

# Community-Based Participatory Research & Rural Child Abuse/Neglect Prevention In Colorado

Kathy Zavela Tyson, MPH, PhD, CHES, Center for Research Strategies, Scott Bates, MSW, Colorado Dept. Of Public Health & Environment, Kaia Gallagher, PhD, Center for Research Strategies, Kim Riley, MPH, Center for Research Strategies, Krystina Finlay, PhD, Center for Research Strategies

American Public Health Association

4234.0, Promotion Healthy Children Through School, Parent, & Community Involvement

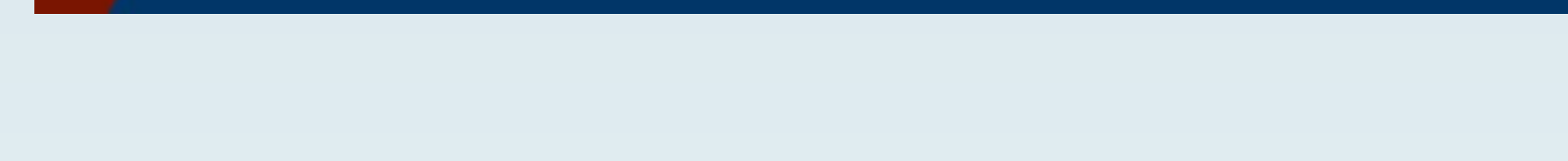
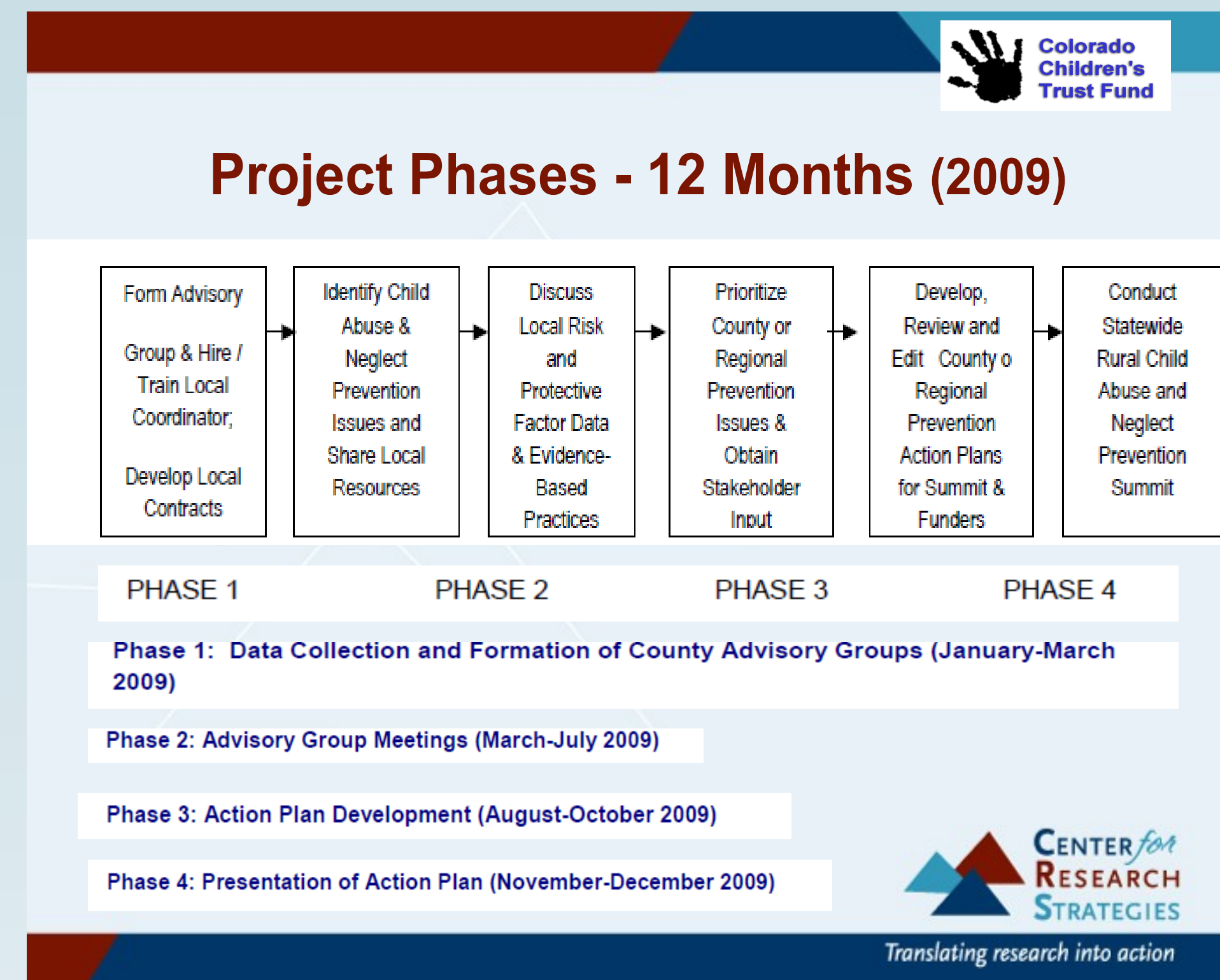
Tuesday, November 9, 2010—2:30PM

