National Resources on Early Childhood Education

**Zero to Three**
Zero to Three
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*Zero to Three* is a national, nonprofit organization that provides parents, professionals, and policymakers with information, research, and knowledge on early childhood development. They offer specific expertise in the areas of infant mental health, reflective practice, and program development. They also publish a journal that offers guidance and research findings about childhood development. The main areas of interest are: behavioral development; maltreatment; care and education; and mental health assessment.

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**Center for Social & Emotional Learning**
Vanderbilt University
Department of Special Education
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Vanderbilt University
Nashville, TN 37203

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*The Center for Social & Emotional Learning* is focused on stimulating the social emotional development and school readiness of young children. This center is funded by the Office of Head Start and Child Care Bureau and disseminates research and evidence-based practices. The Center is a five year project designed to strengthen the capacity of Head Start and child care programs to improve the social and emotional outcomes of young children. They also develop training and technical assistance materials that reflect evidence-based practices for promoting children's social and emotional development. The Center works with professional organizations and childcare providers to ensure the use of the evidence-based practices in local demonstration sites.
Center on the Developing Child
Harvard University
50 Church Street, 4th Floor
Cambridge, MA 02138

Website: http://developingchild.harvard.edu/

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The Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University is committed to building a unified science of health, learning, and behavior to explain the early roots of lifelong impairments. They lead the design, implementation, and evaluation of innovative program and practice models that reduce preventable disparities in well-being. The center catalyzes the implementation of effective, science-based public policies through strategic relationships and knowledge transfer. They prepare future and current leaders to build and leverage knowledge that promotes the healthy development of children and families and brings high returns to all of society. Their overall goal is healthy child development and providing information and resources to struggling families.

Center for Evidence-Based Practices (CEBP)
Website: http://www.evidencebasedpractices.org/

Orelena Hawks Puckett Institute
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The Center for Evidence-Based Practices (CEBP) is an applied research center of the Orelena Hawks Puckett Institute. CEBP conducts research, prepares practice-based research syntheses, and produces evidence-based products to provide activities and initiatives in early intervention, early childhood education, parent and family support, and family-centered practices. The research-to-practice activities are grounded in conceptual models emphasizing the enhancement of healthy functioning and promotion of child, parent, and family growth and development.
The FrameWorks Institute works to advance the nonprofit sector's communications capacity by identifying, translating and modeling relevant scholarly research for framing the public discourse about social problems. The Institute designs and publishes communications research to prepare nonprofit organizations to expand their constituency base, to build public will, and to further public understanding of specific social issues. They also work closely with social policy experts familiar with the specific issue to develop new techniques and programs to help struggling caregivers and families. In addition, the Institute conducts and evaluates communications campaigns on social issues. Their current projects focus on early childhood development, child mental health, and childhood education.

The Center for Best Practices in Early Childhood Education develops and promotes practices designed to improve educational opportunities for all young children. The Center provides products, training materials, conferences, and workshops on topics relating to technology, early childhood, and children with disabilities. They provide collaborative services related to the education of young children, including information, consultation, staff development, training, and technical assistance. The Center also produces materials that support best practices which can be used by a wide audience to support and extend young children’s learning.
The National Association for the Education of Young Children seeks to improve professional practice and working conditions in early childhood education. They support early childhood programs by working to achieve a high-quality system of early childhood education. The Association builds a high-performing, inclusive organization of groups and individuals who are committed to promoting excellence in early childhood education. They advocate for public policies and funding to support a comprehensive system of high-quality early childhood education for families. The ultimate goal of this association is to build public understanding and support for activities and services that promote the healthy development and learning of all young children.

The National Head Start Association’s goal is to unite, inspire, and support the Head Start field as a leader in early childhood development and education. They maintain close relationships with leading independent researchers in the field of early childhood education and help disseminate their findings. In addition to resources found on this site, the Association shares findings with the Head Start community through articles in NHSA Dialog, NHSA’s monthly Research Blasts, sessions at NHSA conferences, and other speaking engagements. The NHSA’s professional development training is designed to support the understanding and implementation of the Head Start Performance Standards, Head Start Core Values, IACET standards, and important trends in the field of early care and education.
The Foundation for Child Development (FCD) is a national, private organization committed to the principle that all families should have the social and material resources to raise their children to be healthy, educated, and productive members of their communities. The FCD works to understand child development and to promote children's well-being. They believe that families, schools, and nonprofit organizations at all levels should share complementary responsibilities in the critical task of raising new generations. The FCD has contributed to the field of child development by supporting research, policy formation, programs, and advocacy.

