The National Resource Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention—National Resource Center, for short—offers resources and expert support to states, tribes, territories, and local communities to prevent youth violence and promote the overall well-being of children from birth to 18 years and their families.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER

INTENDED USERS
The information and materials available at the National Resource Center are geared for those who serve children and youth—from before birth through high school—including in areas impacted by youth violence. That includes grantees of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) Safe Schools/Healthy Students (SS/HS) and Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children’s Health) programs, as well as practitioners in the field at large.

GOALS
The National Resource Center seeks to connect leading experts in mental health promotion, youth violence prevention, and early childhood well-being with local leaders and practitioners who are likely to use innovative and proven approaches and resources in their community.

It also works to strengthen the capacity of communities to adopt a public health approach to promote mental health, prevent youth violence, and support healthy development and wellness for children and youth from birth to 18 years. Together, the National Resource Center and communities can:

• Change the way youth violence is addressed
• Engage youth and families in this work
• Ensure children enter school ready and able to learn and succeed
• Support approaches that address the effects of trauma
• Provide services and programs that match a community’s culture and language
• Reduce gaps in health and wellness among racial, ethnic, and sexual-minority communities
• Improve delivery of and funding for behavioral health services

The National Resource Center also promotes collaboration among systems at the local, state, and national level—including education, public health, behavioral health, child welfare, juvenile justice, and law enforcement.
The National Resource Center brings together experts and partners, activities, and resources—all focused on supporting efforts to promote mental health, prevent youth violence, and support early childhood development—in one easy-to-access platform. It offers:

- Dedicated support for states and communities funded under SS/HS and Project LAUNCH
- Information and tools for states and communities that want to begin or enhance programs to prevent youth violence
- Expert guidance on selecting, carrying out, and evaluating programs and services that prevent violence and promote well-being among children from birth to age 18

More specifically, the platform has:

- Strategic planning frameworks, fact sheets and videos, and grantee lists for SS/HS and Project LAUNCH
- Resources from partners, listed by topic and grantee group, such as web links, toolkits and templates, and reports and briefs
- A learning portal that includes:
  - Webinars and other learning events about a range of topics
  - Archived training materials to download after each event
  - Conferences and learning events

With the right resources and support, all communities—no matter their ZIP code—can promote positive outcomes for children, youth, and families.

The National Resource Center is more than a website. It is experts and partners, activities, and resources—all focused on supporting efforts to promote mental health and prevent youth violence—in one easy-to-access platform.

The National Resource Center is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and coordinated by the American Institutes for Research. It consists of the following partner organizations:

- Center for School Mental Health
- Community Science
- The Council of State Governments
- FHI 360
- National Asian American Pacific Islander Mental Health Association
- National Indian Child Welfare Association
- National Latino Behavioral Health Association
- National Leadership Council for African American Behavioral Health
- ZERO TO THREE