging. But just because it is wicked does not mean we shouldn't tackle it! We must proceed in our work with a sense of shared responsibility because tackling this wicked problem will require all of us.

The CPCM will continue to make an impact through education and training of professionals interacting with families, research and evaluation of potential interventions and solutions, and advocacy at community, tribal and state levels. We will continue to collaborate, communicate, and coordinate with all stakeholders to end child maltreatment in our state.

If we can heal one parent today and change their life course, that will not only benefit their children, but will impact children and families for generations.

Warm regards,

Chrissie Young, Director
South Dakota Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment



CPCM Staff

Chrissie Young, Director
Darla Biel, Assistant Director
Beth Bruggeman, Program Coordinator
Alex Van Voorhis, Program Coordinator

Mina Doerner, Program Assistant
Brandi Miller, Program Specialist

Know: Building knowledge of best practices, data, and research

Understanding ACEs: building self-healing communities

Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) can have long-term impacts into adulthood. Physical health, mental well-being, as well as educational and job opportunities can all be affected. CPCM continues to build an understanding of ACEs among South Dakotans. Through a partnership with Children's Home Society, more than 24,494 people have been trained about the impacts of trauma, the ACEs study, and how to support positive change within a community.

In 2023, the Resilient Communities framework supported ACE Interface Presenter training for facilitating team members and community leaders from Brookings County, Codington County, Moody County, Springfield, and Yankton.

"The training provided us information and tools to be able to bring our community stakeholders and members into conversations to increase knowledge of ACEs and further our community's foundation for building resiliency for families and youth," said Katie Pudwill, facilitating member for Springfield.



Pictured: Resilient Communities facilitating team members from Brookings County, Codington County, Moody County, Springfield, and Yankton participated in an ACE Interface Presenter training.

24,494
South Dakotans
Trained

Additional presenter training opportunities were provided to 30 post-secondary educators from Black Hills State University, Dakota Wesleyan University, Mount Marty University, Oglala Lakota College, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, University of South Dakota, and Western Dakota Technical College. Participants represented a wide range of studies and intend to work within their schools and departments to introduce ACEs learning opportunities to students whose professional careers will include responding to and preventing adverse childhood experiences. "Bringing a shared message around Adverse Childhood Experiences to the Higher Education sector is vital

in getting information into the hands of tomorrow's professionals," said Tifanie Petro, Advocacy and Prevention Program Director, Children's Home Society. "The more we can bring forward an understanding of how trauma impacts an individual, the greater opportunity we have to create change in all of the systems that South Dakota graduates will work in!"

In total, 985 ACEs trainings have been completed since 2018 and 330 individuals have been trained to be ACEs Presenters. This includes three Master Trainer Co-horts that have been held since 2018.



Enough Abuse continues to educate on child sexual abuse

Ninety-one per cent of child sexual abuse is perpetrated by someone known by the child or the child's family. The ongoing partnership with Children's Home Society continues to provide Enough Abuse curriculum learning opportunities to South Dakotans. The program provides adults and communities with the knowledge and skills they need to put an end to the silence and, eventually, the epidemic of child sexual abuse.

Since adopting the curriculum in 2019, 240 Enough Abuse trainings have taken place across the state. To date, 4,588 adults and 136 youth have participated in an Enough Abuse training opportunity.

State of South Dakota Children's Well-being: 2023 Report released

The Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment, with support from SD Department of Education, released *The State of South Dakota Children's Well-being: 2023 Report* in October.

Safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments are essential to prevent child abuse and neglect and to ensure all children reach their full potential. The report uses the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) Connecting the Dots framework to draw a roadmap for caring adults to align efforts and enhance prevention of youth violence. Connecting the Dots does this by focusing on shared factors across multiple forms of violence that protect individuals against violence (protective factors) and decrease risk of violence (risk factors).

Darla Biel, CPCM Assistant Director stated, "This comprehensive report is a tool for South Dakota communities to collaborate across prevention efforts related to suicide, sexual violence, child maltreatment, and bullying to address violence happening now, and to prevent violence from happening in future generations."

