



FOCUS AREA: STRONG AND RESILIENT FAMILIES RESPONSIVE GRANTMAKING

Children thrive when their families have the support they need. We believe that all children deserve a happy, healthy childhood and all families deserve equitable access to resources that address the many complex factors that impact well-being. Family support and positive family relationships are building blocks of health and well-being across the lifespan.

STRONG AND RESILIENT FAMILIES - STRATEGIES

The Strong and Resilient Families Focus Area seeks to ensure all children, youth and families have strong foundations and equitable access to opportunities. We support efforts that identify and strengthen families' protective factors and promote family-centered mental and behavioral health. In the Strong and Resilient Families Focus Area, we will support two responsive grantmaking strategies:

- **Strengthening Protective Factors**
- **Promoting Family-Centered Mental and Behavioral Health**

Strengthening Protective Factors

As outlined in the [Strengthening Families framework](#), protective characteristics promote health and well-being, mitigate risk and make up the strengths that help to support families and buffer stress. We promote protective factors by directing resources to organizations focused on family support and crisis services.

We recognize the importance of seeking, valuing, and integrating family voice into practice and of making programs and services available in the settings where families live, learn, work and play. We prioritize efforts in urban, rural and frontier communities that reach families experiencing the greatest challenges to health, center equity, promote family leadership and provide culturally affirming programs and services.

We seek to fund:

- **Family Support Services:** Organizations and programs working with families to access a broad array of resources, including navigating available benefits such as food, healthcare, housing, financial assistance and childcare; legal and case management services; and community-based services that promote the well-being of children and families.
- **Family-Focused Crisis Support:** Organizations and programs that intervene, prevent, and respond to crisis or violence such as domestic violence agencies, child advocacy centers or mental health crisis intervention.

Promoting Family-Centered Mental and Behavioral Health

Promoting the mental and behavioral health of parents and caregivers helps families to provide safe, stable and responsive relationships and environments for children. Families experiencing mental health and substance use concerns can be supported in their communities with access to trauma-informed, family-centered services.

We promote access to mental and behavioral health support by providing resources for family-focused services and planning and capacity building. A range of trauma-informed and community-based outpatient, intensive and in-home supports are essential for families experiencing mental and behavioral health concerns.

Systems are not structured to serve all families equitably. We direct resources to communities and families experiencing the greatest challenges to health. We prioritize organizations that center equity, recognize the complex factors impacting mental health, provide culturally affirming programs and celebrate the diverse makeup of families.

We seek to fund:

Access to Community-Based Programs: Community-based programs or organizations providing treatment and support using evidence-informed and promising approaches that address the whole family, such as clinic-based treatment and in-home services.

Planning and Capacity Building: Planning and capacity building for organizations seeking to develop or enhance family-centered mental and behavioral health treatment and supports, including access to services via telehealth and coalitions or partnerships that advance access for rural communities and populations with high barriers to access.