



October 10, 2020

Thank you for your continuing support of Prevention Partnership International. In 2019-20 PPI

- Continued to develop updated materials and support agencies implementing *Celebrating Families!*[™] in Santa Clara County (SCC). The SCC Dept. of Family and Children Services (DFCS) expanded their support of *Celebrating Families!*[™](CF!) groups, recommending all parenting groups offered in the county for families “at risk” for child abuse, implement the CF! model with DFCS providing implementation funding.
- Developed supplemental materials for providing groups online in response to the COVID pandemic and “Shelter in Place” orders available to CF! agencies throughout the US
- Trained and supported three new agencies elsewhere in California through the California Office of Child Abuse Prevention grant.

A formal report on outcomes for 2019-20 is attached.

While developing the online supplement, PPI recognized the need for additional Guiding Principles regarding serving children. The Guiding Principles now include: **We honor and respect children by ...**

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| ~ Providing a safe setting for them to learn. | ~ Knowing we learn from them. |
| ~ Being intentional in our activities. | ~ Understanding they are developing and learning new skills and behaviors. |
| ~ Modeling healthy living. | ~ Recognizing parents are the experts on their experience with their children. |
| ~ Listening to the children - following their lead. | |

The PPI leadership team remained consistent through these chaotic times: Mary Gardner, Project Manager; Melissa Santos, Director of CA Expansion Project with Community Solutions; Toni Torres, new material development with Uplift Family Services; Maria Ramirez, adapting materials for Spanish speaking families also with Uplift Family Services; Nancy Marshall with Domestic Violence Intervention Collaborative providing fiscal services; David and Linda Sibley, with Family Resources International providing administrative support; and an Advisory Team of eight community members. PPI is composed of a dedicated team of professionals, several providing their services pro-bono.. I am very grateful for their expertise and dedication!

Everyone involved in PPI appreciates your support. Thank you for assisting us to continue to provide services helping children and their families dealing with or at high risk for addiction, child abuse/neglect, and family violence. Always happy to answer your questions.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Tisch, Director

Attachment: 2019-20 Report

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2019-20 Summary Report

In 2019-20 your support enabled Prevention Partnership International (PPI) to

1. Continue to provide local agencies with updated materials, evaluation, training, and technical support.

- Uplift Addiction Prevention Services (APS) served 143 individuals (parents, youth and children) involved with Dependency Drug Court (parents who had lost custody of their children) and 245 participants in a General Parenting adaptation of *Celebrating Families!™(CF!)* for families “at risk” for child abuse/neglect. Groups for “at risk” families were added to services at the request of Dept. of Family and Children Services (DFCS), due to the documented success of *CF!* with families in the Dependency Drug courts. The prevention version of *CF!* offered in Alameda County had 79 individuals enrolled, but was cancelled due to the “shelter in place” orders after Session Three. APS staff also helped finalize the Spanish translation of the supplement for families with children ages birth through three.
- Parisi House on the Hill (PHOTH), Santa Clara County’s only residential treatment center for women with children, offered *Celebrating Families!™(CF!)* on Saturday mornings, serving up to 20 families of women in residence and implementing the new *CF!* Day Program for clients. (The Day Program was developed specifically for residential treatment programs for women and children last year. It has been reported as extremely successful and consists of 16 lessons reinforcing Critical Parenting Skills for young children and supplements the basic *Celebrating Families!™* program.)
- ConXion, which had been providing *Celebrating Families!™* twice a year for families referred by Social Services in the South San Jose community, was not able to provide groups this year due to the COVID pandemic. PPI is working with them to provide support and training in 2020-21.
- Other California Sites, which have been providing *Celebrating Families!™* for many years, continue to collaborate with PPI on development of new materials and training, such as Janus Perinatal Services (Santa Cruz county), Champions for Recovery (King County), and Bridges in Sacramento.

Not anticipated was the need to **provide groups online**, due to “shelter in place” orders due to COVID-19. Uplift Addiction Prevention Services (APS) responded immediately and within two weeks started online groups for parents. PPI documented group format and changes, then shared the model with other agencies and provided evaluation with Edward Cohen, Ph.D. (Dr. Cohen is a Professor at the School of Social Work, San Jose State University, and a recent Fulbright Scholar.) During May and June of 2020, PPI created an “Online Supplement” for agencies providing groups for adults, including a webinar in partnership with the CA Office of Child Abuse Prevention. The webinar, with over 180 registered participants, was facilitated by Melissa Santos, from Community Solutions and Director of the California *CF!* Expansion Project. A recording of the webinar and materials is available at <https://www.preventionpartnership.us/webinar-documents>. PPI continues to document online adaptations for the different children’s age groups and will provide a webinar on providing online *CF!* children’s groups on Oct. 9th.

