



Invitation to Extend *Celebrating Families!*™ Statewide and Protect Children

Our vision is an addiction free world. **Our mission** is to break the cycle of addiction, with its related child abuse/neglect and family violence.

Prevention Partnership International (PPI) develops programs addressing the destabilization and disintegration of the family unit, due to substance use and mental health disorders. PPI formed in 2001 in response to a request from a judge in Santa Clara County Dependency Drug Court for a program to prepare families for reunification with their children. (Children had been removed due to parental substance use, child abuse and neglect.) The program, *Celebrating Families!*™ (CF!)

- Gives parents dealing with addiction needed skills to stay sober, to begin to heal, and to build healthy, non-violent relationships with their children.
- Decreases risks of child abuse/neglect and of children repeating the family cycles of addiction and related violent lifestyles of their parents.
- Utilizing an intergenerational, dual-family approach, demonstrably improves rates of family reunification, while reducing time, when determined safe.

Celebrating Families!™ is so effective because it recognizes that addiction is both developmental (beginning in adolescence or childhood, when the brain is undergoing change) and multi-generational (the parent with a substance use disorder (SUD) often being the child or grandchild of an addict).

- Children whose parents are dealing with SUDs are four times more likely to develop addiction.
- 50-80% of child welfare cases involve parental SUDs (SAMHSA, 2009).
- Children in the child welfare system with parents with a SUD are more likely to experience lengthier stays in out-of-home placement, recurrent involvement with child welfare services, and lower rates of family reunification (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services [USDHHS], 2009).

Prevention programs targeting the whole family, such as *Celebrating Families!*™, are effective (United Nations Office on Drugs & Crime, 2014). Long-term results of family-skills programs show positive, sustained improvement in family and child management skills and delayed initiation of substance abuse by children. When compared with other prevention approaches, family programs are nearly 15 times more effective. Yet, few evidence-based family-focused programs exist; fewer still focusing on addiction.

Invitation to Expand *Celebrating Families!*™ Statewide: The California State Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) recognizes the effectiveness of *Celebrating Families!*™ (CF!) and offered PPI a \$100,000, 2-year challenge grant to (1) Identify, train and support agencies in California to provide CF! and (2) Establish the structure to continue expansion of CF! in the State. Currently there are several programs in San Jose, as well as in Sacramento and Hanford. Programs are funded primarily by their County's Department of Family and Children Services or Child Abuse Prevention. All have outstanding evaluation outcomes. PPI has until October 1, 2018, to raise \$35,000 to meet this challenge from the state, with statewide expansion to start in January 2019. Please see donor information on page 3 for more details.



Celebrating Families!™

Celebrating Families!™ (CF!) is an evidence-based, trauma-informed, skill building program of 16 sessions serving the whole family: children ages birth -17, their parents and caregivers. Each session begins with a family meal, followed by 90 minute age-appropriate instructional sessions, ends with a 30-minute family activity where families practice the skills they are learning. *CF!* was developed specifically for families dealing with or at high risk for a multiple problems: substance use disorders; multi-generational trauma; physical and mental health challenges; cognitive deficits due to trauma, genetics, or in-utero exposure; and safety (child abuse/neglect and family violence). *CF!* addresses these needs through building healthy living skills and providing information:

Living Skills	Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anger management • Appropriate expression of feelings and defenses • Becoming a safe family • Effective communication • Goal setting and decision making • Healthy friendships and relationships • Stress reduction • Specific behaviors to increase attachment between parents and children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Components of healthy living • Brain development and brain chemistry • Knowledge of substance use and its harmful effects on the family • Learning differences and in-utero exposure • Risk & Protective Factors • Roles and responsibilities of effective parents

Celebrating Families!™ is unique. It is the only multi-family program on the National Registry of Evidence Based Programs and Practices (NREPP) developed specifically for families dealing with substance use disorders and mental health challenges. The program is distinctive as it:

- Serves the whole family: children from birth through 17, their parents and caregivers
- Uses strength-based, trauma-informed strategies to increase healthy living skills
- Addresses substance use and mental health challenges in every session, helping parents/caregivers comprehend the critical importance for them of basic healthy behaviors, such as nutrition, sleep
- Focuses on breaking the cycles of addiction and abuse/violence in families
- Adapts teaching to be appropriate for families dealing with or at risk for substance use, learning differences and mental health challenges.

