



California Essentials for Childhood Initiative:
Safe, Stable and Nurturing Relationships and Environments
Strategic Direction, Goals and Work Groups

Strategic Direction: Strengthen Families' and Communities' Capacities to Create Safe, Stable and Nurturing Relationships and Environments for Children

Goals: Identify, align and enhance the California Essentials for Childhood Initiative partners' and their stakeholders' efforts to:

Programs and Systems Integration Work Group

1. Build upon families' assets to strengthen their knowledge and skills to provide safe, stable and nurturing relationships and environments for their children.
2. Achieve the highest level of well-being for families and children, with special attention to those who have experienced socioeconomic disadvantage and historical injustice, including vulnerable communities and culturally, linguistically, and geographically isolated communities.
3. Prevent child maltreatment and other childhood traumas and implement trauma informed policies and practices throughout public and private organizations and systems.
4. Improve the quality of and expand the accessibility to programs and services supporting families and children.
5. Enhance the integration of systems and networks that support families and children to improve communication, services, accountability and outcomes.

Community Engagement and Public Awareness Work Group

6. Engage communities and strengthen their capacity to act and take leadership roles in creating safe and stable environments that support families and children.
7. Build public support and commitment (or ...“public commitment and political will...”) for policies and programs that promote safe, stable and nurturing relationships and environments for families and children.

Public and Private Sector Policy Work Group

8. Embed and incorporate families and children as priorities in public policies.
9. Increase the number and scope of private sector policies and practices that support families and children.

Shared Data and Outcomes Work Group

10. Improve and enhance data systems that use common measurements to increase accountability for shared indicators and outcomes for families and children.