Family Engagement, Support, and Capacity Building for the 21st Century

Families do 90% of all counseling, education, caregiving, health care and norm enforcement for their members. While a vital backbone for services provided to their members across the lifespan, families often lack requisite skills, resources and supports. When challenged or overwhelmed, they may be blamed for poor outcomes.

The Children’s Bureau in its centennial year was heralded for its attention to families and for leading the nation in promoting more family supportive practices and policies. Building on this theme of more 21st century family-centered capacity building, there is a need to generate more evidence-based policy and practice knowledge.

This special issue builds on such family strengthening agendas by seeking manuscripts which offer an array of contributions to advance an evidence base for practice and policy. To that end, we seek manuscripts which address prevention and early intervention with diverse families in diverse communities. This includes impoverished mothers and their babies, promising interventions delineating new models for parenting skills and service delivery, parents as peers delivering services to other parents, families and guardianship, families as advocates of change. Two generation strategies along with models from other nations with promising implications for adaptation in the in the US are also sought.

Interested authors should submit an abstract of their proposed manuscripts to the editors of this special issue by March 1, 2014. **The final submission deadline for papers is July 1, 2014.** If you are interested in submitting, please contact jfs@childrenatrisk.org for more information. To view past issues of the journal, please visit [http://digitalcommons.library.tmc.edu/jfs](http://digitalcommons.library.tmc.edu/jfs).

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