

- Family exposure to substandard housing quality
- Neighborhood violence crime victimization
- Proportion of female headed households with children
- Rate of adult unemployment

Parent-Child Interaction:

- Mothers' sensitivity, detachment, intrusiveness, positive regard, negative regard, stimulation and animation in interaction with the child (using the Three-bag observation assessment)

Child Measures:

- Allostatic Load (saliva samples, electrocardiogram (ECG) data)
- Child Reactivity and Regulation to fear evoking mask and frustration eliciting toy removal tasks
- Self-regulation: effortful control
- Infant Behavior Record
- Preschool Self-Regulation Assessment
- Infant Behavior Questionnaire
- Children's Behavior Questionnaire

University of Colorado Denver

Project Title: An Evaluation of Parent Child Interaction Therapy and the Emotional Availability Intervention: Mitigating Toxic Stress among American Indian Children in Early Head Start

Principal Investigator: Michelle Sarche

Co-Principal Investigator: Misty Boyd

Project Funding Years: 2011 – 2016

Project Abstract: The University of Colorado- Anschutz Medical Campus in partnership with a tribal Early Head Start and behavioral health program program will evaluate Parent-Child Interaction Therapy Intervention (PCIT) and the Emotional Availability Caregiver Intervention (EAI) to better understand the relationship between major environmental stressors and American Indian children's early development. Specifically, the project will: (1) examine the nature, extent and developmental course of environmental stressors among American Indian children between the ages of 10 and 48 months and explore hair cortisol as a marker of toxic stress; (2) implement PCIT with and without an EAI enhancement in a tribal behavioral health setting to serve American Indian children and families enrolled in Early Head Start; and (3) test the effectiveness of PCIT with and without EAI enhancement for decreasing the chronic stress response among children and their caregivers, increasing caregiver sensitivity, and decreasing behavior problems among children experiencing environmental stressors. The study will yield information about environmental stressors for American Indian children and their impact on development, and establish an evidence base for parenting interventions that may buffer children from the impact of stressors.

Sample: 216 children in 27 classrooms at 8 sites at a tribal Early Head Start program

Child Measures

- Infant Toddler Social Emotional Assessment
- Eyberg Child Behavior Inventory
- Hair cortisol
- Child Health and Development Questionnaire
- Sleep and Nap Routines Questionnaire
- Early Head Start Services Questionnaire

Parent/Caregiver Measures

- Household Demographic Survey
- Center for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale
- Generalized Anxiety Disorder Scale
- Parent and Family Health Survey
- Hair Cortisol
- Adverse Childhood Experiences Survey
- Parent and Family Stress Survey
- Whitbeck Historical Trauma Scale
- American Indian Cultural Beliefs and Practices Survey
- Social Support Survey
- Community and Neighborhood Questionnaire
- Therapy Attitude Inventory

Parent/Caregiver-Child Relationship Measures

- Emotional Availability Assessment Scales
- Parenting Stress Index
- Dyadic Parent-Child Interaction Coding System

University of Delaware

Project Title: Starting at Home: Incorporating a Parent-Child Interaction Intervention into Early Head Start Home Visiting

Principal Investigator: Jason Hustedt

Co-Principal Investigators: Rena Hallam Myae Han Jennifer Vu

Project Funding Years: 2011 – 2016

Project Abstract: The purpose of this project is to incorporate the Promoting First Relationships (PFR) parenting intervention for use in the home visiting components of Early Head Start (EHS) home- and center-based models. This project will be conducted in collaboration with a multi-site EHS program serving both urban and suburban populations, comprised of African-American, Latino, and Caucasian families, and providing both center- and home-based programs in the state of Delaware. The project will examine: (1) the role that toxic stress plays in the lives of children and families served by a large EHS program, (2) how the PFR intervention can be implemented in the context of these existing home- and