Families and other supportive adult relationships are crucial for youth. In fact, these influences on the lives of youth protect against violence. The report compares South Dakota to the nation, and where the data is available, differences seen across counties in South Dakota on these shared risk

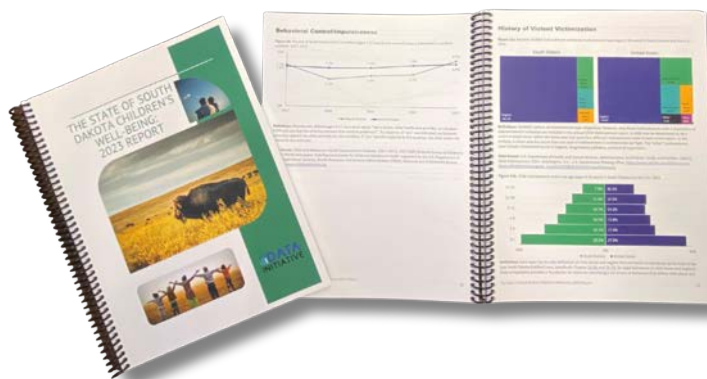
and protective factors. It contains over 100 indicators to measure shared risk and protective factors across all forms of violence, which are interconnected and often share the same root causes.

Tracey McMahon, first author of the report notes "Youth suicide and sexual violence rates are high in South Dakota. To maximize prevention resources, community partners, decision-makers, and caring adults can align efforts to focus on shared risk and protective factors of both sexual violence and suicide such as community connectedness, parent-child relationships, and community economic opportunity, which are measures found in the report."

In support of the report, simplified data briefs that highlight important data in the report are

available. CPCM is able to provide data presentations and assist organizations and communities in accessing and understanding the data. View the full report, briefs, and dashboard at SDCPCM.com/Data.

"To maximize prevention resources, community partners, decision-makers, and caring adults can align efforts to focus on shared risk and protective factors of both sexual violence and suicide such as community connectedness, parent-child relationships, and community economic opportunity, which are measures found in the report."



Respond: Fostering multidisciplinary response and intervention

Child & Adult Advocacy Studies completes initial phase

With support from the SD Department of Education, the Child & Adult Advocacy Studies (CAAST) K-12 Training program was provided within seven school districts in the last year. The training platform, launched in 2021 to support educators in the aftermath of COVID-19, offers South Dakota schools and educators a free training resource that promotes mandatory reporting best practices, youth suicide awareness and prevention strategies, multidisciplinary approaches, and trauma-informed interventions.

With the completion of the initial CAASt training grant through DOE, the University of South Dakota's CAASt directors, Kelly Bass and Shana Cerny, have developed on-demand training access that will become available in 2024 for K-12 educators.

In addition to the completion of the initial two-year development of the K-12 Training component, the CAASt graduate certificate program admitted its third cohort in spring 2023.

The CAASt team received national recognition from the United States Public Health Service and Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC) as honorable mention for

their work in the development and integration of realistic cases into an interprofessional simulation to enhance the CAASt Graduate Certificate program at the University of South Dakota. This work was supported through a National Child Welfare Workforce Institute grant received by the CAASt Team in 2021. The simulation was developed in partnership with Simucase and is available for interprofessional learning.

**1,000 South Dakota
K-12 educators trained in
identifying and responding
to trauma.**

"The educational approaches in CAASt emphasize that standard curricula can be too segregated or along disciplinary lines, and that in an increasingly complicated social problem such as maltreatment, students are having difficulty understanding the connections between diverse forms of knowledge and inquiry," said Kelly Bass, CAASt Director. "In this integrative model, the knowledge, modes of inquiry, and connections between these disciplines enrich and improve learning."



Monthly learning series trains 352 professionals

The Court Improvement Program training series experienced a 21% increase in attendance in 2023. The program, supported by the Unified Judicial System Court Improvement Program, provided trainings on topics including preparing a child witness for court, independent living and young voices, family voice in system's work, and understanding juvenile psychosexual assessments.

"The South Dakota Unified Judicial System, Court Improvement Program is pleased to collaborate with the Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment to provide the platform of virtual training to child welfare system professionals and advocates," said Sara Kelly, SD Unified Judicial System's Court Improvement Program Coordinator. "We look forward to continuing with collaborative trainings in the upcoming year."

