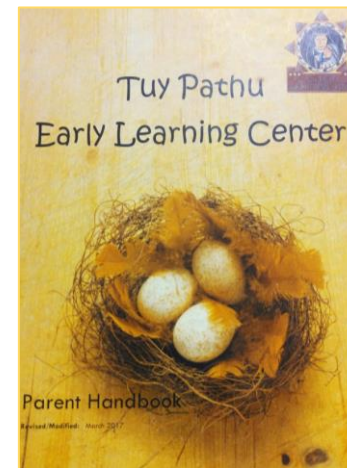


Tuy Pathu Early Learning Center Leads in Policy Change!!!

The demand for quality early childcare programming continues to increase in response to out-of-home childcare needs and the importance of educational experiences in the early years. The Tuy Pathu Early Learning Center (ELC) is responding to the call by implementing evidenced-based programs and critical early screening assessments to their childcare policies and programs. The ELC serves the native children of the Tigua tribe in Ysleta del Sur Pueblo, meeting both the National Association for the Education of Young Children standards and National Tribal Standards for Native American Children. Since participating in the [Texas LAUNCH Project](#) the ELC observed the positive effect of early screening, mental health consultation and parenting education programs were having on their children and families and took action by adding requirements that all children be screened using a developmental and social-emotional screening tool, that Mental Health Consultation be incorporated into practices addressing challenging child behaviors, and that all parents enrolling a child must participate in a parent education program. These types of changes allow for sustainability in quality programming and integration of evidence-based strategies. Local policy changes also work toward the larger project goal of informing state policy change. Anna Silvas, Director of the Empowerment Center, and Linda Wiley, Project LAUNCH Local Lead, collaborated to build the capacity for these policy changes to enrich their ELC. Contact Linda Wiley at lwiley@ydsp-nsn.gov for more information.



A New Understanding of the Childhood Brain

[A New Understanding of the Childhood Brain](#) is a short animated film released May 19, 2017, that discusses research on early childhood trauma and life impact. The film was created by Nadja Oertelt as part of *The Atlantic's* Next America: Early Childhood Project. Within the film the narrator talks about the links between early trauma and lifelong mental health needs as well as the ability to treat, support, and address early trauma resulting in positive outcomes for young children. The research discussed in the film has impacted social work, health care and early education fields. More early childhood programs are gaining momentum due to state and national policy changes ignited by a deeper understanding of the biological impacts of trauma on a young brain. This short film could serve as an easy resource for communicating the importance of early childhood programming.

Balancing ACEs with HOPE

[A new report](#) highlights how Health Outcomes of Positive Experiences (HOPE) is having a growing impact on healing traumas and building resilience caused by Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). The report presents a body of data that reinforces the notion that healthy childhood development is dependent upon positive experiences for children and families at an early age. The report data emphasizes that building resiliency in children has positive long-lasting impacts on child development, demonstrates the direct correlation between positive relationships and the healthy development of a child's brain, describes actions related to current social norms regarding parenting practices and illuminates the importance of positive returns on investment through changes made in policy, practice, and research. The report contributes to the growing need for attention to early childhood initiatives and researching the science behind optimal child health and development.



The READY Method In Action Birth to Three

Cynthia A. Frosch, Ph.D., & Margaret T. Owen, Ph.D. authored a book on a research-based method that provides parents with real-life methodologies to communicate with their young children. [The READY Method](#) highlights several key aspects of positive sensitive parenting that can contribute to the social-emotional and cognitive development of young children. Evidence supports that that the social-emotional development of children in their earliest years is critical to their overall wellbeing as an adult. The READY Method helps parents identify their children's cues and needs, respond to their children in a sensitive manner, be emotionally and physically present, encourage the intellectual/social/emotional development of their child, and support their child's curiosities.

R = Read and Respond to your child's cues

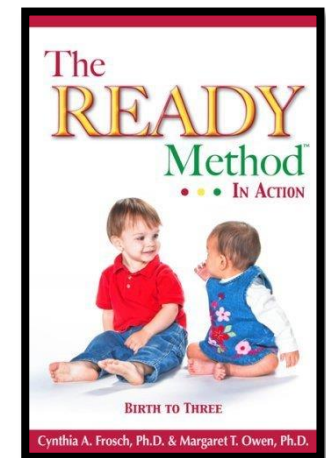
E = Engage and Express

A = Acknowledge and Adjust

D = Develop your child's intellectual, social, emotional, language, and perceptual skills

Y = Yield to your child's interests and agenda

This method has been used successfully with teachers, caregivers, and early childhood professionals. This resources is part of the DVD program that shows live usage of the different READY strategies.



Announcement Area.

Looking for Ethics CEU opportunities? Texas Health Steps and First3Years are offering courses this month and beyond! To access a variety of ethics topics for free, check out the [Texas Health Steps website](#) and create an account. To access varying levels of early childhood ethics, visit the [First3Years website](#).