

New York State Parenting Education Partnership

NYSPEP Progress Report – 2015

Published March 2016

**539 Parents,
Families, and
Children per
County in 52
Counties**

**Served by professionals who attended
Strong Roots training institutes on
Parental Roles & Protective Factors**

**Over 17
Participating
Communities**

***Community Cafés*
are conversations
based on the
Protective Factors
Framework
between parents
and agencies**

**Orientations for
83 Registrants**



**853
Total Reach

\$21.13 Cost
per Individual
2014–2015**

***Mini-Grants* increase
parent access to
evidence-based and
promising parenting
education programs**

**72 NYSPEP
Credentialed
Parenting
Educators
in New York**

**“Educator competence [is responsible for]
50–80% of the quality of the program.”**

Campbell, D. and G. Palm (2004). *Group parent education: Promoting parent learning and support*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

In February 2016, NYSPEP achieved its primary goal of seeking greater direct participation from Steering Committee members as the leadership worked to develop a revised strategic direction for the network.

The Strategic Planning was launched in mid-2013 with a selected sample of key stakeholders, agencies, and partners who were asked to participate in a telephone survey. The results helped NYSPEP gain a better understanding of what various stakeholders needed, wanted, and expected from – or understood about – NYSPEP.

As a result, NYSPEP produced its first progress report in January 2014, which focused on professional development opportunities provided by NYSPEP. The annual Progress Report has since expanded to highlight additional initiatives. NYSPEP also hired an independent consultant to assist with strategic analysis, development, and implementation of an action plan to propel NYSPEP forward.

During this time, several NYSPEP founders entered retirement. These leaders remain involved, offering their wisdom and connection to NYSPEP's unique history. However, the transition has also been an opportunity for new leadership to emerge.

Through the strategic planning process, the work of NYSPEP has been re-imagined and refocused on four primary areas: redefining and developing membership; improving communication and messaging; providing high quality professional development; and strengthening and expanding the credential.

Responsibility for carrying out these initiatives has been transferred to work groups, with coordination occurring during Executive Committee meetings, guided by the Steering Committee. Membership in the Steering Committee (members are pictured below) and the work groups have increased and NYSPEP leadership is excited as we move forward and continue to build partnerships to improve the field of parenting education for the benefit of all New York's children and families.



www.nyspep.org/leaders

NYSPEP extends many thanks to the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) for its continued support of excellence in parenting education across the state of New York. OMH provides a grant to NYSPEP's fiscal agent, Prevent Child Abuse New York. NYSPEP also wishes to thank our Conveners, Steering Committee members, partners, and individuals who have contributed to and supported our work.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: TRAINING INSTITUTES AND WEBINARS

NYSPEP *Strong Roots* trainings offer full-day, high-quality content developed by experienced professionals in the field and are associated with effectiveness in parenting education. NYSPEP delivered six institutes on “Parental Roles and Protective Factors” with 165 registrants in Watertown, Buffalo, Lake Placid, New York City, Owego, and Latham, NY.



Research shows successful strategies for supporting growth and development in family systems seek not only to reduce risk factors—they also promote protective factors. Integrating the Protective Factors Framework into parenting education practice can improve relationships with and support of parents and families who are dealing with a complex combination of challenges. Of those responding to the evaluation question, 92 percent affirmed the training increased their knowledge or understanding of ways to work with parents who face challenges in meeting their role as parents.

NYSPEP also collaborated with steering committee members and other agencies to provide six professional development webinars at no cost for 288 total registrants on the following topics:

- Reflective Practice
- Who Are the People in Your Neighborhood? Creating Reflective Communities
- Respectful Parent – Respectful Child: Helping Parents Build Positive Lifelong Family Relationships
- Traumatic Brain Injury: The Silent Epidemic
- See Us, Support Us: Children of Incarcerated Parents
- The Impact of Domestic Violence on Young Children's Development

NYSPEP PARENTING EDUCATOR CREDENTIAL



*Credential awardees recognized at the 2015
Child Abuse Prevention Conference in Albany*

NYSPEP’s Parenting Educator Credential defines the knowledge and skills needed by all parenting educators to provide high-quality programs and successfully implement evidence-based curricula. Peer review panels assess applicant portfolios that document competence achieved through education, training and experience.

In the 2015 application cycles, thirteen people received the credential: two at Tier I (Credentialed Resource Associate or NYSPEP-CRA), 10 at Tier II (Credentialed Parenting Educator or NYSPEP-CPE), and one at Tier III (Credentialed Senior Parenting Educator or NYSPEP-CSPE). To date, 72 individuals have been awarded the Parenting Educator Credentials. Five of those have advanced their credential to Tier III Credentialed Senior Parenting Educator.