Thank you to our 2023 presenters: Lara Roetzel, Pennington County State's Attorney's Office; Eric Grover, SD Department of Social Services; Scott Sheldon, SD Unified Judicial System; Colleen Moran, SD State Bar; Sarah Thorne, SD Attorney General Office; Representative Taylor Rehfeldt and Senator Tim Reed; Rochelle Holloway, Karissa Perez, Darbi Hunt, and Darla Biel, SD Early Childhood Comprehensive System; Gary Hoffman, Counseling Café; and Shane Larson, Watertown Compass Center.



USD School of Health Sciences pilots online course on recognizing child maltreatment

In July 2023, Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment's mandatory reporting work group finalized and published a new online training course entitled, *Recognizing and Reporting Child Maltreatment* for students enrolled in health profession programs. The training course covers community and professional responsibilities, impacts of Adverse Childhood Experiences on health and well-being, state child abuse/neglect and mandatory reporting statute, differences between civil and criminal cases, handling a disclosure, and value of multidisciplinary team response. The free, online course allows learners to progress at their own pace and provides a certificate of completion.

"With training being a key component of the original 10-year plan, this new course was developed to meet learning needs of pre-professionals," said Chrissie Young, Director of CPCM.

Noting the value of recognizing child maltreatment across many professional disciplines, University of South Dakota's School of Health Sciences is currently piloting the course and all students must obtain their certificate of completion prior to starting their clinical rotations or fieldwork. This requirement started at the beginning of the fall semester. To date, 300 students have completed the coursework.

"USD's School of Health Sciences is developing South Dakota's next generation of professionals in health-related occupations," said Dean Haifa AbouSamra. "We recognize our students will be working in fields that will require them to be able to recognize and respond to child maltreatment and are pleased to be offering this additional learning opportunity to prepare them for future careers."

The free course is available to the public online at SDCCPM.com/Reporting, along with the Mandatory Reporting course provided by SD Department of Social Services.

SANE clinical skills lab offers new location option

For the first time, the SANE-A Clinical Skills Lab was offered in Rapid City. CPCM partnered with Great Plains Tribal Health Leaders to provide the training opportunity at Western Dakota Tech's Medical Simulation Center. The training is in addition to the annually offered skills lab held at the USD Parry Center for Clinical Skills & Simulation in Sioux Falls. In total, 27 nurses were trained through two skills lab opportunities.

"We recognize that the need for SANE training exists across our entire state," said Jen Canton, Avera Health SANE Supervisor and CPCM SANE Trainer. "We were thrilled to ease the burden of travel to obtain training by offering the opportunity in the western side of our state this past year. It really means better care for patients across our state."

In addition to the skills lab, the SANE collaborative and multidisciplinary partners were provided with five supplemental trainings, including 70 participants who took part in the second MDT courtroom training opportunity. The training provided SANEs an overview of the courtroom process and roles and strategies for effective testimony. Attorneys gained insight into the role of SANEs and the information they can provide in the testimony process.



Pictured: SANE-A Skills Lab participants.



SANE

Sexual Assault
Nurse Examiners

Prevent: Creating trauma-informed communities and systems

Strategic goals finalized for SD Early Childhood Comprehensive System

The SD Early Childhood Comprehensive System Collaborative (SD-ECCS) strives to move from individual to shared responsibility for ensuring a strong start for all South Dakota children. SD ECCS is one of 20 awardees nationwide. State agencies and organizations working to ensure a stronger start for all children are encouraged to consider how the following five ECCS goals and strategic objectives might be incorporated into current or evolving plans and how they are being, or will be, implemented.

- Enhance alignment and collaboration between Maternal & Child Health and other early childhood systems of care.
- Advance a common vision for early developmental health and family well-being, and strengthen shared competencies for innovative and efficient service delivery.
- Strengthen coordination of intake, screening, referral, and navigation across family and early childhood systems of care.
- Increase capacity for meaningful engagement and partnerships with parents.
- Identify strategies that support the funding and sustainability of multi-generational services and systems for all children and families.

SD ECCS has had two representatives selected to serve on the national ECCS Evaluation Project. Gina Curran has been selected as one of 12 parent voices for the project and is one of two parent leaders selected for the national Guiding Team. Darla Biel has also been selected to serve on the national Guiding Team.

