



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact:** Kelly McClurg

(608) 443.4307

[kelly@supportingfamiliesaltogether.org](mailto:kelly@supportingfamiliesaltogether.org)

### **SFTA Receives \$50,000 Community Catalyst Grant**

*Funding will back parent-led cohorts to address health inequities caused by early childhood trauma through community-based supports*

**MADISON-** Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA) has been awarded \$50,000 by the Wisconsin Partnership Program at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, towards implementation of their *Parent Leadership as a Catalyst for Health Equity* project.

“Our goal with this project is to build and strengthen statewide parent leadership and parent voice through cohorts that will develop community supports to address Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), or how early trauma, abuse and neglect influence children’s outcomes later in life,” said SFTA project leader Connie Dunlap. “Parents will use their lived experiences to create effective community-based supports while increasing parent knowledge to prevent ACEs.”

Funding from the Partnership Program allows SFTA to build on three previous years of successfully implementing Parent Cafés across Wisconsin, an initiative focused on parent leadership in which parents come together to learn about and promote the 5 Protective Factors proven to help prevent child abuse and neglect. The parent cohort model will continue to build on progress made through Parent Cafés in addressing early trauma. Four teams statewide will form a cohort for shared and peer learning to increase parent leadership and knowledge of preventing ACEs, and to create community-based projects and supports to prevent ACEs.

The Wisconsin Partnership Program represents a far-reaching commitment by the UW School of Medicine and Public Health to improve health and well-being of Wisconsin residents through investments in research, education and community partnerships. Learn more at [med.wisc.edu/partnership](http://med.wisc.edu/partnership).

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Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA) is a non-profit organization funded by public and private entities to support and implement a variety of early childhood focused programs and services. As Wisconsin’s statewide member association for organizations and individuals committed to making every early childhood a great one, we envision an environment in which all children have the opportunity to reach their highest potential and all adults understand their role and responsibilities to children. Learn more about SFTA at [supportingfamiliesaltogether.org](http://supportingfamiliesaltogether.org).