Guidelines for Participation

- Participant phones are on mute, but we encourage you to use the chat box to send us questions throughout the presentation.
- There are polling questions and a structured chat in this call—we are asking all participants to respond.
- This is a fast format (30-minute dialogue), but there will be additional opportunities to interact on the issue.
- At the end of the formal presentation there will be time for an extended Q & A with the speaker. Join us to hear answers to burning questions.
New Jersey’s Neighborhood Gathering Place
Join the National Conversation on Child Abuse and Neglect

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Speakers

WELCOME
Sharon McKinley
Program Specialist,
Children’s Bureau’s
Office on Child
Abuse and Neglect

MODERATOR
Nilofer Ahsan
Lead,
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PRESENTER
Antonio R. Lopez, LSW, MSW
Administrator, Office of
Family Support Services,
Family and Community Partnerships

PRESENTER
Charmaine L. Thomas, MSW
Assistant Commissioner,
Family and Community Partnerships and Division on Women
NJ Family Success Center History

- Initial funding in 2007
- Now 57 Family Success Centers (Family Success Centers)
- Family Success Centers open in all 21 NJ Counties
- Crisis support during Hurricane Sandy
- In 2016 Family Success Centers Served:
  - 52,682 families
  - 92,099 individuals
  - 152,048 services
- Provided technical assistance to similar model implementations in: New York City, Washington D.C., along with nations such as South Korea, Brazil, and Ireland
Family Success Center Model

- Family Success Centers (Family Success Centers) are safe, warm and welcoming neighborhood gathering places where any community resident can go for support, information and resources.

- The model strives to create a family focused environment where programs, activities and services are centered on family needs and are family driven.

- The overall goal is to strengthen families by increasing protective factors and ultimately prevent child abuse and neglect.
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Family Success Center Purpose

- The mission of New Jersey’s Family Success Centers is to enrich the lives of children by strengthening families and neighborhoods.
- Develop networks of family strengthening services to prevent child abuse and neglect.
- Provide integrated, locally based services that are family focused and culturally responsive.
- Strengthen connections with families, between families, and to the community.
What does a Family Success Center look like?

- Family Success Centers have family friendly spaces that resemble homes or create home-like environments; most of the meetings take place in the living room or the kitchen area.

- The Family Success Center facility has a living room, hospitality corner (i.e. coffee, tea, water), business area (i.e. copiers, computers, fax machines, telephone), kitchenette, coaching corner, child area, and conference room.
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NJ Family Success Centers
Family Success Center Core Services

At NJ’s Family Success Centers, you can access the following services:

- Child, maternal, and family health services
- Parent education and parent-child activities
- Economic self-reliance/employment related services
- Life skills training
- Advocacy
- Information and referral services
Parent Child Activities and Promoting Social Connections

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Key Elements

- Family Success Centers focus on providing primary prevention programs.
- Family involvement is 100% voluntary, all services are free and open to everyone in the community.
- High level of engagement and satisfaction.
- Family Success Centers provide a two generation approach to serving families.
- Leadership to Family Success Centers is provided by the NJ DCF Division of Family and Community Partnerships.
- Family Success Centers develop partnerships to ensure families are connected to community programs.
- The design and delivery of services are guided by parents’ voice and choice through a Parent and Community Advisory Board.
Resources

DCF website on Family Success Centers:

http://www.nj.gov/dcf/families/support/success/

Family Success Center Practice Profile Learning Modules

https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/6898

Family Success Center Practice Profile

https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/6898/files

National Family Support Network

https://www.nationalfamilysupportnetwork.org/

Gateway Page on Family Resource Centers

https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/prevention-programs/familyresource/
Thank You and Next Steps

- Download the handouts to learn more. Click on the files in the “Handouts” box on your screen.
- Do you have innovative ideas, questions or concerns about engaging families and communities? Tell us about your work. Send an e-mail to hello@CANTASD.org with “Family and Community Engagement” in the subject line.

Upcoming:
April 18, Engaging Business and Other Partners in Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Approaches
Participant Feedback

Thank you for your participation!
How useful was this session?
Additional Comments: hello@CANTASD.org