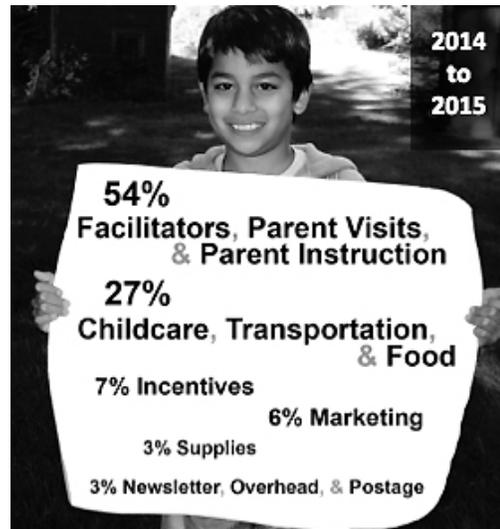
In 2015, the Credential Workgroup developed details for the four-year recertification process. Those who received the first credentials awarded in April 2012 are working on their renewal applications, documenting the continuing education and training they have completed since then. Credentialed Parenting Educators were also surveyed to assess the impact of the credential. Results will be distributed in 2016.

MINI-GRANTS: 2015-2016 AWARDS AND 2014-2015 REPORT

In December 2015, NYSPEP awarded eight mini-grants, of up to \$2,000 each, to help providers increase access to research-based parenting education programs and proven practice models that impart knowledge, skills and resources to nurture children. Funds were awarded to organizations, which utilize research-based or proven practice models. Focused criteria asked applicants to demonstrate how their program builds upon the Protective Factors.

Earlier in 2015, an Ad Hoc committee reviewed and made improvements to the mini-grant cycle, standardizing the application-to-reporting process for future years.

The 2014–2015 mini-grant program, awarded to 10 organizations, served 48 professionals, 370 adults, and 435 children.



Breakdown of total expenditures for the 2014-2015 mini-grants, aggregated from individual reports received in 2015.

COMMUNITY CAFÉS



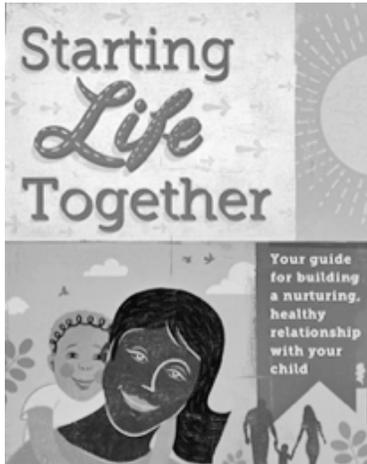
The Community Café Initiative—a series of guided conversations based on the Protective Factors Framework—touches the lives of parents, educators, advocates, and partners through building community capacity to address challenges that affect the social and emotional wellbeing of children and families, and strengthening parents' capacity to care for their families.

The Café Leadership Team, comprised of two Parent Leaders and two NYSPEP Committee members, developed a contact list and support system for participants throughout 17 communities. Bi-monthly support calls encourage team sharing and collaboration. In 2015, the team began tracking distributed materials, which reached approximately 200 people.

An orientation held during the NYS Child Abuse Prevention Conference was led by one of the Parent Leaders and an experienced team from Ithaca shared insights from their initiative. Completed evaluations agreed the presenters, content and materials

were effective and helpful. A full-day orientation webinar was held for 83 registrants in Yonkers and Spring Valley to learn about the process, Framework, building partnerships, and working with diverse audiences.

NEW PARENT KIT



Cover image of NYSPEP's *Parent Guide*, which anchors the New Parent Kit

The New Parent Kit offers cohesive and consistent information to support parents of newborns in nurturing and promoting their child's healthy development. The Kit includes NYSPEP's *Parent Guide*, a baby board book such as *Baby Faces*, and *What to Do When Your Child Gets Sick*, evaluated for use in Early Head Start programs that reduced parent's unnecessary use of emergency rooms¹.

In 2015, NYS Council on Children and Families, a NYSPEP Convener, developed a web-based version of the Kit—nysparentguide.org—that includes adapted information from the *Parent Guide* and New York State Department of Health's *Welcome to Parenthood* booklet, and electronic resources.

Coordination with potential distribution partners, stakeholders, and evaluators are underway for a pilot distribution. An evaluation to assess parents' use of the Kit, and an orientation to train professionals who will distribute the New Parent Kit to pre-natal families is being developed.

ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING

NYSPEP partnered with the New York State Head Start Collaboration Project and Rebecca Parlakian, Director of Parenting Resources for Zero To Three to present "Reaching the Changing American Family: Research to Practice Insights" as part of the full-day meeting for 73 registrants in Latham, NY. The day also included updates on Community Cafés and the New Parent Kit, as well as a visioning discussion facilitated by William McLaughlin, who has worked with NYSPEP throughout the strategic planning process.

An Ad Hoc committee is underway with planning for this year's meeting, tentatively scheduled for June. Information is expected sometime in April and will be posted to the nyspep.org website (use the "Meeting 2016" button). We invite you to attend!

¹ Herman A, Mayer G. Reducing the Use of Emergency Medical Resources Among Head Start Families: A Pilot Study. *Journal of Community Health*, June 2004; 29(3):197-208.

Conveners of the
New York State Parenting Education Partnership

- NYS Council on Children and Families
- NYS Office of Children and Family Services /
Children and Family Trust Fund
- NYS Office of Mental Health
- Prevent Child Abuse New York

www.nyspep.org