

FOR VULNERABLE YOUNG CHILDREN

# **A Journey Through Strength**

ANNUAL

2022

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FAMILIES, AND THE LAW

Strong Foundations Built by Our Team

#### NRPVYC at a Glance

#### **Early Childhood Mental Health**



Train clinicians in Child-Parent Psychotherapy and Parent-Child Interaction Therapy

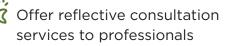


- Support ECMH clinicians in the field
- Expand ECMH awareness among court, child welfare and early childhood professionals
- ፈጋ Increase capacity of ECMH services

#### **Reflective Practice**



Train professionals in the reflective practice FAN (Facilitating Attuned Interactions) model



Support professionals trained in the FAN model

## **Court Infusion**



Support juvenile court projects Conduct program evaluation Train professionals in the

reflective practice FAN model

## Our **Mission**

We strive to improve the well-being of vulnerable young children in Nebraska by supporting and strengthening the professionals serving them across systems.

## Who We Work With

- Clinicians
- Service providers
- Caseworkers
- Attorneys and law students
- Judges

- Court-appointed special advocates
- Family support workers
- Early childhood education professionals
- Early Development Network professionals



#### Letter from the **Project Director** Kelli Hauptman

Project Director

It does not seem like an entire year has passed since our last Annual Report, and yet so much work has been accomplished in that time frame. I am so grateful to continue being able to guide this project, its staff, and the incredible work they do.

Over the past year, all of our work has continued to grow and be refined. We have now trained over 200 clinicians through one of our clinical training programs in CPP or IoWA-PCIT. As I am writing this, we just started training the 900th person in the reflective practice FAN model. Over 300 professionals have received ongoing reflective consultation. And we continue to support juvenile courts each year in the work they do to improve outcomes for children and families.

We are so grateful for our many partners in this work and for the funders who help support the work we do. Thank you for taking interest in our project, and please contact us if you see any opportunities for connections.

