


PYRAMID PLUS:
THE COLORADO CENTER FOR
SOCIAL EMOTIONAL
COMPETENCE AND INCLUSION



An Introduction to the Pyramid Plus Center

Special Thanks to Pyramid Plus Funders

Department of Human Services

- Division of Child Care
- Division for Developmental Disabilities, Early Intervention Program (Part C)
- Division of Behavioral Health
- Division of Child Welfare

The Colorado Health Foundation

The Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation

Mile High United Way



Local Community Funders and Supporters

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- Add local funder and support information here



Presentation Objectives

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- Participants will understand the history and role of The Pyramid Plus Center
- Participants will understand the tiered supports available for scale up and sustainability in communities
- Participants will understand where they are and where they are going in their community
- Add your objectives for this presentation and audience



Pyramid Plus Center Overall Goal

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to ensure the high fidelity implementation in early care and education services of two national models:

- Pyramid Model for Promoting Social and Emotional Competence of Infants and Young Children [Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL); Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Interventions (TACSEI)]
- SpecialQuest Birth-Five Approach to Early Childhood Inclusion of children with or at risk for disabilities with other related evidence-based inclusion practices (Building Blocks, LEAP, etc.)



Pyramid Plus Center Objectives

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1. **Support state collaboration, interagency teams**
 - Support state policy team
 - Partner with other initiatives
 - Liaison with national centers
2. **Provide Training and Technical Assistance for**
 - Communities, childcare providers, families
 - Certification for coaches and trainers
 - Certification of Pyramid Plus programs
3. **Establish rigorous evaluation systems**
 - Data that inform programs / communities
 - Plan for sustainability
 - Engage in effective management



Prevalence Data

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- Faculty in higher education early childhood programs report that their graduates are least likely to be prepared to work with children with persistently challenging behavior. *(Hemmeter, Santo & Ostrosky, 2004)*
- Preschool children are three times more likely to be “expelled” than children in grades K-12. *(Gilliam, 2005)*
- There are evidence-based practices that are effective in changing this developmental trajectory...the problem is not what to do, but rests in ensuring access to intervention and support. *(Kazdin & Whitley, 2006)*



Why is This Important to Implement in My Community?

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From Pyramid Model to Pyramid Plus Center in Colorado

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- 2001, US Head Start and Child Care Bureaus funded the Center on Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) and the US Dept of Education funded the Technical Assistance Center for Social Emotional Interventions (TACSEI)
- 2005, CO selected as a CSEFEL/Pyramid Model state; the interagency Pyramid Model Partnership (PMP) was formed
- 2006 - 07, the PMP and CDE trained 350 people and 13 coaches trained and selected three demonstration sites
- 2008, CO selected as SpecialQuest State. SpecialQuest interagency state team established trainers and built upon a network of programs and communities



Pyramid Work History (continued)

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- 2008 – 2009, Colorado Partnership for Families and Children funded by Buell Foundation for continued support of Pyramid
- Pyramid and SpecialQuest Team members proposed a state center to combine professional development efforts, scale up and sustain the work statewide
- RFP was issued and granted to UCD with support from Child Care, Developmental Disabilities/Part C, and Behavioral Health
- October 1, 2009, Pyramid Plus: the Colorado Center for Social Emotional Competence and Inclusion was launched
- Additionally, CDE was awarded a five year (2009-2014) grant from the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). This supports Pyramid Model work in preschools for children with disabilities.



Recent Pyramid Plus Center

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- 2010, Pyramid Plus received a grant from The Colorado Health Foundation; a three year extension was granted in Fall 2011
- 2011, Pyramid Plus and Division of Child Welfare partnered on a community sustainability project
- 2012, Pyramid Plus received funding from The Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation and Mile High United Way



Community History with Pyramid Work

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- Please add your community information here



