

The Child Safety and Family Well-Being Plan

August 1, 2023
10 AM-11 AM

Provided in Partnership by:



Objectives:

- Learn about the foundational frameworks underlying the Child Safety and Family Well-Being Plan.
- Gain information about the strategies included in the Plan.
- Develop knowledge of tools and resources that everyone can use individually to get involved and be a part of the strategy to strengthen families in Maine now and in the future.

Reminder:

Please use the Questions button (and not the Chat) to submit any questions to the presenters. We will do our best to answer these at the end of the webinar.

Our Collaboration



Maine Children's Trust was originally created by statute in 1985. In 1994, legislation was enacted that transformed the Trust into a 501(c)3 non-profit governed by a Board of Directors. The Trust provides leadership and coordination of efforts throughout Maine to prevent child abuse and neglect before it occurs. The Trust provides funding and supports for prevention programming, as well as coordinates statewide collaborative initiatives to strengthen families. The Trust is also the state chapter for Prevent Child Abuse America.

The Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services contracts with Maine Children's Trust to coordinate the Prevention Councils located in each county in Maine.

The Child Safety and Family Well-Being Plan

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Child Abuse Prevention Webinar Series

August 1, 2023



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Agenda

Overview: Child Safety and Family Well-Being Plan

Keeping Children Safe by Strengthening Families

Version 1.0

- Community Engagement
- Scope
- Strategies

Next Steps

Overview: Child Safety and Family Well-Being Plan

Child Safety and Family Well-Being Plan



Maine Child Safety and Family Well-Being Plan

Version 1.0 - May 9, 2023

Prepared by the Maine Department of Health and Human Services
in Partnership with the Maine Child Welfare Action Network



[Maine Child Safety and Family Well-Being Plan - Version 1.0 \(May 2023\)](#)

Child Safety and Family Well-Being Plan

Focus on **primary and secondary prevention**

We can all reduce child abuse and neglect and related risk factors by strengthening families.

Goal: A Child and Family Well-Being System

Keeping Children Safe by Strengthening Families

Consider

What are the things that make a family strong?