Funding provided by the: Colorado Children's Trust Fund



## Purpose of Legislation & Research Project

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Community-Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse Legislation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To support community-based efforts to develop, operate, expand, and where appropriate, to network initiatives aimed at the prevention of child abuse and neglect;</li> <li>To support networks of coordinated resources and activities to better strengthen and support families to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect; and</li> <li>To foster the understanding, appreciation and knowledge of diverse populations to effectively prevent and treat child abuse and neglect.</li> </ul> | <p><b>Participatory Research Project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To explore the causes of high rates of child abuse and neglect in 8 counties with 2.4 - 3.9 times the state average .</li> <li>To document factors and resources (assets) related to child abuse and neglect and prevention.</li> <li>To develop action plans that promote resources for child abuse and neglect prevention in the selected counties.</li> </ul> |
|--|--|



## Phase 3: Action Plan Development (3 months)

- Developed fundable action plans
- Utilized Uniform Minimum Standards for Prevention & Early Intervention Programs (developed by the Colorado Prevention Leadership Council):
  - The problem
  - Contributing factors
  - Outcomes
  - Evidence-based programs or services
  - Target population
  - Evaluation
  - Agency capacity and collaboration

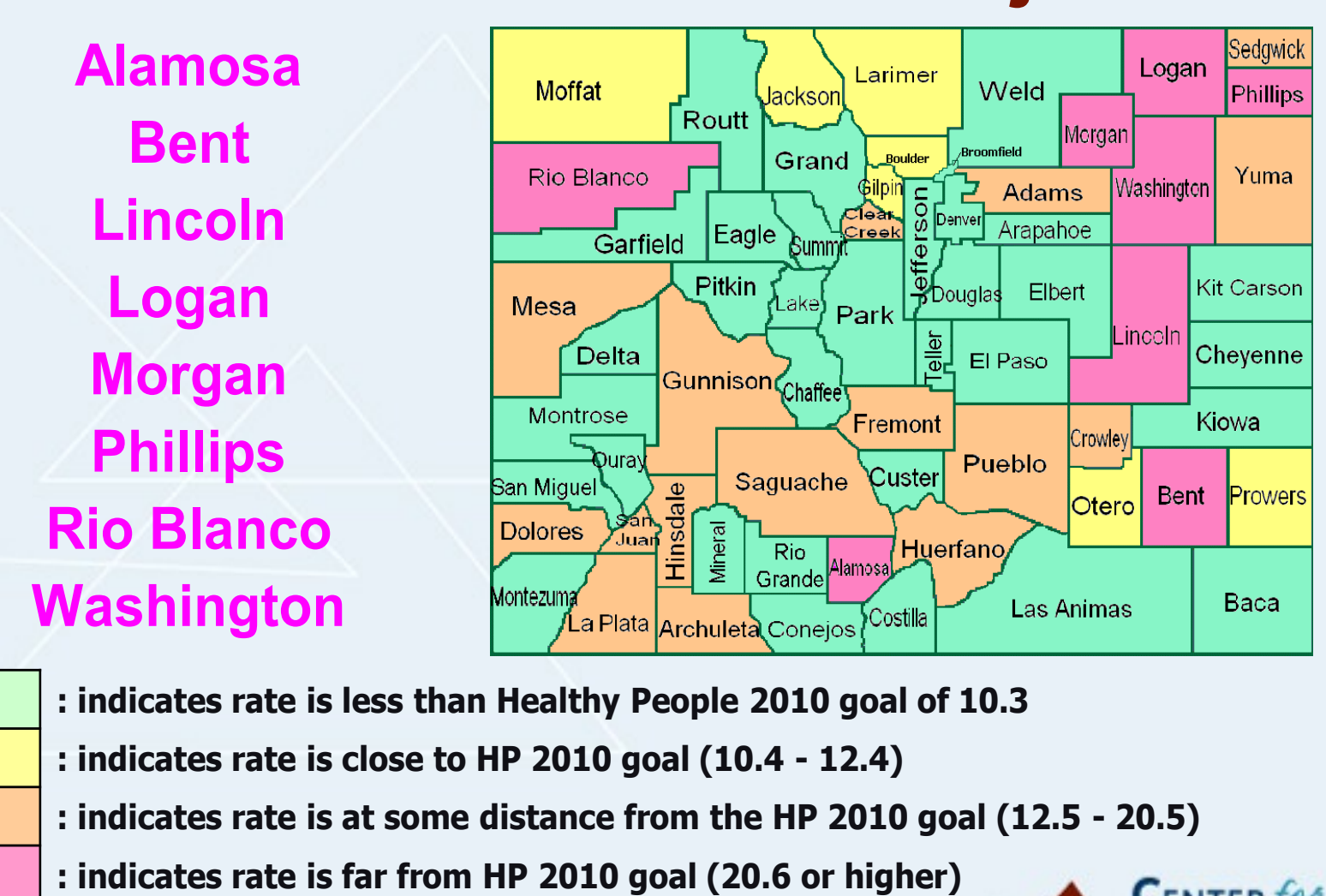


Table 1. Action Planning Strategies Summary - continued

	ALAMOSA COUNTY	BENT COUNTY	NORTHEAST COUNTIES (LINCOLN, LOGAN, MORGAN, PHILLIPS, WASHINGTON)	RIO BLANCO COUNTY
