



## **Assuring Better Child Health and Development: A Screening Academy**

### **Local Funding Resource Document**

#### *What Can Be Accomplished With Locally Funded Dollars?*

Many local funders are interested in promoting children's health, including improving child development services. For example, Illinois's ABCD project was funded by The Michael Reese Health Trust, which is based in Chicago. Both the state and the Michael Reese Health Trust view this as a successful partnership. Many local foundations have a special interest in children and this may be an opportunity to involve them either in your initial planning as you apply for participation in the ABCD Screening Academy or after your ABCD Screening Academy experience. Local foundations may already be funding child development and /or Early Intervention project and may be a source for information about what ABCD related activities are going on in your state. If your project team has already defined its goals, the ABCD Screening Academy opportunity might be a way to open the door for discussion with local funders just as inclusion of a local funder in the stakeholder group or other advisory committee can provide important strategic guidance (and future funding opportunities) to your state project.

A partnership with an ABCD Screening Academy state wide team could be attractive to local funders because of the opportunity to promote statewide improvement, participate in a nationally supported and recognized program, and the demonstrated success of the ABCD collaborative states. Below are a few examples of the types of activities a local funder may be willing to support:

- Staff time to help lead and manage the Screening Academy project activities such as; co-convening, facilitating and preparing background materials for Stakeholder Committee and/or state team meetings; and connecting/coordinating ABCD project activities with related state-level initiatives
- Evaluations, including producing measures related to children's healthy development initiatives within the state; evaluating the implementation of the pilots and the impact of pilot projects on provider skills, knowledge and practices
- Assessments of the training and education needs of children's primary care providers regarding developmental health and families with young children.
- Pilot sites with start-up costs such as purchasing screening tools, and producing materials to give to families
- Stakeholder committee meeting costs, statewide conferences/trainings designed to spread innovations

## *Local Funding Resources*

Each state has differing funding opportunities. While it is impossible for NASHP to assess what is available in each individual state, below is a list of resources with which your state may research options.

- <http://www.givingforum.org> - **The Forum of Regional Associations of Grantmakers** is a national network of regional associations. The Forum's network focuses on the philanthropy of the city, state, and multi-state areas of the U.S. and encompasses 31 regional associations of grantmakers.
- <http://www.tgci.com> - **The Grantsmanship Center** conducts some 150 workshops annually in grantsmanship training, as well as earned income strategies for nonprofits
- <http://foundationcenter.org/findfunders> - **The Foundation Center** is the nation's leading authority on philanthropy, connecting nonprofits and the grantmakers supporting them with tools such as free email alerts on giving trends, grants awarded, new grants available, and a variety of other foundation resources. Also available are profiles and links to private foundations as well as corporate giving programs
- <http://www.grantstation.com> - **Grant Station** is an interactive website that allows grantseekers to identify potential funding sources for their programs or projects, and mentors you through the grantseeking process
- <http://www.cof.org> - **The Council on Foundations (COF)** is a membership organization of more than 2,000 grantmaking foundations and giving programs worldwide. COF provides leadership expertise, legal services and networking opportunities - among other services - to our members and to the general public. Among the many resources about philanthropy available on COF's website are directories of grantmaking affinity groups and regional associations of grantmakers.
- <http://www.buildinitiative.org> - **The Build Initiative** was created by the Early Childhood Funders' Collaborative (ECFC), a consortium of national and local foundations that have substantial grantmaking programs in early childhood care and education. The Collaborative provides networking, information sharing and strategic grantmaking opportunities to its members. The 16 ECFC members who have chosen to fund the Build Initiative comprise the Funders' Advisory Council. The Build Initiative currently works in 9 states. A summary of cross-state initiatives provides snapshots of funding sources, planning partners, and other information at: [http://www.buildinitiative.org/docs/Cross-State\\_Matrix\\_Final.doc](http://www.buildinitiative.org/docs/Cross-State_Matrix_Final.doc)

If you are a local funder and want to learn more about the ABCD Screening Academy from a funder's perspective, feel free to contact Melinda Abrams, Senior Program Officer, The Commonwealth Fund ([mka@cmwf.org](mailto:mka@cmwf.org)) or Elizabeth Lee, Senior Program Officer, The Michael Reese Health Trust ([elee@healthtrust.net.org](mailto:elee@healthtrust.net.org)).