

CYTTAP

The Childcare and Youth Training & Technical Assistance Project (CYTTAP) began in 2010 to address the need for high-quality childcare for military families living off-installation. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Penn State University's Better Kid Care program, partnered together to develop and implement CYTTAP, which was funded under an agreement between USDA-NIFA and the Department of Defense Office of Family Readiness Policy.

The CYTTAP project continues to focus on increasing the quantity and quality of early care and education for young children by providing research-based professional development and technical assistance to professionals who care for young children in communities with a high concentration of off-installation military families. CYTTAP was initially introduced in 13 states that were selected because of their high density of off-installation military families, and has expanded to 20 states during the past six years.

CYTTAP focuses on supporting our nation's military families. Professional development opportunities are available to childcare providers within targeted counties at low or no cost. In addition to increasing the skills of providers, CYTTAP efforts have led to:

- Systemic changes such as influencing policy and legislation, changing organizational practices and fostering coalitions and networks.
- Fostering relationships between organizations to facilitate better coordination of training delivery services.
- Transitioning state and local approval systems to accept on-line education as a quality training method thus increasing individuals' capacity to gain knowledge and skills to use in their own childcare practices.



For questions or comments about the information presented in this report contact: Tonia Durden (tdurden@gsu.edu).

For questions or comments about CYTTAP contact: Kathleen Lodl (klodl1@unl.edu) or Claudia Mincemoyer (cxm324@psu.edu).

The CYTTAP has led to multiple positive ripple effects, including both intended and unintended results of the direct implementation of the project. Below are some of those sustainability ripples found in various states:

- **Better Kid Care (BKC)** extended its reach into CYTTAP states and became an approved provider of online professional development through state licensing and/or the state QRIS system. After approval in CYTTAP states, BKC continued the approval process and is now approved in **41 states** for professional development credit.
- **Delaware** - Delaware online learning has provided significant professional development through BKC.
- **Illinois** – Sharing of BKC emergency preparedness documents to meet requirements in a CCDBG health and safety module developed by Illinois Gateways to Opportunity.
- **Kentucky** – Kentucky Extension became a strong ECE trainer for child care providers, recognized by the Governor’s office and government officials.
- **Kansas** – K-State Extension efforts in long-term programming in early childhood education was launched from its partnership with the CYTTAP and military initiative.
- **Maryland** — The use of "Childhood Obesity Prevention: LMCC: Support Infant Feeding" module to meet new state requirements.
- **Missouri** — Use of "Safe Sleep Practices for Caregivers: Reduce the Risk of SUID" module to meet new state requirements.
- **North Carolina** — Partnership with the North Carolina Center for Afterschool Programs to promote BKC's school-age modules.
- **Vermont** – Vermont is using BKC vodcasts for training Maternal Child and Health nurses.
- **Virginia, Georgia, Vermont, South Dakota** – these states have contracted with BKC to develop or access online modules to meet federally-mandated training for CCDBG. We are also currently in communication with Florida, Delaware, DC, West Virginia, Maryland, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire about training options.
- **Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Vermont** – These states have reported using the CYTTAP sponsored face to face curriculum for unreported “additional” trainings and participants:
 - Total number of trainings – 129.
 - Total number of participants – 1873.
- AmeriCorps in **Nebraska** is using our PYD series for training college students.