

Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment

# 2024 Advocacy Initiatives

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

The logo for the Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment (CPCCM) features the acronym 'CPCCM' in a large, white, sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a white outline of the state of South Dakota, which is partially enclosed by a white horizontal line that extends from the left side of the logo.

KNOW | RESPOND | PREVENT

CENTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD MALTREATMENT

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## **2024 PUBLIC POLICY POSITION STATEMENTS**

South Dakota's Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment's 2024 advocacy initiatives cover key policy initiatives for South Dakota, emphasizing prevention, family support, reporting procedures and data-driven policymaking. Our initiatives are based on the CDC's evidence-based framework for child abuse and neglect prevention strategies. The following initiatives were established because they reduce risk factors and increase protective factors associated with child abuse and neglect prevention.

### **STRENGTHEN ECONOMIC SUPPORTS TO FAMILIES**

- Promote societal responsibility for investment in child well-being and family support systems.
- Encourage voluntary initiatives by providing incentives for businesses offering family-friendly services like childcare, childcare stipends, or flexible work options.
- Expand paid family and medical leave to facilitate parent-child bonding, to encourage positive parenting practices, and to reduce financial stress on families.

### **CHANGE SOCIAL NORMS TO SUPPORT PARENTS AND POSITIVE PARENTING**

- Expand child and sexual abuse prevention education programs and strengthen relevant laws.
- Enhance resources and laws to address the co-occurrence of child maltreatment and substance abuse, mental health struggles, domestic violence, and financial insecurity.
- Expand public awareness campaigns for reporting child maltreatment, including promoting permissive reporting and broadening the scope of professions classified as mandatory reporters (such as home-visiting staff).

### **PROVIDE QUALITY CARE AND EDUCATION EARLY IN LIFE**

- Enhance availability and access to quality, affordable childcare and early education through public/private collaborations and funding solutions.
- Expand access to culturally competent pediatric healthcare.
- Increase availability of family and child trauma counseling and mental healthcare.
- Improve coordination across sectors to identify and address access to care barriers.

## ENHANCE PARENTING SKILLS TO PROMOTE HEALTHY CHILD DEVELOPMENT

- Support community-driven initiatives that involve civic organizations, businesses, and community leaders to promote positive parenting practices and programs that support families.
- Advocate for expanded access to home visitation programs and other evidence-based programs offering guidance, support to parents, and evidence-based interventions that aim to increase healthy family functioning.
- Support initiatives focused on enhancing parenting skills, ensuring accessibility and effectiveness to increase parental protective capacities.

## INTERVENE TO LESSEN HARMS AND PREVENT FUTURE RISK

- Advocate for enhancements in primary care services with a focus on child welfare, aiming to intervene and prevent future risks.
- Encourage legislative initiatives that support prevention programs aiming to mitigate problem behaviors and reduce risk for perpetration or victimization of violence.
- Invest in collection, analysis and sharing of data to identify risks, protective factors and service gaps impacting child well-being and family stability.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect: A Technical Package for Policy, Norm, and Programmatic Activities ([cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov))

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2023). Adverse Childhood Experiences Prevention Strategies. ACEs Can Be Prevented ([cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)).

Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment. (2023). Children's Well-being Data Initiative - CPCM ([sdcpcm.com](https://www.sdcpcm.com)).

Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment Training: Recognizing & Reporting Child Maltreatment - CPCM ([sdcpcm.com](https://www.sdcpcm.com)).

Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment Legislative Activity - CPCM ([sdcpcm.com](https://www.sdcpcm.com)).

National Conference of State Legislatures. (2023). Policy Levers for Preventing Child Maltreatment. Policy Levers for Preventing Child Maltreatment ([ncsl.org](https://www.ncsl.org)).

National Conference of State Legislatures. (2022). Child Welfare Fellows Program. <https://www.ncsl.org/human-services/child-welfare-fellows-program>.

Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect: A Technical Package for Policy, Norm, and Programmatic Activities. (2016). Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect: A Technical Package for Policy, Norm, and Programmatic Activities ([cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)).

