COMMUNITY WELL-BEING
2019-2020 EVALUATION REPORT HIGHLIGHTS (OCTOBER 2020)

Collaboratives and Nebraska Children partner to build prevention systems and support prevention strategies for individuals.

WHAT THE EVALUATION REPORT FOUND

At the systems level, over the course of the 12-month evaluation period, the communities with which Nebraska partnered (‘collaboratives’) built prevention systems through fund development, policy work, training activities, community events, and the creation of opportunities for young adults and caregivers to actively participate in the implementation of well-being work. Data from the 11 collaboratives that participated in the 2019-2020 evaluation show, for example, that more than 5,000 people received prevention-related trainings on topics such as suicide prevention and trauma informed care, and more than 92,000 people took part in community events including a wellness conference and a socially-distanced adaptation of a summer school enrichment program. Collaboratives also leveraged over $1.1 million in new funding for prevention provided by sources other than Nebraska Children over the course of the evaluation year.

At the individual level, more than 3,000 families and young adults and more than 4,600 children were served by strategies that provided skills and supports to help them and their loved ones thrive. 65 percent of participants reported that they or their children were eligible for Medicaid, Free and Reduced Lunch, and/or the Child Care Subsidy (Title XX); this is the proxy measure Nebraska Children uses to understand the percent of participants whose income level means they are likely to face a higher level of daily stress and experience additional challenges related to the social determinants of health.

Outcome data on the main strategies included in the report (i.e. Community Response, Parents Interacting with Infants, Parent Child Interaction Therapy, and Circle of Security Parenting) show that participants had statistically significant improvements across a range of strategy-specific measures.

For example, participants in Community Response showed statistically significant improvements in hope, resilience, and the ability and opportunity to access resources and services (concrete supports). In addition, the report includes output summaries of other strategies implemented specifically for young adults as well as strategies implemented by local communities.

COVID-19 posed an additional an unexpected challenge during the 2019-2020 evaluation year. To document and learn from this experience, evaluators conducted focus groups with collaborative’s members. Among these findings were that having a community collaborative helped address the COVID crisis, and that COVID impacted prevention work in a variety of ways. Collaboratives also shared that challenges remain; among these are some remaining inefficient and ineffective policies and procedures, and the expectation that efforts to adapt to a changing, uncertain environment will be needed.

NEXT STEPS

Nebraska Children and Families Foundation will continue to support the system-level and individual-level Community Well-Being work among the 11 collaboratives that participated in the 2019-2020 statewide evaluation of this work. Starting in July 2020, 3 additional collaboratives will join the statewide evaluation effort. These are the Sandhills Community Collaborative, Santee Sioux, and the Southeast Community Collaborative.

HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of the Community Well-Being 2019-2020 Evaluation Report (October 2020), an evaluation report prepared by The University of Nebraska Medical Center’s Munroe-Meyer Institute. For a copy of the full report, click here.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

Community Well-Being is the cornerstone of Nebraska Children and Families Foundation’s efforts to build a Nebraska where all people live in safe, supportive environments that provide opportunities for everyone to reach their full potential. Community Well-Being includes both system-level approaches to build locally-based prevention systems and individual-level approaches to ensure that strategies exist to meet the needs of children and young adults.

This evaluation report catalogues work conducted by community partners from July 2019 through June 2020 through Nebraska Children and Families Foundation’s Community Well-Being effort. Using a Results Based Accountability framework, the report also answers three questions as they apply to core, individual-level strategies for parents. These questions are: 1) how much did we do, 2) how well did we do it, and 3) is anyone better off?

RECOMMENDATIONS

While the evaluation report itself does not contain recommendations, Nebraska Children and the evaluation team at the University of Nebraska Medical Center’s Munroe-Meyer Institute will leverage the content of the evaluation report as a starting point for discussions reflecting on what has and has not worked during the past year, and using these reflections to improve implementation and ultimately come closer to achieving the vision of Community Well-Being.
11 CWB COLLABORATIVES PARTICIPATED IN THE 2019-2020 EVALUATION.

Even with COVID-19, our work “hasn’t really stopped or slowed down, we picked up the pace and adapted to the changes.”
- A Collaborative Coordinator

COLLABORATIVES ARE BUILDING COMMUNITY PREVENTION SYSTEMS TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES AND SUPPORT THRIVING COMMUNITIES.

COMMUNITY EVENTS
Nearly 60 events for 92,000 people

TRAINING
5,151 people across 1,100 organizations

POLICY WORK
Executed at local, state, and federal level

FUNDING
Collaboratives leveraged more than $1.1 million in new funding for prevention

COLLABORATIVES IMPLEMENT INDIVIDUAL-LEVEL PREVENTION STRATEGIES TO INCREASE PROTECTIVE FACTORS FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG ADULTS, AND FAMILIES.

RACE/ETHNICITY
Most participants identified as white.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT
2,079 requests, 58% for housing

Statistically significant improvements in concrete supports, hope, and resilience for parents and caregivers following Community Response coaching