

# Looking Through a Family Engagement Lens...



## Exploring Strengthening Families in a Child Care Cohort (ESF Cohort)

The ESF Cohort, is a new initiative for Child Care Aware of NH, a Child Care Resource and Referral Program of Southern New Hampshire Services in collaboration with NH's Children's Trust. The ESF Cohort is intended for child care centers and family child care providers. This unique opportunity is being piloted for the first time in the state of New Hampshire. Participating child care programs will walk through the five protective factors of supporting families, explore resources available to help families in their area, and network with other programs focusing on Strengthening Families. This Cohort will allow programs to assess their current family engagement practices, identify resources that are available to both the program and families, as well as create goals to sustain change in their practice to ensure the support of our New Hampshire families.



### Benefits of ESF Cohort, using the Strengthening Families Protective Factors, participants will...

- Collaborate with peers through a cohort model approach to strengthen your practices in supporting families.
- Become familiar with Strengthening Families Approach.
- Explore how to incorporate the Strengthening Families Five Protective Factors into your program.
- Participate in a Strengthening Families Self-Assessment and develop a robust action plan to incorporate this approach into your practice.
- Obtain resources and support through professional development and technical assistance in a cooperative group setting.
- Build on your current family engagement practices to assist families.
- Earn a Certificate of Completion for the Exploring Strengthening Families Cohort upon fulfilling requirements.



### Criteria for Programs:

Programs must be willing to:

- Meet monthly from January to June 2019.
- Complete a Strengthening Families Program Self-Assessment.
- Review program self-assessment to develop an action plan.
- Review action plan with staff and initiate implementation of a Strengthening Families Approach.
- Complete the Strengthening Families Modules through NH Children's Trust.

**Application Due Date:** Tuesday, December 18th, 2018

**Selection & Notification Process:** The in-house selection process will be based on program needs. **A total of eight to ten child care programs will be selected to participate.** Programs will be selected and notified by December 28th, 2018. This ESF Cohort Pilot Program runs from January 2019 to June 2019. All participating programs will be listed in the January Monthly Minutes.

**Questions?** Call our Training and TA Line at 1-855-393-1731 ext. 32

*This cohort is being done in conjunction with New Hampshire Children's Trust. The preparation of this flyer was financed under a Contract with the State of NH, Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Children, Youth, and Families, Bureau of Child Development and Head Start Collaboration, with funds provided in part by the State of NH and the US Department of Health and Human Services.*