<b>Funding Needs:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide positive public relations and advertising for services and support</li> <li>Offer earlier intervention programs and processes, particularly for first-time minor offenses to deter the founded child abuse rate</li> <li>Obtain funding to sustain current programming and resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement the Nurturing Parent Program</li> <li>Obtain School Resource Officers to reduce education neglect and truancy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide more in- and out-patient alcohol and substance abuse treatment services, including tele-health services</li> <li>Provide more mental health services</li> <li>Offer domestic violence education, training and services</li> <li>Expand evidence-based parenting education programs</li> <li>Offer more low-income housing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide the Nurturing Parent Program</li> <li>Offer more substance abuse services</li> <li>Offer more domestic violence assistance</li> <li>Offer more mental health services</li> </ul>



## Selected Counties in Project



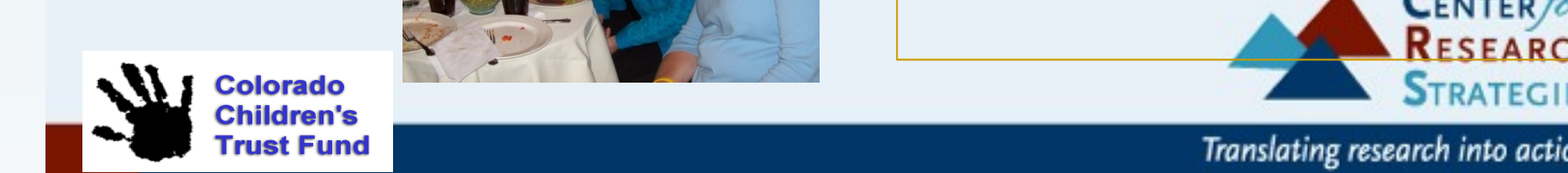
## Phase 1: Data Collection & Project Advisory Groups (1-3 months)

- Data Collection (Risk Factor Data/Resources):
  - Demographics (population, ethnicity, education, per capita income, % children and families at poverty level, unemployment)
  - Risk Factor Data (teen birth rate, juvenile/adult crime, domestic violence, uninsured rate, substance abuse rate, child abuse rate, children on Medicaid)
  - Resources (Health Department, Social Services, hospitals, community health centers, schools, parenting programs)
- Formation of Project Advisory Groups
  - Hired part-time Local Coordinator
  - Recruited Project Advisory Group members:
    - Health, social service, and other community-based organizations
    - Faith-based organizations
    - State and local governments
    - Voluntary associations, foundations, civic and citizen groups



## Phase 4: The Summit – November 5-6, 2009

- State-wide Child Abuse and Prevention Summit attended by over 140 county representatives, funders and state resource personnel
- County key stakeholders presented their action plans for further funding consideration
- Two counties received planning funds to develop fatherhood programs and other counties are seeking state prevention funds.