Pyramid Plus Center Values

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- Our Technical Assistance (TA) efforts must be based on the best available evidence and be affordable, feasible, acceptable and effective across diverse populations of children, families, communities and programs, including typical early childhood settings
- The outcomes of TA efforts must be valued by families and by the community
- Our work must be collaborative, building on and embedding the work of others
- Families, community leaders and program personnel including administrators and direct service personnel play a vital role in the design, implementation, and evaluation of the Center's efforts
- Practices intended to improve social, emotional, and behavioral development and promote inclusion are designed *primarily to enhance competencies rather than remediate problems of children, families, and personnel*



Pyramid Model for Promoting Social Emotional Competence and Addressing Challenging Behavior

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Intervention

Children with intensive support needs

Prevention

Children at Risk

Promotion

All children



Pivotal Concepts

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- Tiered approaches that promote outcomes for all children (Pyramid Model, Inclusion Model, TA Model) (Universal, Targeted, Intensive)
- Evidence-based practices (EBP) (see definition in next slide)
- Teaching to fidelity: implementing practices or interventions as intended by the developer (typically takes coaching to achieve)
- Scaling-up: bringing the practice or model to more programs and families
- Sustainability: continuing the high fidelity implementation over a sustained period of time




Evidence-based Practices

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TACSEI definition:


- interventions and supports that have research documenting their effectiveness
- approaches that are linked to positive outcomes for children and families
- practices that have been demonstrated as effective within multiple research studies with similar outcomes



Fidelity

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- Fidelity of implementation is the extent to which an intervention (including its content and process) is implemented in comparison to its intended design
 - Amount of intervention received (dosage/exposure)
 - What the intervention approach looks like when it is implemented (quality)
 - How much participants respond to, or are engaged by, an intervention (participant responsiveness)
- Fidelity measures (tools) report the degree of implementation variance from the intended design of the intervention strategy




Pyramid Plus Technical Assistance (TA) Approach

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Tiered:

- **Universal:** available to anyone = website, information resource, electronic newsletter, webinars, etc.
- **Targeted:** tailored to specific groups = teachers, caregivers, service providers, administrators, coaches, demonstration sites, trainers, communities, and families
- **Intensive:** face-to-face TA = coach, trainer, and demonstration site certification candidates



Pyramid Plus Approach: Universal

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Website - www.pyramidplus.org

- Pyramid Plus Center Staff Information
- State Team Member Information
- Links to state and national technical assistance resources
- Webinars on selected topics open to public
- Information regarding social emotional development, challenging behavior, and inclusion practices
- Certified Trainers, Coaches and programs
- Links / contact information to relevant local, regional and state resources
- Trainer and Coach Certification information and applications
- Pyramid Plus Center Annual Report
- Information on Pyramid Plus Center and Pyramid Plus Approach
- Statewide / Community Pyramid Plus Approach certified training information
- Information on data systems and data based decision making
- Other resources



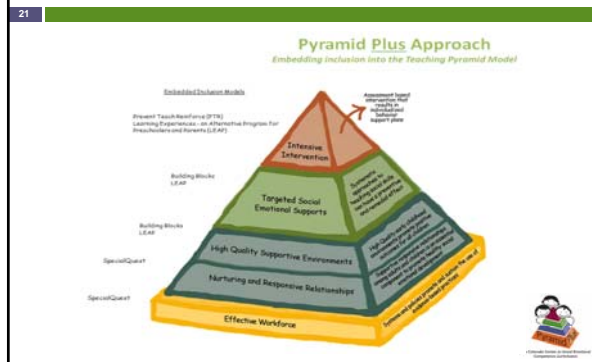
NEW: Pyramid Plus Approach Training

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	Pyramid Modules	Pyramid Plus Approach
Target Audience	Classroom Teachers, Program Administrators, Early Intervention Providers, Mental Health Providers	Plus: Health Providers, Parents, Home Care Providers, Community Members, Child Welfare
Content	Organized around CSEFEL Pyramid modules either Infant/Toddler or Preschool (two strands)	Organized across the birth – 5 years developmental continuum (one general session)
Materials	Based on CSEFEL & TACSEI	Based on CSEFEL, TACSEI, SpecialQuest, Building Blocks, LEAP, PTR-YC, and other evidence based practices
Examples	Primarily Center Based	Infant, Toddler & Preschool Center, Home & Community
Training Materials	Accessible from handbook and websites to create your own trainings	Prepared materials 'chunked' for ease and flexibility of scheduling (18 sessions)
Follow up webinars	Focused around certification requirements / needs only	Specific content based on participant needs