#### **Our Team**



Haifaa Al-saadi Training Associate



Jamie Bahm Project Manager





Sarah Brown Senior Training Associate

**Natalie Chin** 

Web Technology

Expert



Samantha **Byrns** Project Manager

Davna L. Goff

Outreach and Training

Specialist

**Cassie Roberts** Project Coordinator

Cartwright Graduate Research Assistant



Kelli Hauptman Proiect Director



**Melissa Villarreal** Senior Training Associate

Ashtyn Beck Training Associate



Meredith

Pamela Caudill Jordan



Assistant



**Tracey Kock** Outreach and Training Specialist

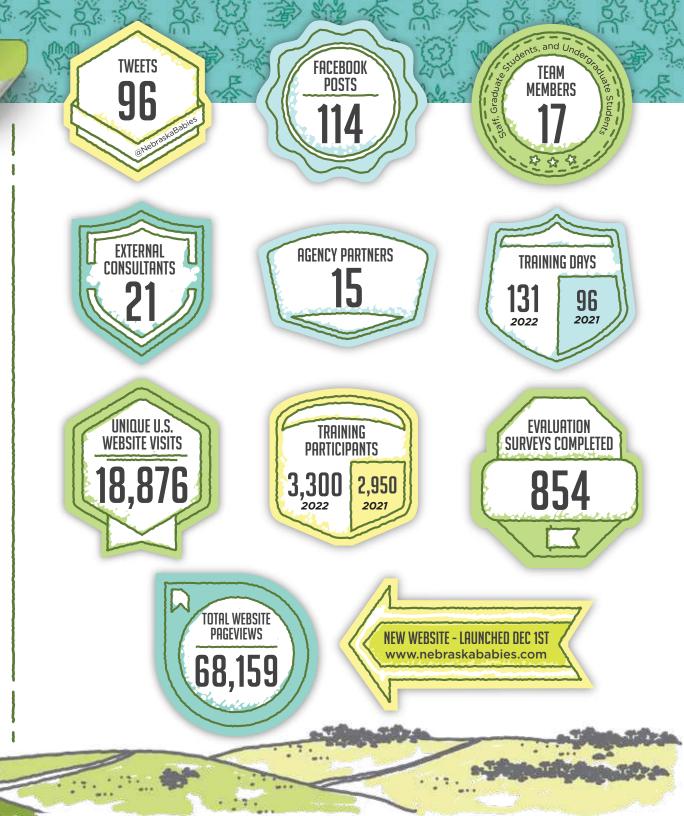
Qingyu Jiang Graduate Research

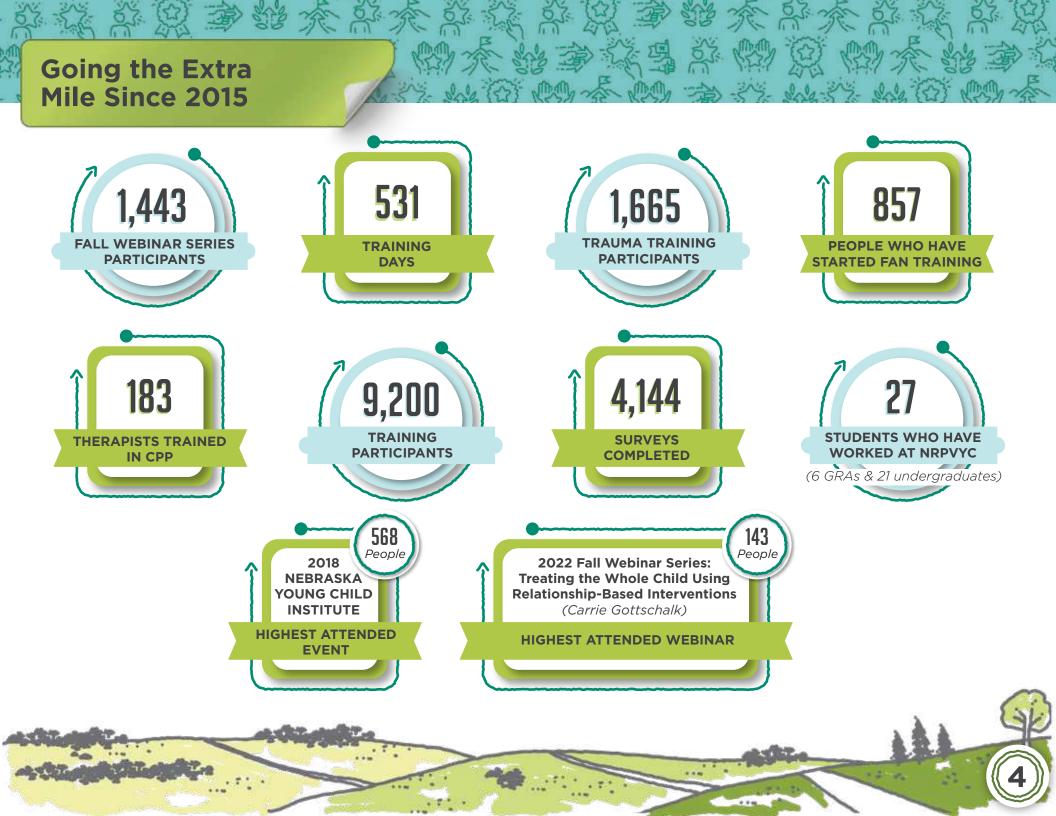


#### Our 2022 Journey

In 2022, NRPVYC continued to grow its programs but also reached a level of sustainability that allowed NRPVYC staff to solidify practices and dive more deeply into supporting professionals working with young children and their families. Both the reflective practice FAN training program and the ECMH clinical training programs more firmly established their program structures in 2022.

The FAN training program began using an online training platform that provides better access to training participants and streamlines training procedures. The ECMH clinical training programs implemented systems, structures, and processes that provide training participants with more support as they proceed through their lengthy training processes.





#### **Early Childhood Mental** Health (ECMH)

NRPVYC supports the early childhood mental health of Nebraska's young children by engaging with professionals through three areas: ECMH Clinical Training Programs. Outreach Activities to Professionals working with Children and Families, and ECMH Clinician Support through a Community of Practice.

