



SBCT Updates

Implementation Updates

- **Sites are continuing to set foundations for SBCT rollout.** The Community Coordinators continue to work closely with ZERO TO THREE through an intensive Academy, diving into the details of SBCT implementation. Working in teams that include a variety of key stakeholder representation, each site remains focused on developing program eligibility criteria, creating a referral process and intake protocols, considering engagement strategies with parents, and brainstorming structures for Family Team Meetings.
- **Staffing updates.** The State Leadership Team is now complete, with the AOC bringing on Arina Gertseva in the Quality Improvement Manager/Data Analyst role, and Sarah Burns in the Statewide Coordinator position (sharing responsibilities with Morgan Silverman from CCYJ). Kitsap County continues to seek a Community Coordinator, with the position expected to be re-posted shortly.
- **Developing the Statewide Structure has begun.** Now that the State Leadership Team is complete, the focus will shift to the development of the State Advisory Board. This group will provide broad oversight over the SBCT sites as well as advise on sustainability, strategy, and statewide benchmarks.

Legislative Updates

- **2SSB 5331 successfully passed out of the Senate and has been introduced in the House.** [This bill](#) standardizes statewide core components of Early Childhood Courts, if such a court program is established. Amendments have been incorporated in the Senate to clarify that the Community Coordinator can be employed by the court or an outside social service agency; and that the AOC's participation in this work is dependent on available funding. [Subscribe to updates here.](#)

- **2SSB 5331 had a public hearing on 3/11 in the House Committee on Children, Youth, & Families.** Public testimony in PRO of this bill were given by Rachel Sottile, President & CEO of CCYJ; Representative Ruth Kagi (Retired); Julie Hoffman, Best for Babies Community Coordinator; and Tonia McClanahan, Dependency Court Parent Mentor. [View the recording of the hearing \(beginning at 47:30\) here.](#)
 - **This bill continues to receive additional, formal support** a from a variety of partners and stakeholders. We want to thank those for taking the time support this bill and sign in PRO; it is through our continued community support that we hope will encourage the bill's successful passage through the House.
 - **Executive action was taken (do pass) in the House Committee on Children, Youth, and Families on 3/22.** The bill has since then been referred to the House Committee on Appropriations for a public hearing; we will notify Design Team members once this hearing is scheduled.
 - **The Strengthening America's Families Act (SAFA).** Representatives Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) are preparing to reintroduce the bipartisan Strengthening America's Families Act (SAFA)—exciting news for babies and families in the child welfare system. SAFA would:
 - Spread the infant-toddler court team approach to build state and local systems that support a range of trauma-informed services for families in the child welfare system and in need of preventative services.
 - Ensure that young children and their parents receive interventions to address needs and heal past trauma.
 - Provide seed money to states to create the state infrastructure and establish or enhance local “beachhead” sites until the approach takes hold in the state.
-

Resource Hub

Upcoming Events

- [Spreading HOPE – the First Annual HOPE Summit \(click to register\)](#)
When: 4/9 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM ET
About: Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences (HOPE) is thrilled to invite you to the Spreading HOPE: First Annual HOPE Summit! This virtual summit seeks to inspire a group of leaders who will, together, champion a HOPE-informed movement. We have the opportunity to shift how we support children and families and create a system of care based on understanding, equity, and trust.
- [Save the Date! State of Babies Yearbook: 2021 Virtual Release \(click to receive updates\)](#)
When: 4/22 2:00-4:30 PM EDT
About: Our nation's families – and their children – still face a global pandemic, an economic recession, and continuing racial injustices. As we move toward recovery, telling the story of

America's babies is more important than ever. Join ZERO TO THREE on April 22 for the virtual release of the State of Babies Yearbook: 2021. We will discuss our findings, tell the story behind the data, and lay out the strong, permanent, national policies that ensure families and their babies thrive.

Listen

- [Podcast: The New Neighborhood](#)
About: The New Neighborhood, a limited series podcast, explores some of the dramatic changes taking place across the country as people work to reinforce a sense of community, support young children and families, and work to build equity within communities. Each episode features emerging innovations that will create a society where all children and their families can thrive.

Read

- [Read: Supporting the First 1,000 Days of A Child's Life: An Anti-Racist Blueprint for Early Childhood Well-Being and Child Welfare Prevention](#)

Education Opportunities

Upcoming:

- [The Importance of Family Time for Parents and Young Children](#)
When: April 2, 2021 11:00 a.m. ET
About: This webinar will review resources provided by the Irving Harris Foundation Professional Development Network about Meaningful Family Time with Young Children

Recorded Webinar:

- [Strengthening Families: Building Protective Factors through Infant-Toddler Court Teams](#)
About: Join us for an introduction to the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework and Approach, and how it can be applied in an Infant-Toddler Court Team.

Interested in Learning More?

For more information on the SBCT Approach and the current work expanding it to Washington State, visit our newly updated website or send us an email.

CCYJ Website

Strengthening Early Relationships: Expanding the Safe Babies Court Team Approach in Washington State
<https://ccyj.org/our-work/designing-a-washington-state-safe-babies-plan/>

Contact:

Michelle Williams (She/Her)
mwilliams@ccyj.org

You are receiving this email because you are on our Safe Babies Design Team listserv. If you would like to unsubscribe to this mailing list, please let me know.