"I appreciate the opportunity to be a voice for parents," said Curran, a Native American (Oglala), married, mother of three children ages 3-5, who serves as Principal at St. Francis Indian School.



Pictured: Darla Biel, ECCS Lead and Darbi Hunt, ECCS Family Advisory Lead attended all-awardee meeting at HRSA.

Courtroom modifications addressed for child victims

The signing of SB 70 was the end of a journey that began in 2021. Tifanie Petro, Advocacy and Prevention Director for Children's Home Society and Advisory Board Member for CPCM, began working on legislative language to create trauma-informed courtroom experiences for children as a part of her completion of the Child and Adult Advocacy Studies certificate, offered through USD School of Health Sciences in partnership with CPCM.

"I knew from my professional experience that there was an opportunity to create a courtroom experience that acknowledges the trauma children have faced," said Petro. "My studies with the CAAS certificate provided the motivation to begin the legislative process."

The legislation, introduced by CPCM Board Member Senator Tim Reed, provides modifications for children testifying in court about child maltreatment.

Modifications can include: address and question the child in an age-appropriate manner, ensure the child is free of harassing tactics, have a person who contributes to the well-being of the child in close proximity, provide sufficient breaks for comfort of child, have a therapeutic dog present, and appoint standby counsel for the defendant if the child will suffer emotional distress that could impair their ability to communicate if the defendant questions the child directly.

Senate Bill 70 was signed by Governor Noem so children who are already living with traumatic experiences will now have less harm imparted on them by the courtroom experience.

Community-led effort to prevent childhood adversity and increase family resiliency

CPCM designated the second community to be recognized as a Resilient Community in 2023. Codington County celebrated the designation, following a nearly two-year process of work by a coalition of local stakeholders from healthcare, behavioral health, government, non-profits, and education that analyzed current strengths of Codington County that help children and families deal with and recover from traumatic experiences, thereby aiming to mitigate long-lasting effects, referred to as Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).

"This designation is an important recognition of the work our community has done to raise awareness of the impact of ACEs," said Sara Foust, facilitating team member. "Codington County is committed to building resiliency for our youth. The Social Services Advisory Council will continue to collaboratively work together to address needs in our community. We also have several learning opportunities and activities planned for the coming year."

South Dakota children are facing child abuse and maltreatment at an alarming rate. Research shows that ACEs have a direct impact on an individual's nervous system and brain development, which creates long-term mental and physical health issues as well as an increase in at-risk behavior. The good news is maltreatment is preventable. Understanding the impact of ACEs and factors that mitigate those effects can lessen the long-term harm the abuse causes. ACEs include 10 different forms of childhood maltreatment (household dysfunction, abuse and neglect) that have been researched since 1992.

In addition to the Codington County designation, through support from South Dakota Community Foundation, the Resilient Communities process is now underway in Moody County, Springfield, and Yankton communities and continues in Brookings County.

"South Dakota Community Foundation's Beyond Idea Grant's goal is to support community-based problem-solving efforts," said Ginger Niemann, SDCF Senior Program Officer. "The Resilient Communities effort focuses on Adverse Childhood Experiences in a way that makes sense at the community-level."

CPCM continues to explore sustainable funding for Resilient Communities, to continue to assist communities in strengthening resiliency for youth and families.



Pictures clockwise from top: SD Community Foundation grant presentation, Brookings County Brain Architecture Session, Codington County recognition.



CPCM receives \$1 million grant to reach more families through innovative WIC outreach efforts

The Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment (CPCM), a center of the University of South Dakota, has been awarded a \$1 million grant to implement a WIC Community Innovation and Outreach Project (WIC CIAO). WIC CIAO is supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service and aims to support efforts to develop, implement, and evaluate innovative outreach strategies to increase awareness, participation, and benefit redemption in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and reduce disparities in program delivery.

“Too many women and children in South Dakota are missing out on the nutrition they need in order to thrive,” said Darla Biel, Assistant Director of CPCM. “We are proud to be part of this critical initiative to identify new ways of connecting people to WIC. Overall, the WIC program aligns with several child abuse prevention strategies by providing support and education to parents, strengthening families, building social connections, screening for risk factors, and increasing the economic security of households.”