2. Provide evaluation services in collaboration with Ed Cohen, Ph.D., SJSU. His evaluation data indicated that enrollment, group participation and graduation rates all increased for parents attending online groups.

**“Families are doing their best to be engaged,
participating in their zoom groups wherever they have the best Internet.”**

Toni Welch Torres, Uplift APS Program Manager

Online groups continued to show “statistically significant improvement in all domains“ with no significant differences between online and in-person groups, except for a statistically significant positive difference in Parenting Skills. Attached with permission is an extract from “ *Online Adaptation of a Family-Based Intervention Addressing Substance Use Disorder*” by Edward Cohen, Ph.D., submitted for publication in Research on Social Work Practice. He concludes his article with “*The ‘Celebrating’ part of Celebrating Families!™ comes through in parents’ comments, about learning*

- “*How to value my family*”
- “*How important family is and how we as parents have to hold it up*
- “***Family is the most important thing. It takes work to make it work right.***”

3. **In addition** to our local collaboration,

- Prevention Partnership International was awarded an additional, third year with increased funding from the California Office of Child Abuse Services to expand the number of agencies offering *Celebrating Families!™* throughout the State. Partnering with Community Solutions, to provide coordination, PPI provided training and support for SHIELDS for Families, Para Los Niños, and the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians to begin implementation of *Celebrating Families!™* .
- To support the expansion of *Celebrating Families!™* in the State of California, PPI developed a new website (www.preventionpartnership.us) and partnered with UC Berkeley’s Haas School of Business (Haas Hearts, volunteer group MBA students) to develop new communication materials and an outreach plan, including updated format for newsletters, postings on Facebook and LinkedIn. Shirley Sparks, ABD, and Ed Cohen, Ph.D., both published papers on *Celebrating Families!™* evaluation outcomes.

Prevention Partnership International’s goals for 2020-21 are:

1. In Santa Clara County, CA, to continue to provide support, training, and evaluation for local sites.
2. In California, as part of the State of California, Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) project, continue to expand the number of agencies providing *Celebrating Families!™* and develop an online adaptation of curriculum, including training and support, in collaboration with Community Solutions.
3. Continue and expand evaluation efforts, partnering with Ed Cohen, Ph.D., SJSU, including preparing a book for publication on Preventing Child Abuse: *Implementing Family-Based Programs to Improve Resiliencies*, using *CF!* as program example.
4. Develop *Celebrating Families!™* supplement for families with children ages birth through five years for perinatal treatment and Head Start Centers.
5. Continue to publish papers and develop presentations increasing awareness of the importance of serving families affected by addiction, the effectiveness of *Celebrating Families!™* and PPI services.

Summary of Evaluation of *Celebrating Families!*[™] Online Groups

Online (virtual) groups continue to show “statistically significant improvement in all domains” with no significant differences between online and in-person groups, except for a minor, statistically significant positive difference in Parenting Skills.

Adult Retro Pre-Post Survey

Outcome Domain	Pre-test Mean Score	Post-test Mean Score*	Effect Size
Parenting Scale	2.96	3.75	1.98 (Very large)
Family Strengths	2.57	3.63	1.60 (Very large)
“How Often Are You Good At...?”	2.53	3.79	0.78 (Medium)
Learning from <i>CF!</i>	2.58	3.76	1.17 (Large)
All pre- post- comparisons $p < .001$			

Increased learned behaviors included

- Having meals with my child (proven protective factor)
- Showing affection, listening (indicating increased attachment)
- “Thinking before speaking;” “Knowing how to calm down;” “Breathing and expressing anger right away.”
- “How to communicate [my] feelings to [my] kids;” encouraging children to “talk about what’s bothering them;” and “listening.”
- How to set limits and firm boundaries.
- How to give positive affirmations.
- Importance of affirming children, as much as possible.

Family Management Behaviors included

- Reporting feeling closer to their children.
- Spending more quality time.
- Making a plan together [about] violence and drugs”.
- Finding ways to improve the family togetherness.

Other Anger Management Behaviors included

- “Thinking twice.”
- “Thinking through consequences.”
- “Talking about anger instead of blowing up.”
- “Taking a walk and talking later..
- “Always being present and mindful about what is going on around me”.

Many parents mentioned: The importance of seeking help from others; “Knowing it’s ok to ask for help...I didn’t do that very much...” “Knowing we aren’t alone and making use of our support groups and resources.”

Parents commented that they have learned to forgive themselves and “that the mistakes we’ve made in the past don’t have to affect [the future].”

Parents were impressed with the “non-judgmental approach” of facilitators and modeled their behavior on it: “I have to forgive others and myself.”

Extracted with permission from “ *Online Adaptation of a Family-Based Intervention Addressing Substance Use Disorder*” by Edward Cohen, Ph.D., submitted for publication in Research on Social Work Practice.