The Society for Research in Child Development is a multidisciplinary, non-profit, professional association with a membership of approximately 5,500 researchers, practitioners, and human development professionals from over 50 countries. The goals of the society are to promote multidisciplinary research in the field of human development, to foster the exchange of information among scientists and other professionals of various disciplines, and to encourage applications of research findings. The purpose this society is to integrate research activities and to stimulate research in child development. This organization works to collect and promote research in child development in order to expand the research and discovery within the child development field.
National Institute for Early Education Research
73 Easton Avenue
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901-1879

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The National Institute for Early Education Research conducts and communicates research to support high-quality, effective early childhood education for all young children. Early childhood education enhances physical, cognitive, and social development, and subsequent success in school and in life. The Institute offers independent, research-based advice and technical assistance to policymakers, journalists, researchers, and educators. The main goals of the Institute are to provide a vision of early education excellence, to monitor and evaluate national and state progress, and to develop/analyze model legislation. The Institute works with many state and national policy makers to collect, archive, and disseminate information on the status of early education accessibility and quality.

Bright Futures
Bright Futures at Georgetown University
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Website: http://www.brightfutures.org/

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Bright Futures is a national health promotion initiative founded at Georgetown University that is dedicated to the principle that every child deserves to be healthy. The organization also attempts to build trusting relationships between health professionals, children, families, and the community as partners in health practice. They have developed curriculums for health care professionals as well as created online tool kits for human services providers. Their main website provides access to many different Bright Futures programs as well as links to Pediatric health care providers. Some of the websites and programs they provide access to include: Bright Futures at Georgetown University; Bright Futures for Families; Pediatrics in Practice; and Bright Futures in Practice.
The Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) works to promote public policies that strengthen families and help children who are in poverty-stricken families. The Center has also mobilized a national network to promote optimal development of young children and to prevent child abuse. The CSSP works with child welfare and other public human services systems to improve the quality of life for children everywhere. Through engagement with community residents, partnerships with federal, state, and local public agencies, and research on social policy, the CSSP efforts aim to improve the social quality of life for families and children everywhere. Their website highlights areas of emphasis such as: public policy, research topics, and publications.

Culturally & Linguistically Appropriate Services

Website: http://www.clas.uiuc.edu
Email at: http://www.clas.uiuc.edu

The Early Childhood Research Institute on Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) identifies, evaluates, and promotes effective and appropriate early intervention practices and preschool practices that are sensitive and respectful to children and families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. CLAS has several basic assumptions which define and guide its work such as the idea of dynamic and multi-faceted cultures. They also assume that a solid foundation of primary practitioners and families is key to the work of the Institute as advisors, reviewers, and evaluators. The materials they offer reflect the intersection of culture, language, disabilities, and child development. The main goal of this institute is to identify, collect, and review materials and practices developed for families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems helps states and communities to build and integrate early childhood service systems that better meet the needs of children and families. They work to increase access to comprehensive health care by improving outreach across early childhood programs. One of their main goals is to influence young children’s development through social-emotional competence. Parenting education, family support, and early care are three other main components of their plan. The goal of this initiative is to help parents develop and use available resources that enable them to nurture and support the healthy development of their children.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation is a private organization which was created to help build better futures for disadvantaged children. It was established in 1948 by Jim Casey, one of the founders of UPS, and his siblings, who named the Foundation in honor of their mother. The mission of the Foundation is to create public policies, human-service reforms, and community supports that meet the needs of vulnerable children and families. The Foundation creates grants that help states, communities, and neighborhoods design more innovative, cost-effective responses to these needs. KIDS Count, a project created by this Foundation, is a source for data on child and family well-being in the U.S. The data center supports families by offering information, resources, and guides to help better their well-being.