

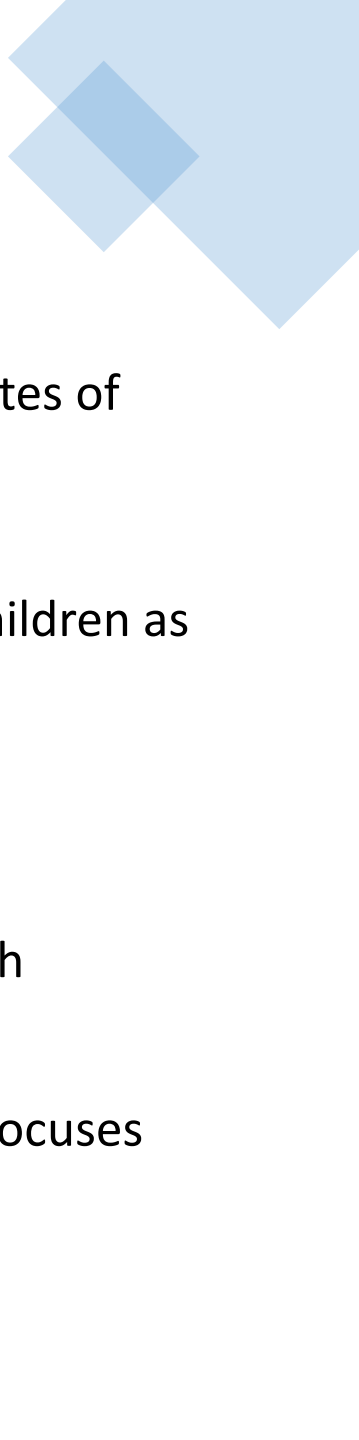
IEC

Infant/Early Childhood
Mental Health Program
Austin Child Guidance Center

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Purpose of IEC

- Our project was created to **decrease expulsion** rates of young children, birth to 5 years of age
 - **Reduce the rate of mental health concerns** for children as they get older (Early childhood is the **best** time to intervene and affect outcomes)
 - Build awareness of how early intervention can positively impact a child's social/emotional growth
 - To embrace the "whole child"- an approach that focuses on mental, social and emotional readiness
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IEC model

- IEC is a unique model that empowers the teachers and staff with the skills and tools to support every child they encounter in their center
- IEC supports and encourages center staff and parents to bridge the gaps in communication
- IEC also supports individual families who are experiencing unique struggles



IEC Foundation Principles

Facilitate connection/communication among directors, administrators, teachers and parents to support young children

Recognizing the context of family, culture and community

Decreasing expulsion and suspension in child-care

Reduce the rate of mental health concerns as children get older



Impact of IEC

- Improves social, emotional and behavioral well-being for children and their families
- Reduces school suspension and expulsion among young children
- Reduces challenging behaviors in young children
- Reduces teacher's stress
- Improves teacher-child relationship
- Builds communication among staff/director
- Builds communication among staff/caregivers
- Link children and their families with resources in the community
- Children ability to experience, express and regulate their emotions

Team Effort

Observation
of classrooms

Teacher
consultation

Teacher
trainings

Parent
workshops

Individual
consultation

Individual
referrals

Support for
the directors

Feedback for IEC

Over 85%, feel the training has enhance their effectiveness.

The trainers are relatable and knowledgeable

Digging down to the definition of trauma was interesting

Informative training

Feel more comfortable talking with parents

Enjoy the strategies provided

I feel this is a team effort

Love seeing the growth in my classroom

Importance of Early Childhood Development

- Early childhood development provides building blocks for strong social emotional skills
- It's essential for centers to have a space for educational achievements to thrive and the confidence to face any challenge
- We use a multi-level prevention and intervention strategies to build confidence, vital for increasing childhood development





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Vision

- Continue to build relationships in the community, with the parents and staff of the centers we serve to bridge the gap between seeking and receiving services for our young children.