## Results of Community Action Planning Processes

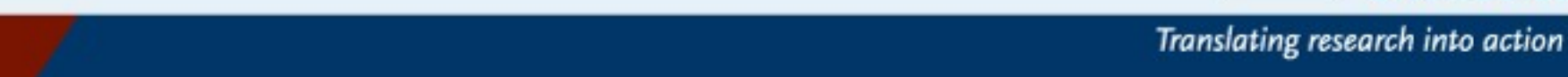
- Common prevention resources needed are parenting education and services for mental health and substance abuse.
- Areas targeted for more funding include programs for domestic violence, substance abuse treatment, mental health, and parenting.
- Other areas of concern identified by individual counties include economic needs, school dropout rates, community/school relationships and the expansion of monolingual services.



## Child Abuse & Neglect: Risk Factors & Capacity Indicators

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Economic Risk Factors</b> (e.g. low income)</p> <p><b>Family Risk Factors</b> (teen births, unwed mothers, children without parents, juvenile arrests)</p> <p><b>Stress Risk Factors</b> (mothers with high school education; mothers with late or no prenatal care; adult substance abuse arrests; households paying 30%+ on housing)</p> <p><b>Violence Risk Factors</b> (child abuse and neglect rate; violent crime rate; juvenile violent crime arrest rate)</p> | <p><b>Capacity Indicators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child mental health treatment rate</li> <li>Adult mental health treatment rate</li> <li>Juvenile substance treatment rate</li> <li>Adult substance treatment rate</li> <li>Subsidized child care rate</li> <li>Medicaid recipients with primary care physician</li> <li>Physicians per 100,000</li> <li>% households occupied by home owner</li> <li># Persons per housing unit</li> <li>% non-English speaking persons</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

Source: Bailey, T. (1998). *At What Risk? County Assessments of Safety and Risk for Child Abuse and Neglect Colorado*. Denver, CO: Piton Foundation.



## Phase 2: Project Advisory Group Meetings (5 months)

- Reviewed risk factor data and prevention resources
- Identified county and regional child abuse and neglect prevention priorities:
  - Alcohol and other substance abuse
  - Poverty and economic resources
  - Domestic violence training and resources
  - Parenting education programs
- Engaged key stakeholder groups in the process



Table 1. Action Planning Strategies Summary

	ALAMOSA COUNTY	BENT COUNTY	NORTHEAST COUNTIES (LINCOLN, LOGAN, MORGAN, PHILLIPS, WASHINGTON)	RIO BLANCO COUNTY
<b>Prevention Needs and Priorities:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support short-term parenting/family-bond interventions</li> <li>Expand monolingual parenting education</li> <li>Provide access to quality, cost-effective in- and out-patient drug and alcohol treatment for parents and caregivers</li> <li>Provide funding support for Alamosa Family Drug Court</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase parenting skills</li> <li>Decrease high school dropouts</li> <li>Elevate community standards</li> <li>Improve community/school relationships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase access to parenting education programs</li> <li>Increase alcohol and substance abuse, mental health services, domestic violence services</li> <li>Provide transportation assistance</li> <li>Expand services in Northeast Colorado to reduce travel costs and time</li> <li>Offer financial management, education and affordable housing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase preventive parenting programs</li> <li>Expand substance abuse treatment</li> <li>Support victims of domestic violence and provide treatment for abusers</li> <li>Reduce teen pregnancies</li> <li>Increase mental health services</li> </ul>



## CONCLUSIONS

- The Summit proceedings confirmed that child abuse is a multi-faceted problem that needs to be addressed through collaborative prevention partnerships at state and local levels targeting substance abuse, mental health and domestic violence.
- Collaboration at the county, regional and state level should work to improve coordination of available resources while encouraging broader prevention interventions and integrated funding opportunities.
- Continued opportunities should be pursued to enable local service providers to dialogue with state agency representatives and funders about prevention challenges and resource needs.
- At the state level, continued partnerships should be encouraged between the Colorado Children's Trust Fund and other agencies responsible for child welfare and child abuse prevention including the Domestic Violence Council, the State Division of Child Welfare and Colorado's Fatherhood Program, all within the Department of Human Services.

