Parent Education in North Dakota
2017-2018

Public Value Statement:
Child abuse prevention is cost effective both from the standpoint of the institutional costs as well as the human
toll and later life costs to society. $1 spent on early childhood programming saves $10-$16 dollars in prison,
police, welfare and other services. (Art Rolnick – former federal reserve)

The Situation
Parent education and support is key to developing
strong parent-child relations. Some families struggle
with abuse and require ongoing educational support.
A partnership between the NDSU Extension Service
and the ND Department of Human Services-Children
and Family Services provides a system of parent
education delivery for each of the seven regions in
the state. The CBCAP grant, funds specific courses
to address these needs.

Child Abuse and Neglect (FFY 2017):
- 16,457 reports of suspected child abuse and
  neglect were received in 2018.
- During FFY 2018, a total of 4,364 full
  assessments were completed.
- A decision of “Services Required” was made in
  35% (n=1,512) of the 4,364 full assessments.
  These assessments represent 2,097 children
  who were victims of child abuse and neglect and
  1,558 caregivers who were the subjects of these
  assessments.

Data is from the DHS FRAME system and the FFY 2018 NCANDS report.

Extension Response
NDSU Extension Service works in partnership with
the ND Department of Human Services to provide
prevention education programs that address child
abuse and neglect. NDSU Extension collaborates
with schools, social services, non-profits and local
agencies to develop and implement programs. These
programs target primary prevention education work at
the community level while also supporting and
teamimg as requested, to support the intervention
work of social service agencies.

Parents obtain knowledge and skills to create safe
and stable, and nurturing relationships with their
children. From October 1, 2017- September 30’2018,
five (Regions 4 and 5 were without coordinators)
parent and family resource centers participating in the
ND Parent Education Network Provided 4,612

parents and other adults (some returning for multiple
sessions) with the knowledge and skills to create
healthy relationships with their children. A total of
1,865 of direct parent education and support were
provided in the form of classes and support sessions.

Impacts
- 88% indicate the program helped them improve
  their parenting skills.
- 97% say the presenter stimulated them to think
  about how to use the information.
- 93% indicate they are able to soothe their
  children when they are upset.
- 94% say they are happy being with their child.

Feedback
- “We discussed the class topic of bullying with our
  kids at our first family meeting.”
- A parent demonstrated a course tool/skill without
  being prompted!
- “This was wonderful and encouraging for us.” “It
  will be forever helpful.”

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Resource Links
https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/pen