A National Conversation

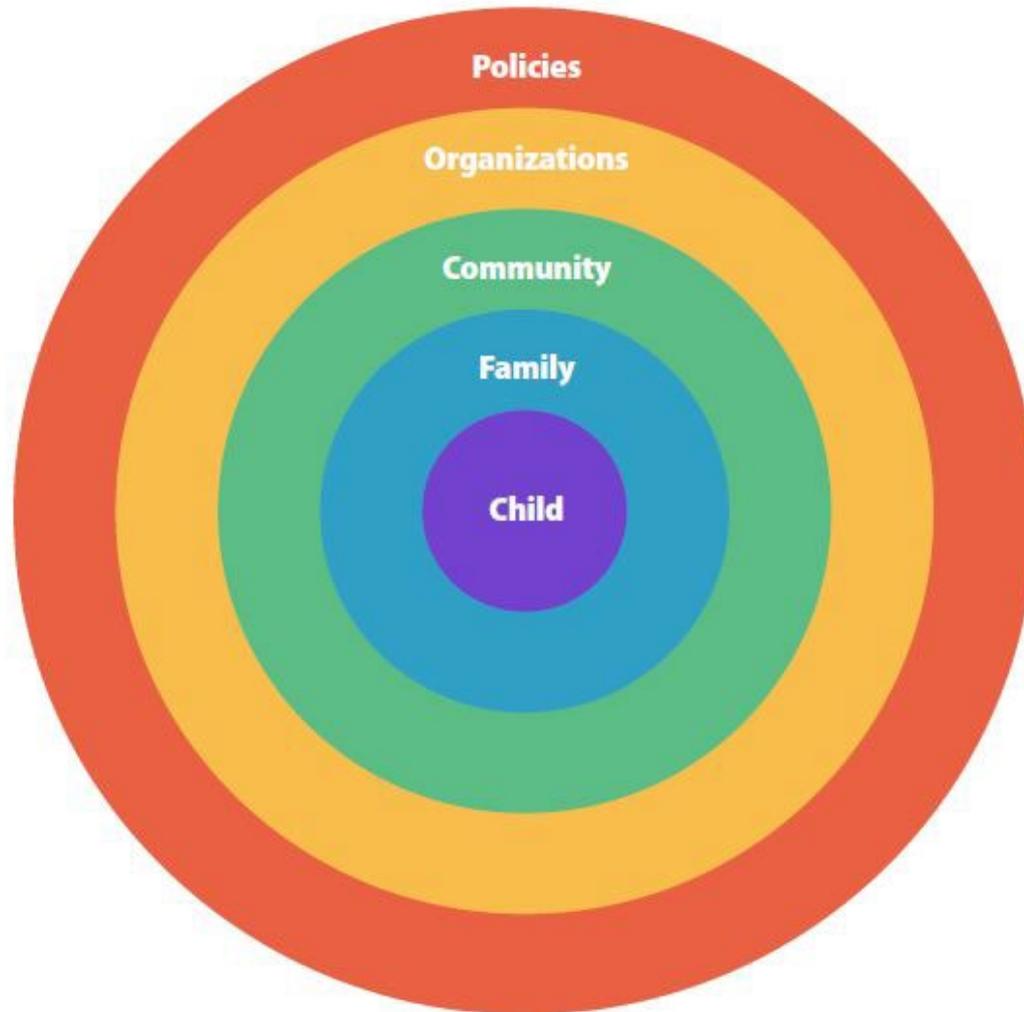


Protective Factors

The **conditions or attributes** of individuals, families, communities, or the larger society that **reduce risk** and **promote healthy development and well-being** of children and families, today and in the future.



Foundation of the Plan



Enter in the chat

What are the things that make families strong?



Version 1.0

Community Engagement

Themes generated from community partner feedback:

Challenges

- Meeting basic needs
- Waitlists
- Navigation of benefits “edges” and “cliffs”

A vision for service structure and delivery

- Accessible to families
- Offered in a non-stigmatizing way
- Incorporate people with lived experience
- Need for care coordination
- Build and sustain the prevention workforce
- Expand peer supports
- Understand who to reach out to when families need help
- Community centers and hubs to access services
- Leverage community collaboratives to support family well-being

Scope of Version 1.0

- **Assess gaps and barriers** to families thriving in Maine
- Develop a **framework** for a Child and Family Well-Being System
- Identify **short-term actions**

Strategy #1

Develop, implement, and update the Plan in partnership with families, partners, and communities



- **Assess and inventory** family strengthening efforts
- Engage with **families, partners, and communities**
- **Develop metrics and reporting**

Strategy #2

Promote supportive communities where children, youth, and families feel comfortable seeking help



- Implement **Community Schools**
- Coordinate with **Ethnic Community-Based Organizations**
- Support **community collaboration**
- Develop a **messaging campaign**

Strategy #3

Improve the economic security of parents and caregivers to provide safety and stability for their children



- Identify **benefit cliffs and edges**
- Consider **community-based flexible funds**
- Reform **General Assistance**

Strategy #4

Provide services and resources to help parents and caregivers ensure the safety, health, and nurturing care of their children



- Increase **child care** availability
- Expand **primary prevention of SUD**
- Implement **Maine's Child Behavioral Health Plan**
- Expand **affordable housing**

Strategy #5

Improve coordination of supports and services for children, youth, and families



- Coordinate **annual needs assessments**
- Modify **mandated reporter training**
- Expand **Wraparound Services care coordination**

Enter in the chat

Child Safety and Family Well-Being Plan

1. Develop, implement, and update the plan in **partnership with families, partners, and communities**.
 2. **Promote supportive communities** where children, youth, and families feel comfortable seeking help
 3. **Improve the economic security** of parents and caregivers to provide safety and stability for their children
 4. **Provide services and resources** to help parents and caregivers ensure the safety, health, and nurturing care of their children
 5. **Improve coordination** of supports and services for children, youth and families
- What are you already doing in alignment with these strategies?
 - What else can you do to strengthen families?



Next Steps

Version 2.0

- **Builds on Version 1.0**
- **Inventory of current prevention efforts at the state and community level**
- **Continued community engagement**

Stay Engaged

[Read the plan](#)

[Sign up for plan updates](#)

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Wrap Up & Thank you!



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