## ECMH Staff

NRPVYC's ECMH staff was incredibly hard at work in 2022 in continuing to build programming and supports for ECMH clinicians and others working to promote ECMH. Haifaa Al-saadi moved from our reflective practice work to help support the increasing number of ECMH activities.



Samantha Byrns Project Manager



Lindsey Ondrak Outreach and Training Specialist



Melissa Villarreal Senior Training Associate



Haifaa Al-saadi Training Associate

#### **Primary ECMH Activities**



**Psychotherapy** (CPP) Clinical **Training Program** 



**ECMH Trainings** and Webinars



**ECMH** Community

**Mental Health** Endorsement® (IMH-E<sup>®</sup>) Management

**IoWA-PCIT** 

(Parent-Child

Interaction Therapy)

**Clinical Training** 

Program

Nebraska Infant

Nebraska Young **Child Institute** Management

**ECMH Services** 

Awareness and

Outreach

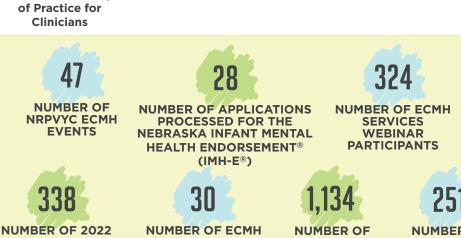


CPP and PCIT

**Provider Directory** 

Management

Librarv



FALL WEBINAR SERIES PARTICIPANTS

**TRAININGS IN THE** VIDEO LIBRARY

**PARTICIPANTS IN** ANY NRPVYC ECMH **ACTIVITY IN 2022** 

NUMBER OF **EVALUATION SURVEYS** 

COMPLETED

#### Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH)

The first five years of a child's life have a significant impact on their physical, cognitive, and social-emotional development.

The development of a young child can be adversely affected by factors such as disruptions in attachment that can be caused by parental substance abuse, parental mental health issues, and traumatic loss, which can result in toxic or chronic stress. ECMH services - like CPP and PCIT - can mitigate or prevent the negative impacts of adverse factors.

#### ECMH 2022 Training Topics

- Understanding I-ECMH
- ECMH Services Guide Overview
- Sensory Development in Utero & Early Detection
- Supporting Children Through Mindful Movement and Breath
- Clinician Engagement With Parents
- Neurobiology of Regulation
- Brain-Wise Strategies to Support Children
- Mindful Awareness

#### 2022 Nebraska Young Child Insititute

One of NRPVYC's outreach activities is the lead management of the Nebraska Young Child Institute (NYCI) in partnership with the Nebraska Early Development Network. The NYCI, a statewide conference held in Kearney every two years, brings together professionals from a variety of disciplines to focus on the needs of young children, especially those at risk for adverse outcomes. The 2022 NYCI was a hybrid event held in June 2022 over two days of plenary speakers, breakout sessions, and professional networking.



#### **ECMH Community of Practice for Clinicians**

NRPVYC supports providers trained in CPP, PCIT, and Circle of Security<sup>™</sup>-Parenting through its ECMH Community of Practice (COP). The COP connects therapists across Nebraska to build community and have free access to resources and workshops to continue to build clinical skills in their practice. NUMBER OF PROFESSIONALS IN ECMH COP

189

BO EMAILS SENT TO COP

LISTSERVS

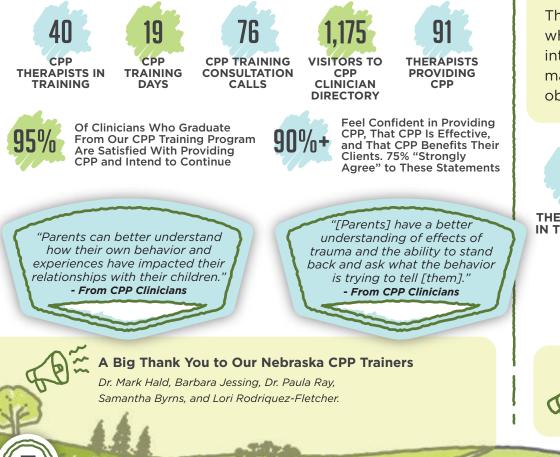
10 COUNSELOR CAFES



REFLECTIVE CONSULTATION GROUPS

#### Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP)

NRPVYC manages the Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP) training program in Nebraska with the support of the national CPP dissemination and sustainability development site at the University of California at San Francisco, with the goal to increase and sustain high-quality CPP practitioners. CPP is an evidence-based therapy for young children and their caregivers to help address past traumatic events or loss within the context of the caregiving relationship.



#### Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)

NRPVYC offers twice-annual training programs in the IoWA model of Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) in partnership with Dr. Beth Troutman at the University of Iowa. PCIT is an evidence-based dyadic treatment for families with children 2-7 who are exhibiting disruptive or challenging behaviors.

#### **Did You Know?**

The IoWA-PCIT model is a preferred modality for young children who have attachment issues with their caregivers. IoWA-PCIT integrates findings from attachment research into PCIT while maintaining the core defining features of PCIT, directing observations and coaching toward the attachment relationship.



#### Reflective Practice



#### **Thank You** and Farewell!

Jamie Bahm began with NRPVYC at the inception of the Nebraska Center on Reflective Practice in 2016 and has been a guiding force in its expansion and growth over the past six years. Under Jamie's leadership, the NCRP trained almost 900 professionals and provided reflective consultation to over 300 professionals. NRPVYC is grateful for Jamie's dedication to our project, and she will be sorely missed as she pursues other opportunities.

857 193 502 R ALL-TIME FAN ALL-TIME FAN **OVERVIEW** ALL-TIME **EVALUATION** TRAINING MENTOR **PRE-TRAINING** TRAININGS SURVEYS PARTICIPANTS GROUPS REFLECTIVE COMPLETED CONSULTATION SESSIONS 30 45 368 h FAN REFLECTIVE **FAN TRAINING** NCRP **AWARENESS** Dayna L. Goff CONSULTATION TRAININGS COMMUNITY DAYS **WEBINARS** GROUPS **OF PRACTICE** Outreach and Increase from 251 Training Specialist 326 5 16 Sarah Brown FAN 2022 FAN TRAININGS FAN FAN Senior Training **MENTORS** TRAINERS TRAINING FOR NCRP **CONSULTANTS** PARTICIPANTS **MENTORS AND** Associate CONSULTANTS

Reflective practice is a relationship-based practice that assists in mitigating the effects of emotionally intrusive work. Reflective practice helps you examine your current and past actions, emotions, experiences, and responses to become more resilient in the face of work stress and improve your interactions with others. Reflective practice helps develop your self-awareness and increase your awareness of others, allowing you to better regulate, make more thoughtful decisions, and have better interactions with others.

## **Reflective Practice Staff**

NRPVYC staff working on reflective practice continue to play a vital role in sustaining the work of the Nebraska Center on Reflective Practice. Without their dedication to building and maintaining the high standards of the NCRP, the outcomes would not be possible.



Ashtyn Beck Training Associate

#### Nebraska Center on Reflective Practice (NCRP)

The NCRP has been providing reflective practice FAN training and reflective consultation to early childhood education, child welfare, and other professionals since 2016. In partnership with the Erikson Institute, the NCRP utilizes the FAN model of reflective practice.

#### **Our Partners**



#### Erikson Institute





#### FAN Training Program

The NCRP partners with 9 FAN trainers across 4 organizations to offer an in-depth training program for individuals and organizations wanting to infuse reflective practice into their work.



## Community of Practice (CoP)

The NCRP provides professionals completing FAN training with ongoing training and support to continue integrating reflective practice beyond the training program.

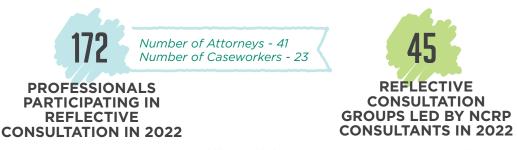
### **Did You Know?**

On November 4, 2022, the NCRP, in partnership with Erikson Institute, sponsored its first-ever all-day FAN Conference called "Attunement in Real Life." Over 40 CoP members attended plenaries, breakout sessions, and a reflective consultation.

