

General Information

Pennsylvania's Children's Trust Fund (CTF) is dedicated to funding community-based programs to address the primary prevention of child abuse and neglect. The CTF operates under the administration of the Children's Trust Fund Board and is supported by the Department of Public Welfare (DPW), Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL).

The 2012 Request for Application (RFA #01-12) will be issued on March 20, 2012 on the Department of General Services (DGS) website at <http://www.emarketplace.state.pa.us/Search.aspx>; enter Solicitation #: **01-12** (enter numbers and dash only) in the box provided. No other information is needed for the search. Applications are due on May 15, 2012.

Applicants may apply for up to \$40,000 each year for three years. A 25 percent local match is required in the first year, and a 50 percent local match is required in the second and third years each.

Pre-Proposal Webinar

A pre-proposal webinar will be held on April 3, 2012 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. to provide an opportunity to ask any questions related to this RFA. It is the only opportunity for applicants to ask questions and discuss the specifics of this RFA and the application package. Attendance at the pre-proposal webinar is optional. The webinar will be coordinated by the Center for Schools and Communities and a registration link will be located on their website at www.center-school.org/ctf. The deadline for registration is April 2, 2012.

Please submit questions regarding this RFA prior to the webinar via email (with the subject line "RFA #01-12 Question") to the RFA Project Officer, Carrie Collins, at ccollins@pa.gov. Applicants may also ask questions during the pre-proposal webinar. No questions will be answered before the pre-proposal webinar. Any answers furnished during the webinar will not be official until they have been verified, in writing, by the Issuing Office. The Issuing Office will post all written answers to the questions submitted on the DGS website above. No questions will be accepted, either verbally or in writing, after the end of the pre-proposal webinar.

Funding Focus

Young parents are simultaneously faced with the developmental challenges of adolescence; the demands of parenting; and the responsibility for the cognitive, social and emotional development of a child. The most effective teen parenting programs are multi-faceted and comprehensive, addressing adolescent issues, parenting concerns and child development topics.¹

Selected grantees will use evidence- or research-based methods to provide comprehensive support services to pregnant and parenting teens and young adults that will strengthen families and build protective factors to prevent child abuse and neglect.

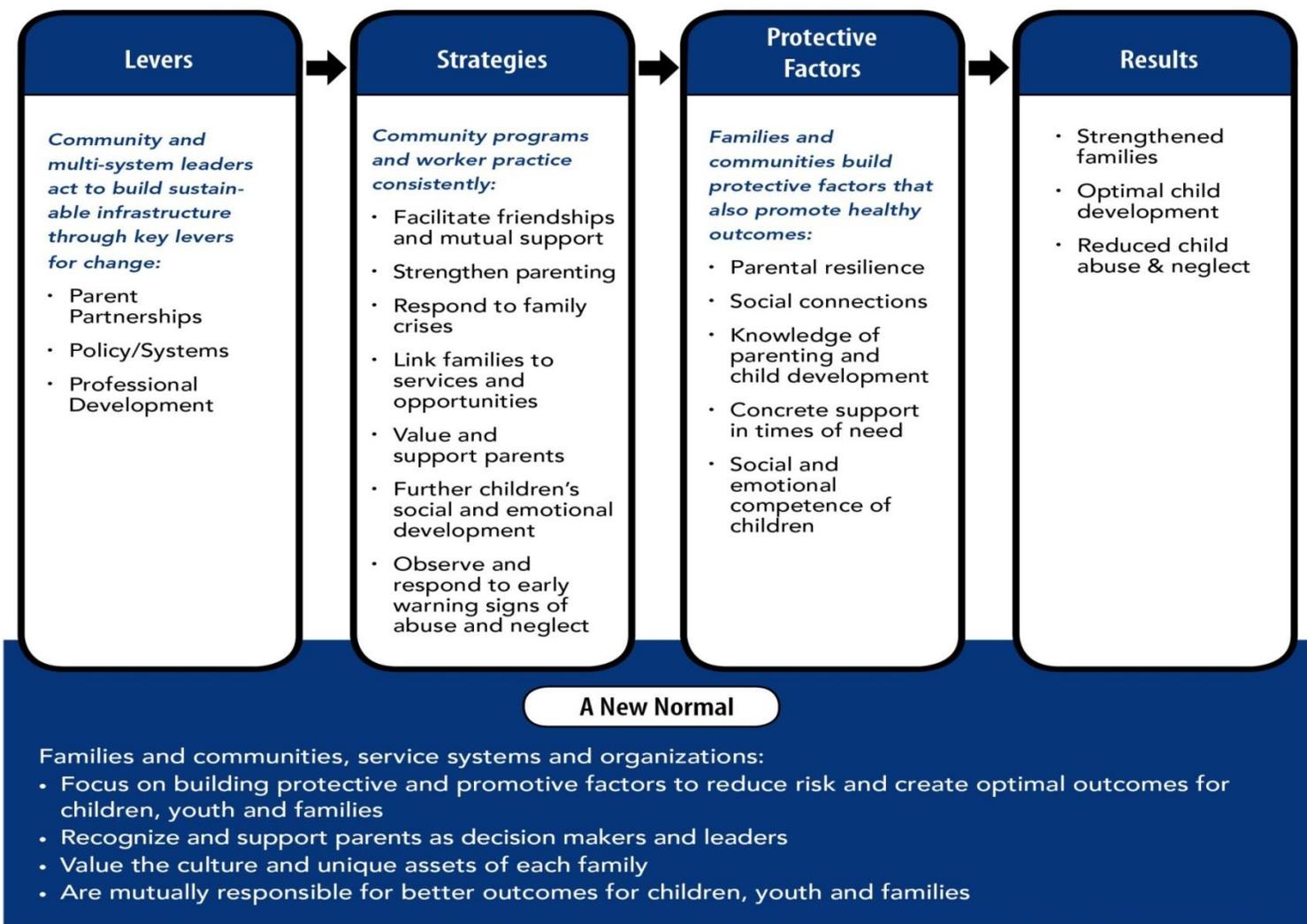
Grantees must collaborate and coordinate with overarching county or community collaborative or advisory groups and services that focus on early childhood and child abuse and neglect prevention issues to identify needs, avoid duplication of services and assure sustainability of the services. Priority will be given to applicants that provide services in areas where no Project ELECT programs are available.

¹ *Providing Educational Services and Support to Pregnant and Parenting Teen Students*; page 19; Center for Schools and Communities under contract with the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Harrisburg, PA; April 2007; www.center-school.org.

Strengthening Families: A Protective Factors Framework™

Children’s Trust Fund RFA #01-12 will focus on the prevention of child abuse and neglect by providing supportive services to pregnant and parenting teens and young adults that ultimately strengthen families through the use of five protective factors outlined in the Center for the Study of Social Policy’s *Strengthening Families™* approach. Ongoing research conducted by the CSSP has shown that the presence and prominence of five protective factors in families reduces the likelihood of child abuse and neglect and contributes to excellent outcomes for young children. For more information, please visit www.strengtheningfamilies.net.

Strengthening Families: Creating a New Normal ²



² *Common Ground: One Approach, Many Adaptations*, Center for the Study of Social Policy, *Strengthening Families: A Protective Factors Framework*, June 2011. <http://www.cssp.org/reform/strengthening-families/resources/strengthening-families-101>.