



PEP Early Childhood Plus

The development of solid social-emotional skills in young children is directly related to their success in school and in life. **PEP Early Childhood Plus** touches nearly 1,000 children each year through consultation, training and support for parents, teachers and caregivers.

Over nearly half a century, PEP developed a nationally recognized expertise or nurturing healthy social-emotional development in our community's youngest learners – from birth through age 6. PEP's team of highly trained early childhood professionals all have master's degrees and more than two decades of experience working with young children.

PEP's early childhood work is grounded in four philosophies and practices: **CONSCIOUS DISCIPLINE, RE-EDUCATION, THE SANCTUARY MODEL** and **THE NEW OHIO/GEORGETOWN MODEL**. With all of these approaches, parents play critical roles in developing plans that position their children for success.



100% of children served by **Early Childhood Plus** at risk for expulsion remained in their child care setting.



CHILD CARE CONSULTATION

With the goal of maintaining children in their child care settings, PEP consultants equip staff, parents and other caregivers with skills that promote healthy development for children experiencing social, emotional and behavioral difficulties in group environments. A recent addition to this program is an intensive support for high-need classrooms known in the community as UPK SNCC. The program is a Special Needs Child Care (SNCC) service funded by the Cuyahoga County Executive, Cuyahoga County Council and Starting Point.

COMMUNITY-BASED CONSULTATION

PEP consultants provide on-site and in-home mental health consultation, education and training for families and caregivers of children exhibiting behaviors that may prevent them from remaining in their current living, preschool or child care settings. This Early Childhood Mental Health service is a partnership with the Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services. It is funded through the county's Invest in Children initiative through the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County. Referrals are primarily made through the county and Bright Beginnings.

PRESCHOOL CLASSROOM CONSULTATION

PEP consultants provide training and support for teachers working in preschool classrooms within the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and Euclid City Schools. This service – funded by the United Way of Greater Cleveland – is designed to empower teachers with strategies to support students exhibiting significant social and emotional challenges.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING – WHOLE CHILD MATTERS

Trainings for early childhood professionals focus heavily on social-emotional development, trauma-informed care and professionalism in the classroom. Trainings are designed to reduce aggression, reduce impulsivity and increase attention in the classroom – all while promoting collegiality between teachers. By equipping professionals with the proper skills, the goal is to promote healthy social-emotional development and school readiness in young children. State funding for trainings flows through the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County to PEP.



“When we have children having a difficult time in the classroom – either with speech, hearing or something behaviorally – **PEP is our first call.** We’ve been over-the-moon happy with the results.”

— **Erin Groves**, administrator, Scribes & Scribblers Child Development Center