**368 PROFESSIONALS IN THE COP**  *Increase from 251 last year*  **Junction**  *Increase from 251 Increase from 251 Increase* 

#### Reflective Consultation

Over 300 professionals have participated in reflective consultation since 2016. The NCRP partners with a network of consultants and staff to facilitate reflective consultation with individuals and groups working with families.



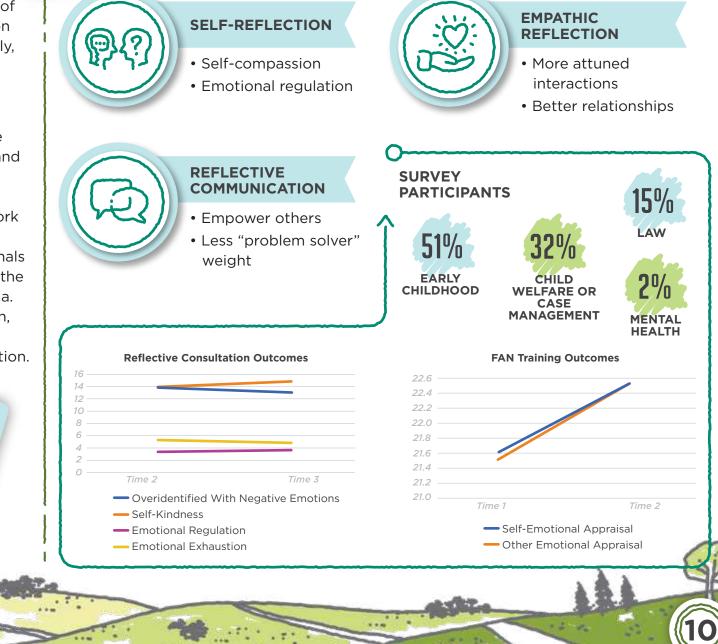
#### Nebraska Center on Reflective Practice Evaluation

The NCRP evaluates the effectiveness of FAN training and reflective consultation with the use of online surveys. Currently, survey data is available for over 800 training participants and almost 150 reflective consultation participants.

Overall, training participants utilize the FAN tool regularly in their workplace and find it beneficial for providing a framework and structure for daily interactions and for increasing teamwork and collaboration. Participating in reflective consultation helps professionals feel supported and somewhat temper the effects of burnout and vicarious trauma. Through both training and consultation, participants experience increases in self-compassion and emotional regulation.

> "I realize that others are experiencing the exact same issue as I. Talking about the issues with others seem to lessen their stress on me." - Reflective Consultation Participant

> > "[The FAN model] helps regulate myself and helps regulate others." - FAN Training Participant



#### **Court Infusion**

NRPVYC partners with juvenile courts and juvenile court professionals across Nebraska to improve outcomes for children and families. Our work in juvenile courts helps adapt court processes to improve teamwork and relationships with the ultimate goal of improving outcomes, including shorter case timelines and increased permanency.

#### NRPVYC's Current Court Projects

Lancaster County Safe and Healthy Families Court

Lancaster County Family Treatment
Drug Court

Reflective Practice FAN training and reflective consultation for judges, attorneys, and caseworkers

## Past Findings



Lancaster County Family Treatment Drug Court (FTDC): Families in the FTDC felt more heard, were more involved in services, and had their cases closed sooner.



Douglas County FIRST Court: Court professionals reported parents participated more and that relationships with other professionals improved.

Lancaster County IceBreaker Meetings with parents and foster parents: Parents who attended IceBreaker meetings were more involved in the court process and had slightly quicker time to permanency.



#### **Reflective Practice With Court Professionals**



Reflective

REFLECTIVE CONSULTATION

NRPVYC provides reflective practice FAN training and reflective consultation to court professionals involved in the juvenile court and other court systems, including judges, attorneys, caseworkers, CASAs, and others.

