**COUNTY CHILD WELFARE IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT**

**AND COORDINATION FOR TRIPLE P**

**Opportunity:**

In partnership with NCDPH and the Duke Endowment, NCDSS has the opportunity to invest in strengthening a multi-level system of support to increase the probability that intended Triple P prevention and wellbeing outcomes will be achieved at scale in North Carolina. The Positive Parenting Program, commonly known as Triple P, has been proven to reduce child maltreatment, out-of-home placements, and parental stress, outcomes tied to improved child safety and family capacity to provide for their children’s needs.

County child welfare agencies are key partners in community-level child-wellbeing efforts. Families being supported by child welfare services are a critical segment of the population that may directly benefit from Triple P interventions and, if well served, may directly influence the reduction of negative child welfare outcomes at community and state levels. Yet, local DSS agencies often struggle to get programs like Triple P started or find them difficult to sustain due to competing priorities, staff attrition, and the complexity of issues presented by the families they serve.

By providing implementation support to local DSS agencies we can shift away from the traditional way of implementing programs (e.g. training alone) that aren't enough to see the outcomes we want. Implementation support helps local DSS agencies identify and develop resources, abilities, and performance critical for successful and sustainable Triple P implementation.

**Project Goal Statement:**

One Implementation Specialist will provide support to DSS agencies with a goal of helping them achieve capacity to successfully implement and sustain Triple P. DSS agencies that have infrastructure in place to implement Triple P well are more likely to achieve outcomes related to decreased child maltreatment, reductions in out-of-home placement, and increased positive parent-child interaction. Strengthened agency capacity to achieve intended Triple P outcomes help to advance goals identified in the 2020-2024 North Carolina Child and Family Services Plan:

* Children and youth will live in safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and environments.
* Children and youth in the foster care program will experience stability in foster care
* Families will have enhanced ability to meet their children and youth’s well- being needs.
* County child welfare agencies will have the supports needed to implement and consistently apply all policies, protocols, practices, and procedures including the information required to make data-driven decisions.

**Implementation Support will ensure:**

* There is a collaborative process with local DSS leadership and other key agency staff to explore agency strengths and readiness to implement Triple P.
* The right voices are at the table to support a hospitable environment for Triple P.
* Leadership and team structures are established for implementing Triple P.
* Staff can competently and confidently deliver Triple P as intended and in ways responsive to parent needs and preferences
* The agency can navigate policies and other competing priorities to optimize Triple P sustainability.
* The development and utilization of data monitoring system to help inform organization and coalition improvement.
* Messaging about why the agency values and is prioritizing Triple P.
* Ongoing engagement with their local Triple P coalition.

**Key support activities will include:**

* Building collaborative relationships to ensure positive working relationships.
* Using a variety of interactive tools, resources, and learning activities to facilitate a co-created improvement process.
* Collaboratively developing Goals, Strategies, and Early Wins to improve local implementation capacity and performance.
* Communicating with, providing feedback to, and supporting the intentions, requirements, and needs of local DSS agencies.
* Reinforcing local DSS agency's ability to self-regulate and own sustainable, effective Triple P implementation.

**Local DSS capacity will be measured 2 x year assessing the following areas:**

* Co-creation Partners (e.g., ensuring the right partners are at the table to develop and sustain local implementation)
* Leadership and Implementation Teams (e.g., teams that ensure effective leadership and the day-to-day implementation of Triple P)
* Workforce Development Systems (e.g., ensuring practitioners have access to training, coaching, and other support)
* Quality and Outcome Monitoring Systems for Improvement (e.g., developing data systems for continuous improvement and efficiency)
* Media and Networking Systems (e.g., ways to carry out parenting communications and reduce the stigma of help-seeking)

**State support/coordination efforts shall include:**

* Work with NCDSS to ensure the development of infrastructure supportive of successful local DSS Triple P implementation.
* Support to the NC Partnership for in Strategy and Governance (PSG)

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