

Minnesota

Providing Training and Technical Assistance for the Implementation and Scale-Up of the Pyramid Model within Programs

Growth in a child's social and emotional skills supports cognitive and linguistic development and academic learning. Social-emotional skills are foundational for the young child's learning trajectory and academic outcomes.

In an effort to support programs and educators in the use of evidence-based practices for promoting social-emotional outcomes in preschool children receiving special education services (Indicator 7A), the Division of Early Education at the Minnesota Department of Education and the Division of Early Learning Services at the Department of Children, Youth and Families have invested in the implementation of the Pyramid Model for Promoting the Social and Emotional Outcomes of Young Children

The Minnesota Centers of Excellence (MNCoE) for Young Children with Disabilities, funded by the Minnesota Department of Education and the Department of Children, Youth and Families, has received technical assistance from the previously OSEP-funded Technical Assistance Center on Social

Emotional Intervention and the currently funded National Center on Pyramid Model Innovations to implement, scale, and sustain a statewide initiative to establish the Pyramid Model within early childhood programs. The Pyramid Model provides a comprehensive, multi-tiered framework of evidence-based practices that promote young children's social, emotional, and behavioral development. The model emphasizes building positive relationships with children and families, creating supportive environments, intentionally teaching social-emotional skills, and delivering effective individualized intervention to children with challenging behavior. MNCoE provides implementation sites with the guidance of an early childhood special education professional development facilitator and training to move through the phases of exploration, installation, implementation, and sustainability. These sites implement the Pyramid Model program-wide with training and coaching to early educators to meet the social, emotional, and behavioral support needs of each and every child. The impact of this effort on children, families, and early childhood program staff was recently profiled in this Impact Story.

For additional resources and information related to the state implementation of the Pyramid Model as a Multi-Tiered System of Support for promoting social, emotional, and behavioral skills, please visit challengingbehavior.org.