Family Policy & Advocacy

2014 KIDS COUNT Data Book
This new report from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, about how children are faring at state and national levels across the U.S., can better shape and inform early childhood advocacy efforts.

How Much Could We Improve Children’s Life Chances by Intervening Early and Often?
This report acknowledges barriers that low-income children have in comparison to their wealthier peers, and illustrates how early interventions can help these children overcome such barriers.

Breaking the Cycle: Supporting Parent-Child Relationships Through the “Parents Interacting With Infants” Intervention
Read this informative article about the “PIWI” approach to parent-child relationship support, by Lana Nenide and Staci Sontoski, both of whom serve on SFTA’s board.

The Importance of Early Childhood Programs for Women on the Brink
This online article explains the necessity of early care and education programs for families living in poverty. It moves on to suggest advocacy to increase access to high-quality child care programs for low-income families.

Beyond Subprime Learning: Accelerating Progress in Early Education
This policy brief from New America Education offers eight strategies as a framework for policies that support and promote aligned, high-quality early education.

Resources for Practice

Children and Domestic Violence Fact Sheet Series
These easy to use fact sheets from The National Child Traumatic Stress Network examine the effects of domestic violence on children, how to communicate with children who have been exposed to domestic violence, and more.

Are the Children Well? A Model and Recommendations for Promoting the Mental Wellness of the Nation’s Young People
This exploratory look at children’s mental health from Child Trends examines the current state of children’s mental health supports, and makes policy recommendations for improvements that can be made.

Mother’s Education and Children’s Outcomes: How Dual-Generation Programs Offer Increased Opportunities for America’s Children
This study correlates children’s outcomes with the level of education completed by their mothers. This correlation indicates that the more education a mother attains, the more likely their children are to achieve successful lifelong outcomes.

Sheep in a Jeep

This board book by Nancy Shaw is a fun, lyrical story that is perfect for infants and toddlers. It is short enough to read out loud and still captivate young children’s attention, and also the perfect length and simplicity for children just learning to read. The rhyming words, succinct descriptions, and beautiful penciled illustrations of these silly sheep are memorable and entertaining for young children, as well as adults.

Get this book for a child in need or a child you know through SFTA AmazonSmile.
Resources for Practice

Prevent, Protect & Provide: How child welfare can better support low-income families
This brief compilation offers recommendations that any early childhood professional can apply in practice, about how to better support families and children living in poverty and reduce the risk of abuse and neglect.

Infant, Toddler, and Early Childhood Mental Health Competencies: A Comparison of Systems
This Zero to Three recorded webinar compares how state systems support and guide early childhood professionals in handling children’s mental health. This webinar looks at how to develop a consistent, effective approach to supporting children’s mental health nation-wide.

Intergenerational Family Connections: The Relationships that Support a Strong America
Take a look at this Generations United and Alliance for Children and Families report on the benefits of strong relationships within families, and ways to build supports to better facilitate these relationships. Too busy to read another report right now? Get a quick visual summary through this infographic.

Early Childhood In the News

Borchardt column: Reading the stars
In Midwest, More Radio Stations Switching to Spanish
Life expectancy gap: Again, Wisconsin blacks are near the bottom
When mental illness affects your family
How a father’s diet, lifestyle affect his baby’s healthy development

Visit SFTA on Social Media: Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, WordPress, Pinterest

Professional Development Events

The Bully, the Bullied and the Bystander: 10th Annual Wisconsin Inter Tribal Child Care Association (WITCCA) Conference
What: Featuring best-selling author, speaker, and consultant Barbara Coloroso, this year’s conference focuses on how we can break the cycle of violence that childhood bullying perpetuates. Registration is $25, and registration deadline is October 8, 2014.
When: Friday, October 10, 2014
Where: Lac Courte Oreilles Convention Center, 13767 W. County Road B, Hayward, WI 54843

Trauma Informed Child-Parent Psychotherapy
What: This training promotes TI-CPP; an evidence-based therapeutic treatment for children from birth to 5 with trauma histories that are causing mental and emotional distress. The goal of this training is to encourage implementation of TI-CPP to improve these children’s outcomes. Apply for this training.
When: November 2-4, 2014, Save the Date
Where: Madison, WI (Exact location TBD)

Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Pilot Community Application
What: ECCS will partner with three pilot Wisconsin communities to strengthen their early childhood support systems. The goal is to offer communities training to support young children and families who have experienced trauma and toxic stress and to build trauma-informed practices into current systems.
When: Application deadline is Friday, October 31
Where: Apply online, questions to eccs@chw.org.

Have a professional development event you would like added to next month’s Online Digest?
Contact: kelly@supportingfamilies altogether.org

Our August Pic Pick (Video!)
CLICK the photo above to check out the video from our Once Upon a Book Drive Family Literacy Day. We are still collecting books through the end of August!
Send us your fun, cute, or memorable photos from your work with young children and their families!
Contact: kelly@supportingfamilies altogether.org