California’s Vision for Supporting Early Childhood Social-Emotional Competence

Social-emotional development is foundational for learning and development in young children, and California is committed to promoting and supporting healthy social-emotional development in all of its children.

California envisions an integrated system, connecting early childhood programs, including state and federally funded programs, with trainers versed in the National Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (National Center) conceptual framework based on the pyramid model for promoting social and emotional competence in infants and young children. The system will maximize collaboration to enhance linkages and methods for local agencies to deliver services and to connect families to appropriate interventions, including children’s mental health, Early Start, special education, and medical services.

The state’s Collaborative on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (California CSEFEL) project will enhance existing collaborations by bringing together a collaborative leadership team that includes many state agencies and their training partners (please see graphic on the next page). All will work together to resolve state-level barriers, providing training for various professional development systems based on a common model and facilitating access to necessary interventions at the local level.

The California CSEFEL sees an opportunity to work together with the National Center to train our professional development trainers in the CSEFEL framework, to support selected implementation sites, and to assist with strengthening interagency collaboration at the state and local levels. The California CSEFEL recognizes that the National Center’s Pyramid model, with its emphasis on strong relationships, support for social competence, and the prevention of challenging behaviors, is congruent with California’s social-emotional foundations for infants, toddlers, and preschool-age children.
California’s Vision for Supporting Early Childhood Social Emotional Competence

Having a common vision for social-emotional development across all training efforts by using the CSEFEL framework will create a cohesive and effective approach to addressing needs of very young children with challenging behaviors and special needs that aligns with California’s social-emotional learning foundations.

For more information:

www.CAinclusiveChildCare.org/map

www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel