Get to know the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse

The Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse was established by the Administration for Children and Families within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

[The official logos for the Administration for Children and Families, Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse, and the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation appear.]

The Clearinghouse conducts objective and transparent research reviews on programs and services intended to provide enhanced support to children and families and prevent foster care placements.

The Clearinghouse aims to be a useful source of information on evidence-based programs and services that may be eligible for funding under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act as amended by the Family First Prevention Services Act.

How are programs and services rated in the Clearinghouse?

The Clearinghouse uses unique standards and procedures to conduct an objective and transparent systematic review of research on programs and services intended to provide enhanced support to children and families and prevent foster care placements. These standards and procedures were developed to align with the guiding legislation and, as a result, Prevention Services Clearinghouse ratings may differ from those of other clearinghouses.

Trained reviewers use a systematic process following consistent, transparent standards and procedures to rate programs and services as well-supported, supported, promising, or does not currently meet criteria.

The typical reviewer has an advanced degree and has experience working on multiple systematic evidence review projects. All reviewers have completed training on Prevention Services Clearinghouse evidence standards.

The Clearinghouse's systematic process is informed by feedback from the public; gathered through a variety of sources, including conversations with experts, responses to Federal Register Notices, and emails sent to the Clearinghouse Inbox.

[The following narration describes an animated graphic depicting the Clearinghouse review process.]

First, programs and services are identified for review.

State or local government administrators and tribes, federal partners, program developers, researchers, and other members of the public nominate programs for the Clearinghouse to review and the Clearinghouse selects and prioritizes programs and services for review.

The Clearinghouse conducts a literature search to locate research studies on the effectiveness of the prioritized programs and services.

Next, the Clearinghouse screens studies for eligibility and prioritizes them for review.

The Clearinghouse conducts an evidence review to rate the strength of evidence of the studies using the design and execution standards.

And finally, the Clearinghouse rates programs and services as well-supported, supported, promising, or does not currently meet criteria based on the available evidence from the studies that meet design and execution standards.

The Prevention Services Clearinghouse Team

[The screen shows an animated graphic of a map of the United States of America in the background while nine colorful, animated people figures appear one by one, spread across various portions of the map.]

The Clearinghouse is staffed by an intergenerational, multiracial team of over 70 professionals located across the United States.

[Nine animated people appear on the screen one by one while the narrator talks.]

We are diverse in our identities and experiences and bring a multidisciplinary blend of academic, applied, and lived expertise to the work of the Clearinghouse. We are committed to advancing equity in the child welfare field.

How can I search for programs or services that have been reviewed?

[A laptop computer appears on the screen showing the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse website Welcome page.]

Navigate to the searchable database from the Clearinghouse homepage.

[The cursor navigates first to the Find a Program or Service link in the navigation menu and clicks.]

You can search for a program or service by name.

[The cursor selects the Search for a Program or Service by Name text box and types in Familias Unidas, selects the Search button, and clicks. This returns a list of programs with Familias in the name. The cursor scrolls down the list and selects the Familias Unidas button. The webpage navigates to display the Familias Unidas program page.]

[The cursor returns to the Find a Program or Service link in the navigation menu and clicks.]

Or you can search for a program or service by rating. You can select one or more boxes: Well-Supported, Supported, Promising, or Does Not Currently Meet Criteria.

[The cursor clicks the Well-Supported and Supported selection boxes in the Program or Service Rating section of the search box. The cursor then clicks the Search button. This navigates the web display to a search results page showing programs tagged as Well-Supported or Supported.]

Alternatively, you can search for a program or service by program or service area.

[In the Search box, the cursor deselects Supported in the Program or Service Rating section of the search box and selects Mental Health in the Program or Service Area.]

Select from Mental Health, Substance Abuse, In-Home Parent Skill-Based, or Kinship Navigator.

[The cursor clicks the Search button which returns results of programs or services tagged with Well-Supported and Mental Health.]

What information is available about programs and services?

[The Clearinghouse Welcome page is displayed on the screen. The cursor navigates to the Find a Program or Service section of the navigation menu and clicks.]

You can read an overview of the program or service, and find more detailed information about evidence, findings, and studies reviewed.

[The cursor selects the Search for a Program or Service by Name text box and types in Family Spirit and clicks the Search button. This navigates the web display to search results for Programs or Services with Family in the name.]

[The cursor scrolls down the list and clicks on the Family Spirit button in the search results. This changes the display to the Family Spirit program page.]

The program page includes the program or service area and the rating, followed by the overview and sources consulted.

[The cursor scrolls down the page to display program description text and the Sources section. The display also shows expandable menu selections for the following sections: Target Population, Program or Service Delivery and Implementation, Extent of Evidence, Summary of Findings, Individual Study Findings, and Studies Reviewed. The cursor expands and collapses these sections as the narrator explains each section.]

This is followed by the Target Population section, which describes who the program or service is designed to serve.

The Program or Service Delivery and Implementation section includes information about dosage; location or delivery setting; education, certifications and training; and program or service documentation.

The Extent of Evidence section shows the results of search and review.

The Summary of Findings section shows outcomes, effect sizes, number of studies and participants, and summarizes the findings from studies that were rated high or moderate on the design and execution standards.

The Individual Study Findings section provides this information by study reviewed.

Finally, the Studies Reviewed sections provides citations for individual studies. For those studies not eligible for review, it also provides information about the reasons why they did not contribute to the overall program or service rating.

What are the next programs and services planned for review?

[The screen displays the Clearinghouse website Welcome page. The cursor navigates to the About navigation drop-down menu and clicks on the Programs and Services Planned for Review navigation link. The display changes to show the Programs and Services Planned for Review webpage.]

The Clearinghouse has a working list on the website of the next programs and services planned for systematic review. The programs and services on the list are identified and prioritized using the Clearinghouse's Handbook of Standards and Procedures.

Want to learn more?

[The screen displays the Prevention Services Clearinghouse Resources webpage which lists the resources described in the narration as the cursor scrolls down the page.]

Check out our Handbook of Standards and Procedures, Reporting Guide for Study Authors, webinars, fact sheets, and other resources. You can also sign up to receive email announcements.

Have a question or need help?

[The screen displays the Clearinghouse Frequently Asked Questions webpage.]

Visit the Frequently Asked Questions page or send an email to PreventionServices@abtassoc.com.

[The screen changes showing four colorful, animated people figures appearing one by one. The image morphs into the Prevention Services Clearinghouse logo of four graphical figures next to the graphical depiction of a house.]

Together, we can use evidence to support families and prevent foster care placements.

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