

# Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Q&A for Family Support Services Grantees

## **Q: What is Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention?**

**A:** Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) is a federal grant program authorized under Title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, the primary federal legislation addressing child abuse and neglect prevention that was originally enacted in 1974.

The program supports community-based efforts to develop and coordinate programs and activities to strengthen and support families and reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect. It also seeks to foster understanding, appreciation and knowledge of diverse populations to effectively prevent and treat child abuse and neglect.

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is designated by the governor to serve as the lead agency to administer the CBCAP program in Texas.

## **Q: How much funding does Family Support Services receive?**

**A:** Texas awarded \$5.6 million through CBCAP from October 2020 through September 2023. Texas also received \$26 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding that can be used through September 2025.

The award determinations are based on the state's large child population and the amount of state general revenue leveraged to support the grant. Through the Texas Children's Trust Fund and state general revenue allocated to Family Support Services programs, Texas claims approximately \$45 million annually in leveraged funds.

## **Q: How does Texas use Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention funding?**

**A:** The Texas Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention program uses funds to:

- Help communities identify prevention needs.
- Manage new and continuing grants for community-based programming.
- Expand the use of evidence-based programming.
- Promote public awareness and provide information to promote strong families and encourage families to seek help.

**Q: Is my Family Support Services grant funded with Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention?**

**A:** The following Family Support Services programs are funded with Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention:

- Fatherhood EFFECT (Educating Fathers for Empowering Children Tomorrow)
- Texas Service Members, Veterans, and Families
- Community Youth Development
- Nurse Family Partnership
- Healthy Outcomes through Prevention and Early Supports (HOPES)
- Family Resource Centers

**Q: Who is eligible to be served under Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention?**

**A:** Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention programs serve the general population and families at risk of abuse or neglect, such as first-time parents, parents of young children and families living in underserved communities. Outreach efforts should focus on those who have not been recently involved with Child Protective Services within the last six months.

**Q: What prevention activities are allowable under Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention?**

**A:** Primary and secondary prevention activities are allowable under program funding:

- Primary prevention activities seek to create thriving environments for all children and families to keep them strong and together, like the Family Support Services universal parenting tips campaign and [GetParentingTips.com](http://GetParentingTips.com).
- Secondary prevention activities provide supports to strengthen families, such as home visiting parent education programs targeted to high-risk families like teen parents. Secondary prevention includes services to families screened out of child welfare intervention, such as the Child Protective Services [Alternative Response](#) program.

Tertiary activities are not allowable under Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention funds:

- Tertiary prevention activities seek to prevent harm to children in families that have child welfare involvement including families receiving assistance [Family-Based Safety Services program](#). These families have already demonstrated the need for intervention.

**Q: What if a family receiving services is or was involved with Child Protective Services?**

**A:** The Texas Health and Human Services Commission recognizes that services are voluntary and programs may not be aware of client history. The agency may periodically review the number of clients served under a Family Support Services grantee’s program that have a history or current involvement with Child Protective Services.

If the agency determines that the population being served falls outside of the primary and secondary prevention focus, agency staff will provide technical assistance regarding outreach efforts.

**Q: What are Family Support Services’ expectations for grantees whose programs receive Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention funding?**

**A:** Due to federal funding requirements, Family Support Services expects grantee partners to make every effort to provide upstream primary and secondary prevention services.

Grantees should share program successes and challenges in quarterly reporting and other communication so that Family Support Services can collaborate with the grantees in strengthening community-based programs and make the best use of federal funds. This enables Family Support Services to report on the successes and challenges of the program's continuing work in promoting child and family well-being.

**Q: Are there reporting or performance outcomes specific to Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention?**

**A:** Family Support Services establishes outcome and reporting requirements for each of its programs and designs the Prevention and Early Intervention Reporting System (PEIRS) to capture necessary data.

There are no additional expectations placed on grantees receiving Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention funding outside of what's established for their Family Support Services program. The goal of this federal funding is to decrease the rate of children who are first-time victims of child maltreatment.

**Q: How can I learn more?**

**A:** For more information, please contact your Family Support Services program specialist.