Pyramid Plus Approach

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Community Data

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- Add community data regarding need for Pyramid Plus work in the community



Pyramid Plus TA Approach: Targeted

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- Trainer Certification
- Coach Certification
- Demonstration Site Certification (4 site certified)
- Partnership with Implementation Communities and Programs



Process for Pyramid Plus Certified Trainers and Coaches

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- Must have attended all 18 Pyramid Plus Approach sessions 'in order' as first step to certification
- Pay fee and sign agreement to meet all requirements within 1 calendar year (coaching and/or training requirements)
- Participate in an on-going individualized professional development plan, observations, self evaluations, feedback, webinars, and other training/support from Pyramid Plus staff
- Coach and Trainer certification candidates must complete and score at required levels on all coach or trainer activities
- Expectation: 20% FTE for Pyramid Plus work (Coach)



Certification Benefits for Trainers and Coaches

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- Direct on-site support to trainer or coach candidate
- Professional development plan created for each trainer or coach candidate
- Video and on-site observations give trainer or coach candidate feedback
- Monthly web-based trainings to enhance training or coaching
- List of Pyramid Plus Certified Trainers and Coaches posted on the Pyramid Plus website for assisting programs and communities
- Certification - part of a career ladder
- Electronic access to Pyramid Plus Approach materials
- Be providers of Developmental Intervention and Social/Emotional intervention



Pyramid Plus Certified Demonstration Sites

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There are four certified Demonstration Sites in Colorado

- TA in establishing and maintaining a Leadership Team
- On-site certification coach and trainer support
- Data collection systems and analysis on high fidelity, program wide implementation, individual classroom performance, and child outcomes
- On-going professional development on inclusion and reducing challenging behaviors
- Family and community involvement (e.g. trainings, public relations, and roll out events)



Implementation Communities

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Implementation Communities selected through a request for proposal (RFP) process receive free Pyramid Plus Approach Training and Technical Assistance

Components:

- Community Leadership
- Training and Coaching Infrastructure (certification required)
- Local childcare program to serve as an Implementation Program
- Community readiness and resources for sustainability

Go to www.pyramidplus.org for more information



Pyramid Plus Center TA Approach: Intensive

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Short Term:

- Certify current Coaches, Trainers, and Demonstration Sites who are enrolled in the certification process
- Provide training as first step to certification to new coaches/trainers/programs
- Work with Implementation Communities and Programs
- Build upon current resources for information requests and referrals

Long Term:


Build state and local capacity through certified Pyramid Plus trainers, coaches, and programs



Pyramid Plus State Policy Team

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- **Vision:** All early childhood settings support the social and emotional development and inclusion of all children birth through five
- **Mission:** To promote a collaborative professional development system that fosters and sustains the state-wide, high-fidelity use of the Pyramid Model and SpecialQuest Approach, with other related evidence-based practices integrated with relevant Colorado efforts



State Team Representative Agencies

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Colorado Department of Human Services

- Child Welfare Services
- Early Intervention Colorado
- Child Care/EC Councils

Colorado Department of Education

- Preschool Education and Child Find
- Office of Early Learning and School Readiness

JFK Partners/University of Colorado

Qualistar Colorado

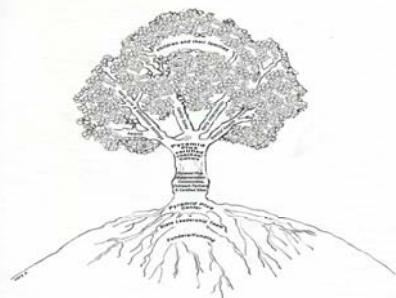
Office of the Lt. Governor

Higher Education



Pyramid Plus Center Sustainability

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Contact Us

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Pyramid Plus: the Colorado Center for Social Emotional Competence and Inclusion

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Community Contact

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- Add your community contact information here.

QUESTIONS????