CPCM was selected through a highly competitive grant process and will use the grant to partner with WIC to expand partnerships with community organizations and use community-level data to develop and test WIC outreach efforts. The grant will amplify the voice of parenting adults from underserved populations in South Dakota who are WIC-eligible and/or who are parenting WIC-eligible children.

In South Dakota, WIC provided healthy foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding counseling and referrals for 13,725 participants, including 1,647 pregnant and postpartum individuals, 3,020 infants up to 12 months, and 7,983 children up to age 5 every month, on average this fiscal year (10/2022-2/2023).

The WIC program aligns with several child abuse prevention strategies by providing support and education to parents, strengthening families, building social connections, screening for risk factors, and increasing the economic security of households.

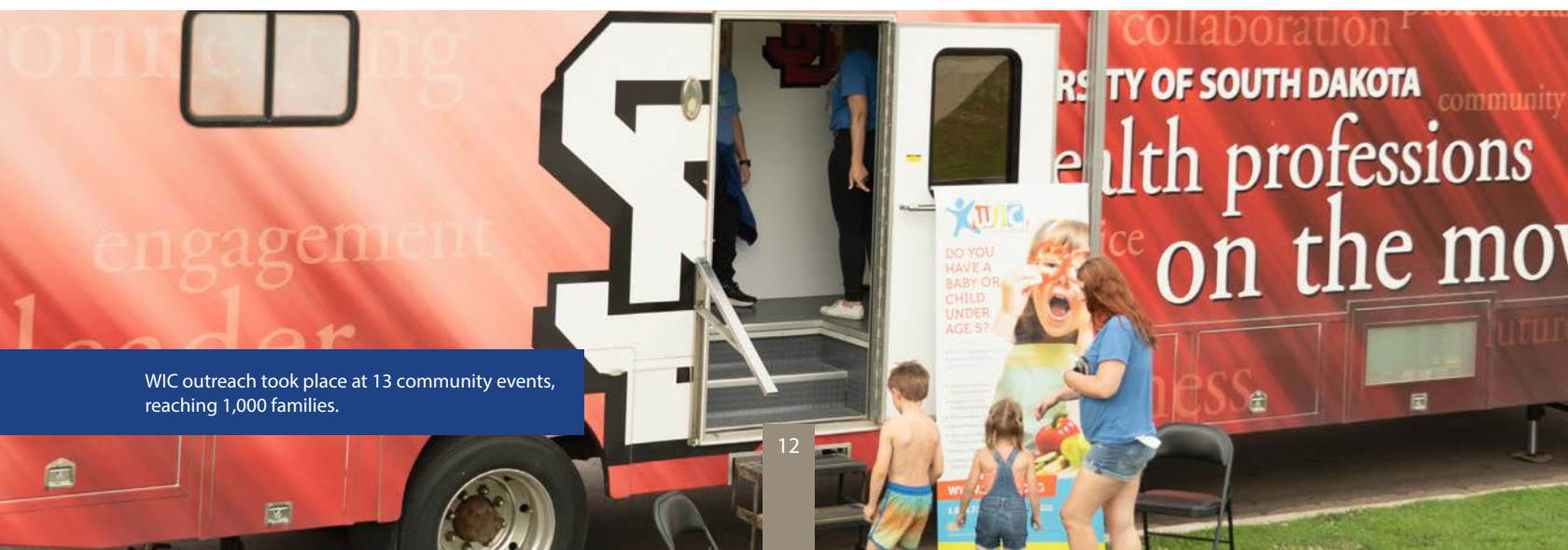
In 2020, only 50 percent of all eligible individuals nationwide participated in WIC, equating to a shortfall of almost 6 million individuals. The WIC CIAO Project aims to change that by expanding partnerships with community organizations and using community-level data to develop and implement innovative WIC outreach efforts.

In the first half of the grant fiscal year, WIC-CIAO Outreach took place at 13 community or school events in the Sioux Falls-area, reaching 1,000+ families. Multiple training opportunities are being

made available to service providers working with families and young children. Initial trainings included a poverty simulation experience, in partnership with SD Statewide Family Engagement Center, and a cultural considerations series, in partnership with Lutheran Social Services.

The grant also aims to amplify the voice of parents, strengthen community partnerships, and reduce barriers to participation through transportation for WIC participants. To learn more about the WIC CIAO project, visit SDCPCM.com/WIC.

