

SUMMARY: **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM'S FUTURE STRATEGY**

*As approved by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Board of Trustees
February 10, 2009*

The CAP Program's clear and consistent focus on prevention is more critical than ever, given the negative economic outlook. Simply put, in a time of economic downturn, more families need help. At the same time, social services are being reduced because of public and private funding cuts and prevention programs will be especially hard hit. In this context, the CAP Program will maintain its overall mission: to protect children from abuse and neglect in order to promote their healthy development. The program will also maintain its primary focus: integrating child abuse prevention strategies into settings and systems that serve large numbers of young children and their families. Going forward, the CAP Program will build on its current strengths and partnerships, make some modifications to its funding priorities, and pursue a few new opportunities. At this time, the program will **not** tackle significantly different issues or attempt to engage new service systems.

What will stay the same?

- Maintain the CAP Program's mission of preventing maltreatment and key parameters specifically focusing on: young children, prevention, normal systems and national organizations.

What will change?

- Revise the Program's framework (see charts below) specifically:
 - Add one additional Program goal focusing on developing and disseminating best practices and policies;
 - Change the grantmaking categories to reflect the evolution of the program. The categories going forward will be: support innovation, build professional capacity, strengthen service systems, and develop and disseminate new knowledge.
- Continue funding in early education with increased support for innovative evaluation activities.
- Continue support for programs that address infant crying.
- Review and re-assess support for work with pediatric health care practices.
- End funding for specific home visiting programs/models, given the high level of interest and increasing public and private support for home visiting services.
 - DDCF will continue to have some "skin in the game" where home visiting is concerned through its three year grant partnering with the Pew Center on the States' Home Visiting Initiative.

What will be investigated and considered for future grantmaking? If market conditions allow for new initiatives, the CAP Program may:

- Recommend additional grants that specifically address the problem of neglect.
- Support communication, dissemination and education efforts that advance best practices and policies and/or respond to the economic crisis.
- Investigate funding fellowship opportunities that would be focused on prevention of child maltreatment.

What was not recommended?

- Pursuing a number of interesting ideas that would take the CAP Program into whole new areas, such as addressing the problem of sexual abuse, the needs of older children, or international issues.

PAST CAP PROGRAM: 2000 - 2008

MISSION:

To protect children from abuse and neglect in order to promote their healthy development

GOALS:

Build a more robust repertoire of prevention strategies
Develop capacity of existing systems to prevent abuse and neglect

Home Visiting
Programs

Childcare / Early
Education

Pediatricians /
Primary Health
Care

Research &
Special Projects

GRANT CRITERIA:

Youngest Children

Non-stigmatizing Systems

Prevention

National Organizations

REVISED CAP PROGRAM STRATEGY: 2009 – 2014

Changes to program are represented in *purple*

