



## CHILD WELFARE IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT FOR TRIPLE P

**Opportunity** In partnership with NCDPH and the Duke Endowment, DSS is investing in strengthening a multi-level system of support to increase the probability that intended Triple P prevention and wellbeing outcomes will be achieved at scale in North Carolina. The Positive Parenting Program, commonly known as Triple P, has been proven to reduce child maltreatment, out-of-home placements, and parental stress, outcomes tied to improved child safety and family capacity to provide for their children's needs.

County child welfare agencies are key partners in community-level child-wellbeing efforts. Families being supported by child welfare services are a critical segment of the population that may directly benefit from Triple P interventions and, if well served, may directly influence the reduction of negative child welfare outcomes at community and state levels. Yet, local child welfare agencies often struggle to get programs like Triple P started or find them difficult to sustain due to competing priorities, staff attrition, and the complexity of issues presented by the families they serve.

By providing implementation support to local child welfare agencies we can shift away from the traditional way of implementing programs (e.g. training alone) that aren't enough to see the outcomes we want. Implementation support provides an opportunity for local child welfare agencies to discuss and develop the resources, abilities, and performance critical for successful and sustainable Triple P implementation.

Strengthened agency capacity to achieve intended Triple P outcomes help to advance goals identified in the **2020-2024 North Carolina Child and Family Services Plan**:

- Children and youth will live in safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and environments.
- Children and youth in the foster care program will experience stability in foster care
- Families will have enhanced ability to meet their children and youth's well-being needs.
- County child welfare agencies will have the supports needed to implement and consistently apply all policies, protocols, practices, and procedures including the information required to make data-driven decisions.



**PROJECT GOAL:** The Impact Center at UNC-CH's Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute will provide support to local child welfare agencies with a goal of helping them achieve capacity to successfully implement and sustain Triple P. Agencies that have infrastructure in place to implement Triple P well are more likely to achieve outcomes related to decreased child maltreatment, reductions in out-of-home placement, and increased positive parent-child interaction.

### Key support activities in FY 2020-21:

- **State-level Guidance** about Triple P goals and announcement of available support offerings.
- **Periodic Triple P Newsletters** highlighting local child welfare Triple P efforts and implementation best practices.
- **Quarterly Learning Collaborative Forums** to promote peer-to-peer learning and Triple P implementation best practices. Key topics will include:
  - Assessing readiness to implement Triple P.
  - How to engage the right partners to support a hospitable environment for Triple P.
  - The value of establishing team structures accountable for scaling and supporting Triple P.
  - Ways to support staff to competently and confidently deliver Triple P as intended and in ways responsive to parent needs and preferences.
  - The development and utilization of data to help inform organization improvement.
  - Communication strategies for messaging why the agency values and is prioritizing Triple P.
  - Approaches for developing goals, strategies, and early wins to improve local implementation capacity and performance.