WIC outreach took place at 13 community events, reaching 1,000 families.



2023 Highlights

Hundreds of South Dakotans trained on child abuse prevention

More than 430 professionals in the child advocacy field attended the 23rd Annual Community Response to Child Abuse Conference, held in October 2023. The conference provided professional training and educational opportunities for teachers, medical professionals, dentists, law enforcement, social workers, mental health providers, youth service providers, the legal community and community members and child advocates.

Presenters discussed topics relevant to the well-being of children and families including:

- Unto the Third Generation: A Call to End Child Abuse Within 30 Years, presented by Victor Vieth
- Whole Child Approach: Engaging Learners & Families through Relationships, presented by Angie Lynch
- Honoring Our Children by Honoring our Traditions – Overview of Positive Indian Parenting, presented by Jessica Snaza and Kari Ewalt

The conference offerings will remain available to access through an online training library. Registration for the portal will provide access to 9 recorded sessions through the conference on-demand portal. The on-demand portal in 2022 provided 757 total course completions.

Conference sponsors were Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment at the University of South Dakota, South Dakota's Unified Judicial System Court Improvement Program and Child's Voice at Sanford Health.



Petro recognized with Outstanding Service Award

The Outstanding Service Award was presented to Tifanie Petro, who serves as the Director of Advocacy and Prevention for Children's Home Society of South Dakota.

The award is presented annually at the Community Response to Child Abuse Conference to an individual who has made a great impact in the response to or prevention of child abuse.

Previous recipients of the award include Virgena Weiseler, Deb Soholt, Chief Justice David Gilbertson, Carole Cochran, and Special Agent Cameron Corey.

Petro oversees the Children's Home Child Advocacy Center in Rapid City, as well as the organization's statewide Prevention, Training and Education program. At CAC, in addition to supervising collaborative investigations of child abuse cases, Petro provides forensic interviews for local, state, federal, and tribal jurisdictions and court room testimony. Through the Prevention program, she has partnered with CPCM and been instrumental in developing South Dakota's implementation of ACEs training and the Enough Abuse program. She served as the driving force

behind coordinating a multi-disciplinary training response to victim services along with the Interagency Training Council and laid the groundwork for a Community Justice Center in western SD. To date, under Petro's guidance, Children's Home Society has partnered with CPCM to train more than 300 ACEs presenters, including adapted training grounded in Lakota and Dakota ways.

Petro was presented her recognition by CPCM Board Member, Senator Tim Reed.



Supporters unite for Ray of Hope event

For the second year, CPCM supporters recognized the beginning of Child Abuse Prevention Month with a breakfast gathering. The Ray of Hope Event was attended by 133 people, featured the keynote *The Building of a Tree House* by Terri Mielitz, and raised more than \$5,000 to support the work of CPCM.

The 2024 Ray of Hope event will take place on April 2, 2024 and will feature a keynote from Warren Binford, Director for Pediatric Law, Ethics & Policy at the Kempe Center.



Trauma-informed approaches focus of 2nd Annual Legal Workshop

Law students, legal professionals, and others interested in better understanding trauma-informed approaches in legal proceedings attended the 2nd Annual Legal Workshop, presented by SD Unified Judicial System, USD Knudson School of Law, and CPCM.

One hundred attendees participated in the workshop, which featured Olga Trujillo, author and internationally renowned speaker, who presented *Responsive and Trauma-Informed Legal Services*.

Students and professionals are invited to join us April 4, 2024 for the 3rd Annual Legal Workshop.

SD organizations unite for Children's Day at the Capitol

In January 2023, more than two dozen organizations converged in Pierre for the annual Children's Day at the Capitol Event. CPCM, Children's Home Society of SD, Early Learner SD, and SD Afterschool Network partner to organize the event.

Participating organizations represented a variety of children and family services: child maltreatment prevention and response, childcare, early childhood education, after school services, youth residential care, and leadership development.

Participants were able to share information about a variety of youth-serving services and resources with elected officials and Capitol visitors. A short program featured a keynote message from Cassie Nagel, *Creating Community Capacity*, before participants were recognized in the House and Senate Chambers.

The 2024 Children's Day at the Capitol activities will take place January 23-25, 2024.