> "It greatly improves outcomes with difficult clients/issues. I have more successful client conversations." - From Attorney in FAN Training

## **Reflective Practice** FAN Training in 2022

8 20 ATTORNEYS JUDGES TRAINED TRAINED



**STAFF** 

TRAINED

DHHS REFLECTIVE CONSULTATION GROUPS ACROSS **NEBRASKA** 

B JUDGES RECEIVING REFLECTIVE CONSULTATION

#### How Can the Reflective Practice FAN Model Be Useful to Attorneys?

Representing at-risk children and families can be challenging and often takes an emotional and physical toll on practitioners. Attorneys can also struggle with having effective communication and building trusting relationships with their clients. Reflective Practice is a relationship-based practice that assists professionals in managing emotionally intrusive work, improving communication with others, and better understanding internal responses. For attorneys, the Reflective Practice FAN model can be used as a framework for client counseling, in navigating difficult or emotional conversations with clients, in communication with colleagues or other legal professionals, or to facilitate meetings with multiple parties.

#### REFLECTIVE CONSULTATION **GROUPS FOR ATTORNEYS** ACROSS **NEBRASKA ATTORNEYS DHHS STAFF** RECEIVING RECEIVING REFLECTIVE REFLECTIVE CONSULTATION CONSULTATION "What I like best is the opportunity to consider your own emotions in a case.

**Consultation in 2022** 

I like the open dialogues we engage in. [I have] a greater understanding of how being reflective can ease stressors in practice and personal issues." - From Reflective Consultation Participant

## Lancaster County Safe & Healthy Families Court

In 2022, NRPVYC continued its partnership with Judge Elise White and the project's committee in supporting the Lancaster County Safe and Healthy Families Court (SHFC). NRPVYC provides ongoing reflective practice to the court professionals, manages a listserv, and conducts a program evaluation.

> "I've had a great experience and can say my family has benefited from this 100%. Very grateful for all the support we receive!" **- From Parent**

"Regular team meetings work well and keep everyone involved and working together." - From Attorney in SHFC



**Evaluation Data:** 

B

CONTROL

CASES

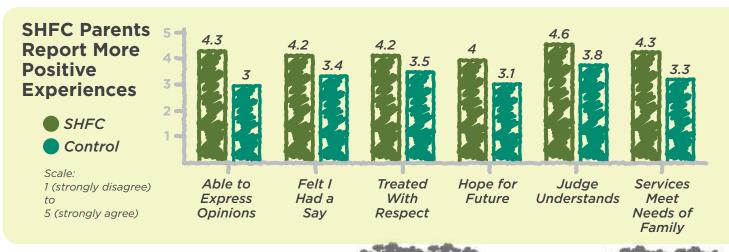
52

SHFC

CASES

#### **Preliminary Data Show.....**

- Professionals report that cases in the SHFC are more likely to have their unique needs considered in a tailored case plan compared to control cases.
- Parents report more positive experiences with the court.



#### **Advisory Board**

**Deb VanDyke-Ries** 

Improvement Project

Retired Judge of the Separate Juvenile Court

Joanna Halbur

Judge Al Corey Judge of the County

Sarah Bernhardt

Licensed Independent

Options in Psychology

**Kathleen Stolz** 

Administrator, NE

Family Service

Melanie Kirk

Central Service Area

Director, Nebraska Court

Judge Larry Gendler

Director of Mental Health

Services, Project Harmony

Court, 9th Judicial District

Mental Health Practitioner,

DHHS-Division of Children and

#### **Partners**

#### Department of Health & Human Services A 5





Thursday Name address



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#### **Erikson Institute**









ECMH Consultant and Trainer. Fontenelle House

**Dr. Holly Hatton-Bowers** Assistant Professor & Early Childhood Extension Specialist, UNL

**Judge Elise White** Judge of the Separate Juvenile Court. Lancaster County

**Amy Bunnell** 

Early Childhood

**Barbara Jessing** 

Consultant

Co-Director, Early

Development Network

Jen Goettemoeller

Lynne Brehm Vice President, NE Children and Families Foundation

Jamie Bahm Consultant

Tana Fye Attorney

Attorney







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