Celebrating Families!™ is provided throughout the United States by over 100 organizations, serving approximately 4,000/families/year and has been adapted for specific populations:

- Spanish speaking families, ¡*Celebrando Familias!*
- Native American families, Wellbriety *Celebrating Families!™*, in partnership with White Bison
- Families with young children, ages birth through three
- Women in residential treatment facilities with young children
- Families with adolescents in the juvenile court system.



Prevention Partnership International (PPI)

PPI partners with community based organizations to provide services and program expertise regarding needs of children and families, including Department of Social Services, treatment providers, Courts, FIRST5, churches and schools. All programs are research-based, piloted and evaluated before being released for national distribution.* PPI's unique organizational model allows it to provide extensive, high level services at a very low cost with

- Program Developers combining current research knowledge with professional and personal experience from “the field” that acknowledges the challenges our families face.
- The agency utilizing pro-bono services of highly qualified researchers and evaluators, in-kind office and training space, and a fiscal agent, limiting administrative costs to 10%, including insurance and yearly audits.

Lead staff are: Rosemary Tisch, Director, M.A. Stanford University - Counseling Psychology with 35 years' experience in addiction prevention services; Mary Gardner, Project Director, retired Superintendent of Schools, A.B.D. University of California Berkeley (UCB) - Language Development; Dr. Edward Cohen, evaluator, Ph.D., UCB - Social Welfare, Tenured Associate Professor San Jose State University, Fulbright Core Scholar, and Principal Investigator numerous Juvenile Court studies.

PPI provides national trainings and conference presentations and publishes journal articles on practices and principles of effective prevention. Honors include: 2012 Vernon Johnson Award from Faces & Voices of Recovery; 2011 Ackerman/Black Award from National Assoc. for Children of Addiction(NACoA); 2010 California State Director's Award for Cultural Diversity; 2008 selection as one of NACoA's 25 individuals who “save, protect and guide children of alcoholics”; and 2007 Outstanding Community Volunteer by Junior League of San Jose.

2018-19 Agency Goals

1. Collaborate with CA State Office of Child Abuse Prevention to expand *Celebrating Families!*[™] sites in California and develop structure to provide on-going technical assistance and support.
2. Continue to support, train, and provide curriculum updates and evaluation services for sites in Santa Clara County: Juvenile Courts, Probation Department, Uplift Family Services, Catholic Charities of SCC, Parisi House On The Hill, and ConXion.
3. Continue to explore sustainability models for PPI.
4. Continue to partner/collaborate with NACoA as trainers and consultants.

PPI is independently funded by grants and donations. When originally founded, PPI's fiscal agent was Family Resources International (FRI), which in 2016 relocated to Idaho. At that time PPI designated Domestic Violence Intervention Collaborative (DVIC) located in San Jose, CA, as fiscal agent. DVIC provides financial services, insurance and yearly audits as part of its services. Nancy Marshall, DVIC Director, partners with PPI to create materials on domestic/family violence (<https://dvintervention.org/>).

OCAP Challenge Grant Donor Information: Donations should be addressed to: Prevention Partnership International, attention *Celebrating Families!*[™] Challenge Grant and mailed to Domestic Violence Intervention Collaborative (DVIC) , PO Box 1829, San Jose, CA 95109. (501c3: #72-1593491). Additional project support materials are available, including 2-year budget, logic model and Scope of Work. Please contact Rosemary Tisch.

*In 2005, PPI transferred *CF!* copyright to NACoA. PPI receives no financial support from sales of *CF!* materials.