



National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families

The Director's Corner

Greetings,

If Punxsutawney Phil's forecast on Groundhog Day was accurate, winter should be coming to an end this month. In addition to a much-welcomed relief from the brutal winter weather, spring also brings a feeling of renewal. The drab cloak of winter gives way to bright colors of blooming flowers and trees. The Resource Center is pleased to announce our own renewal; check out our website: www.HealthyMarriageandFamilies.org

We've done a little spring cleaning and freshened up the pages to make it easier to locate the content you're looking for. Be sure to let us know what you think by completing the pop-up survey on the website. It only takes a minute and helps us be sure we are meeting your needs for information. We also think spring is a great time to renew your familiarity with healthy relationship education as a strategy for strengthening families - both yours and the families you serve. We hope the tips and resources below are helpful to you!

Best regards,

Robyn Cenizal, Project Director



Tip of the Month

Your monthly tip to strengthen the relationships of those you serve. *"Hi! I'm Healthy Relationship Education. And you are?"*

So you're new to healthy relationship education or a little rusty? Perhaps you live and breathe healthy relationship education. Perhaps you have never given the concept a second glance. Given the range of notions about healthy relationship education, this video captures what we consider is healthy marriage and relationship education (and why it matters!): [Healthy Relationship Education](#).

In fact it doesn't take much to integrate! We frequently refer to what we call "basic engagement" when discussing how others can include relationship education into their service delivery systems. This can be as simple as placing brochures in your waiting area or handing out healthy relationship tip sheets to clients. For stakeholders who are currently integrating, check out what some of their [Success Stories](#) look like!

You may ask, "What can I do?" or "How can I learn more?"

Here are a few ideas to either get you started or encourage you in your endeavors:

- Join the conversation. Integration Exchanges are an opportunity for those interested in relationship education integration to talk with those who are like-minded. Look out for a listserv announcement of our next Integration Exchange in the coming months!
- Educate yourself! The [Virtual Library](#) houses over 900 resources designed to make you "smarter" about all things related to relationship education.
- Spread the word. These simple tip sheets are easy to include in a variety of venues, including waiting rooms and as classroom handouts- [Effective Communication](#), [Healthy Conflict Management](#), and [Healthy Parenting](#).

The National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families is here to answer your questions and support your efforts to integrate. Check out the [Training and Technical Assistance](#) page or give us a call (1-866-916-4672 ) to discover what integration looks like for you!



Featured Resources

The Resource Center's [Virtual Library](#) has collected more than 900 materials in a variety of formats including fact sheets, research-to-practice briefs, brochures, pamphlets, training resources, program reports or evaluations, and research materials.

Select the links below to view our featured March resources:

- [***Why Marriage and Relationship Education Matters to Safety-Net Service Providers. \(Fact Sheet\)***](#)
This fact sheet provides information about how safety-net service providers can provide healthy marriage and relationship education services in an effort to promote safety, stability, and self-sufficiency for families.
- [***Strong relationships, Strong families: Module 1 - Introduction to healthy relationship education skills for stakeholders. \(Module 1\)***](#)
This first module of the Strong Relationships, Strong Families curriculum is designed to accomplish the following objectives:
 - Educate safety-net service providers and other stakeholders on the subject of healthy marriage and relationship education skills;
 - Discuss the research regarding the benefits of these skills for families and importance of integrating the skills into safety-net service delivery systems; and
 - Define levels of integration and how the National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families can support integration efforts.
- [***Guide to Free and Low-Cost, Research-Based Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education Curricula for Safety-Net Service Providers. \(Library Resource\)***](#)
This tool provides information on free and low-cost healthy marriage and relationship education curricula that are research-based and suitable for integration into safety-net service delivery systems. For the purposes of this review, "low-cost" is defined as costing less than \$300.00 for facilitator materials and up to 20 participants.



Events

The Resource Center's [Events Calendar](#) offers a listing of Resource Center events and other national, regional, and community-wide events that might be of interest. Upcoming events include:

- [***16th Annual New England Fathering Conference in Newport, RI, March 18-20, 2015***](#): The New England Fathering Conference (NEFC) was initiated in Massachusetts in 1999 and was held in Massachusetts annually until 2008, when Connecticut assumed the role of host-state for two years. Following two successful years in Connecticut, Rhode Island had the honor of hosting the 11th and 12th Annual NEFC with the 13th and 14th Annual NEFC hosted by Maine with nearly 300 attendees and presenters from across the United States. With 14 years of momentum, the conference moves into its 16th year and back to Rhode Island to re-envision work with fathers and the role days play. The NEFC will take place at the Hyatt Regency in Newport.

- [Save-the-Date: Wednesday March 25, 2015 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM EDT: Resource Center Webinar on Family Financial Empowerment:](#)

This Webinar will feature an overview of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's [free toolkit](#); highlight a new training offered by the Resource Center as part of our four-part series on healthy marriage and relationship skills - Financial Management; and share the efforts of a service provider working to strengthen families through the use of financial education. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about free research-based resources and technical assistance available to support you and your agency in integrating healthy relationship education skills into your service delivery system as part of a holistic approach to strengthening families.

Learn more by visiting the Resource Center [Calendar of Events](#), including our featured speakers and how to register.

- [2015 Strengthening Families Summit: Science of Relationships: The Prevention Connection in Concord, NH, March 30, 2015:](#)

New Hampshire Children's Trust Summit participants will explore the power of relationships by building children's ability to regulate their emotions, communicate clearly, establish and maintain relationships with others as they engage in problem solving and conflict resolution. They will hear from local and national leaders about how strong social and emotional competence prepares children for lifelong success.

Feedback and Technical Assistance:

If you have suggestions or wish to speak with a Resource Center staff member, please [contact us](#) and we will be happy to assist you. If you would like to request Technical Assistance, please submit a [Training and Technical Assistance Request Form](#) and our Technical Assistance Coordinator will contact you.

To learn more about the Resource Center visit us at www.healthymarriageandfamilies.org

The National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families supports safety-net service providers as they integrate healthy marriage and relationship education skills into service delivery systems as part of a comprehensive, culturally appropriate, family-centered approach designed to promote self-sufficiency.

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