

LAUNCH into the New Year!!

With our kick-off behind us, we have a lot to look forward to this coming year! As your project leadership team, we are all excited to stand with you as you provide a full year of direct client services. Remembering the impact you can make is important on a day-to-day basis. You are working to decrease child abuse through evidence-based positive parenting programs, increase early intervention for children with special or developing needs, and to create early childhood experts through professional development. In 2017, we aim to impact over 160 parents by giving them knowledge on protective factors, positive parenting skills and the confidence to succeed! What an honor to be a part of that process. We look forward to hearing your success stories and collaborating with you along the way.

Your Texas LAUNCH Leadership Team

“In 2017, we aim to impact over 160 parents...”



Optional Training: From the National Resource Center for Mental Health Promotion & Youth Violence Prevention comes a webinar on the National Registry for Evidence-Based Programs and Practices in a Changing Behavioral Health and Research Landscape. Click [HERE](#) to register for this event, which will be held on January 18th from 2-3pm EST.



Child Trends

Child Trends is a nation-wide nonprofit research organization focused on children, youth, and family issues. While working to improve the lives and outcomes of children and youth through high-quality research, they also aim to share resulting knowledge with practitioners and policymakers. Click below to learn more about their research in:

- [Child Maltreatment/Child Welfare](#)
- [Early Childhood](#)
- [Families and Parenting](#)
- [Poverty and Inequality](#)
- [Social and Emotional Learning](#)

This site also provides state specific data and trends. Subscribe to their weekly updates of current research for more information.



Tribal Children in ECI: Success Story from YDSP

Not long after Texas LAUNCH started in Ysleta del Sur Pueblo (YDSP), the Local Lead Linda Wiley learned of a two-year-old Tigua child with special needs who had been evaluated by Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) in the past but did not receive services. After reportedly communicating with ECI several times, the child was still not receiving services. Wiley was concerned about a possible gap in services for the Pueblo children. Confirming her suspicions, the local ECI special projects manager reported that no Tigua children were currently enrolled in ECI.

Wiley took action by inviting the ECI project manager to speak to the YDSP Young Child Wellness Council on ECI services, where she emphasized the importance of collaboration as well as their commitment to ensuring access to services.

As a result of this new partnership, the two-year-old child was re-evaluated and enrolled in ECI services, and has been receiving speech and physical therapy since September 2016. Wiley spoke with the child's mother who reported that the child has made incredible progress, including speaking a few words and walking with a walker. The mother reported that ECI services have been consistent and very helpful. The child will be transitioning to Head Start in February.

Wiley hopes to continue to see Tigua children who qualify be enrolled into ECI services. The ECI project manager will also continue to sit on the El Paso Young Child Wellness Council to continue supporting the partnership.

Strong Communities, Strong Families 2017 Calendar

The Prevention and Early Intervention Division's **2017 parenting tips calendar** is now available. This FREE family resource is filled with helpful tips for parents and caregivers of children of all ages. It is **available in English and Spanish**. The calendar is endorsed by the Texas Pediatric Society and is a great resource for families participating in early childhood programs. Take a look for yourself at HelpandHope.org.



Nonprofit organizations and businesses that provide services to Texas families can order calendars. Place your order online at <http://www.printmailpro.com/dfps/>. The calendars are free and can be ordered in multiples of 100 with a maximum order of 500. If you would like to order more than 500 calendars, you must place multiple orders through the website. Large orders will be reviewed and approved by the Department of Family and Protective Services.

Calendars are being shipped now. Quantities are limited, so place your order now! For questions, contact prevcal@dfps.state.tx.us.



Announcement Area. If you have research, topics of interest, lessons learned, resources, or success stories that you want to share, contact Holly.Gursslin@austin.utexas.edu and we will share your news with others!