Students are vital in the work of CPCM

Thank you to our 2023 student interns and law fellows!

Mia Hockel, Law Fellow, University of South Dakota,
Knudson School of Law
Rex Schlicht, Law Fellow, University of South Dakota,
Knudson School of Law
Kaitlyn Oster, Intern, University of South Dakota, Master of
Social Work
Alex Van Voorhis, Intern, University of South Dakota, Master
of Social Work
Medina Sadi, Intern, Southeast Technical College, Early
Childhood

Melissa Wyum, University of South Dakota, RISE-Up Intern,
Supported in SD by Center for Disabilities
Karissa Perez, Intern, University of Denver, Master of Social
Work, ECCS Family Leader
Lindsey Spencer, Law Fellow, University of South Dakota,
Knudson School of Law
Jason Simon-Ressler, University of South Dakota, Master
of Public Health, Rocky Mountain Public Health Field
Placement
Ramsha Mirza, WIC CIAO Student Assistant, University of
South Dakota, Master of Social Work

Thank you sponsors, donors, partners, and trainers

All About U Adoptions	Lutheran Social Services of SD	Toy Lending Library	Ashley Jensen
Avera Health	MassKids, Inc.	University of Sioux Falls	Melissa Johnson
Avera St. Mary's Central SD	Mud Mile Communications	University of South Dakota	Carmen Kock
Child Assessment Center	NASW SD Chapter	USD Center for Disabilities	Jody Kollars
Bishop O'Gorman Catholic	Our Home, Inc.	USD Center for Rural Health	Kristi Kranz
Schools	Pinnacle Productions	Improvement	Michelle Lavallee
Black Hills Special Services	SANE Learning Collaborative	USD Foundation	Cheryl Lehman
Cooperative	Sanford Health	USD Graduate Admissions	Sandy Lown
CAAST Trainers	SD ACEs and Resiliency	USD Knudsen School of Law	Chizu Lundquist
Call to Freedom	Presenters	USD Masters of Social Work	Peggy Mach
Child Welfare League of	SD Afterschool Network	Program	Kacey McCarthy
America	SD Community Foundation	USD Parry Center for Clinical	Diana McGregor
Child's Voice at Sanford	SD Department of Education	Skills and Simulation	Laura Metzger
Health	SD Department of Health	USD School of Medicine,	Brandi & John Miller
Children's Home Society	SD Department of Social	Pediatrics Program	Rebeka Moffatt
Children's Advocacy Centers	Services	USD School of Health	Daniel Palmer
of SD	SD Division of Criminal	Sciences	Jay Perry
CIP Trainers	Investigation	USD School of Nursing	Jana Richardson
Community Health Worker	SD Early Childhood	Volunteers of America,	Lori Rolfe
Collaborative of SD	Enrichment System	Dakotas	Nicolle Samuels
Court Appointed Special	SD Head Start Association	Western Dakota Tech's	Carrie Sanderson
Advocates	SD Kids Count	Medical Simulation	Brittany Schmidt
Delta Dental of SD	SD Network Against Family	Center	Noah Shepard
Early Learners SD	Violence and Sexual	Worthy WE	Monie Siemonsma
Eat Well Mobile Grocery	Assault	Zero Abuse Project	Danyell Skillman
ENOUGH Abuse Trainers	SD Parent Connection	Kristy Anderson	Brandi Storgaard
First Bank & Trust	SD Public Broadcasting	Jerald Archer	Brock Swartos
Great Plains Tribal Health	SD REACH Team	Stephanie Austin	Sarah Thorne
Leaders	SD Unified Judicial System	Abigail Benz	Stacey & Tyler Tieszen
Greater Sioux Falls Area	SD Urban Indian Health	Darla Biel	Erika Tordsen
Chamber of Commerce	SD Voices for Peace	Lori Bussler	Shawna Van Wyhe
Health Connect of SD	Sioux Falls Area CASA	Mina Doerner	Julie Waage
Helpline Center	Program	Michelle Erpenbach	Kellyna Warnke
Hennepin Healthcare	Sioux Falls School District	Olivia Essig	Annie Wold
International Association of	Sioux Falls Thrive	Debra Fischer-Clemens	
Forensic Nurses	Teddy Bear Dean	Krista Heeren-Graber	



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