

Supporting Families of Children: Services and Supports for Family-Facing Professionals

The Brazelton Touchpoints Center (BTC) offers dynamic professional development workshops, presentations, research and evaluation, and consultation services for providers who engage children and their families. Our offerings build capacity for professionals across fields of practice including: early care and education, home visiting, child welfare, early intervention, pediatric and perinatal health, mental health, children’s museums and libraries.

BTC’s trainings address pressing challenges facing children, families, and professionals today, such as:

- Culturally responsive relationships
- Surfacing implicit bias, working toward racial equity and inclusion
- Productive conversations about sensitive concerns
- Trauma, resilience, and healing
- Mental health, well-being, and self-care

[Contact us](#) with your specific request or questions.

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Professional Development Programs

Explore our available offerings below. Visit the [BTC training calendar](#) for a complete list of upcoming events and current pricing for public professional development programs. All our offerings are learner-centered and provide multiple ways for participants to interact, apply concepts, and practice skills.

We can also provide private, customized training to meet your group's specific learning needs and schedules. For more information, contact us with your specific request at touchpoints@childrens.harvard.edu.

Interactive Workshops

Mental Health and Well-Being

Beyond Trauma-Informed Care: A Developmental and Relational Framework for Healing

This workshop series explores strengths-based foundational concepts and actionable strategies related to trauma, adaptation, healing, and resilience. Family- and child-facing providers learn about a developmental-relational framework that will deepen their understanding of the individual and systemic impacts of trauma. Participants learn to understand and respond with empathy to behavior displayed by children and adults who have experienced trauma, while building safe and trusting relationships. Key concepts and strategies from the Touchpoints Developmental and Relational Frameworks are woven throughout the series. *Series of three 90-minute workshops.*

Supporting Everyone's Mental Health

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, its economic fallout, racial reckoning, and social isolation have added enormous stress and grief to many people's lives. Families and providers are reporting higher rates of burnout, stress, trauma, and other common mental health issues. This interactive series offers strategies to support the mental health and resiliency of children, families, and family-facing providers, and nurture self-care. *Series of three 90-minute workshops.*

Family Connections Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC) is a capacity-building intervention that supports the mental health and social-emotional well-being of children, families, and providers who work with them. Family Connections is an evidence-based, system-wide model for mental health consultation and professional development. This interactive series helps participants gain knowledge and skills to strengthen relationships with adults and children; discuss mental health concerns, including parental depression; and promote family well-being and resiliency. *Series of three 90-minute workshops.*

Culturally Responsive Relationships

Navigating Challenging Conversations: Why, How, and What

Challenging conversations are an inevitable part of building trusting relationships with families, colleagues, and partners. While these conversations can be uncomfortable, they are also opportunities for self-reflection and growth. This three-part series explores how racism, culture, and bias may affect when and how we experience conversations as challenging. Participants practice applying a strengths-

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based approach to engage in challenging conversations effectively. *Series of three 90-minute workshops. Must purchase the full series.*

Strengths-Based Family Engagement

Building relationships with families is one of the most important things providers do. In this series, participants learn effective strategies for building collaborative, trusting relationships with families in virtual and in-person settings. This series highlights ways to provide creative supports for families to ensure equitable outcomes for all children, regardless of race, income, or ability. *Series of five 90-minute workshops.*

Strengths-based Family Engagement in Libraries

Making connections with families is an important part of the work that library staff do. Whether it's a brief connection or a relationship built over time, these connections are essential to having families see libraries as a place for them. In this series, participants will learn how to use strengths-based strategies to engage with families, and problem solve when situations feel challenging. *Series of five 90-minute workshops.*

Strengths-Based Coaching and Supervision

Building relationships with providers is essential to effectively supporting providers as a coach, supervisor or leader. In this series, participants learn effective strategies for building collaborative, trusting relationships with providers. This series highlights ways to provide creative supports for to ensure equitable outcomes for all providers, regardless of race, income, or ability. *Series of four 90-minute workshops.*

Developmental Screening

Development is a Journey: A Conversation Roadmap for Talking with Families

One in six children shows a delay at some point in their early development. Identifying these delays and disabilities as early as possible is important for all children, regardless of race or income. This 3-hour workshop introduces the [Development is a Journey Conversation Roadmap](#). Participants learn seven simple steps to engage parents actively in planning for their child's developmental needs. This interactive workshop promotes a strength-based and culturally responsive approach. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics are sharing this tool as a resource for productive conversations with parents about developmental screening and results. *One 3-hour workshop.*

Visit our [website](#) for more information about any of these workshop series.

- Cost for virtual workshops starts at \$1,000 per 90-minute session for up to 25 participants.
- Cost for in-person workshops starts at \$6,000 for up to 50 participants with 1 facilitator.
- [Contact us](#) to learn about customized packages to meet your needs.

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Training Courses

Touchpoints: The How of Child and Family Engagement

Touchpoints is an evidence-based approach to building strong family-child and family-provider relationships. Touchpoints training applies a deep understanding of children's development and behavior as a strategy for engaging families. Training participants explore strengths-based ways to support parental confidence and competence. Learn more about Touchpoints and our other intensive training programs below.

This dynamic intensive training program introduces the Touchpoints Approach. Participants learn concrete strategies to create and nurture collaborative partnerships with families and to talk with families about their child's development. This practice-strengthening approach is intended to be embedded in the work that staff already do, and is compatible with multiple interventions. This training program is available virtually or in-person and includes six monthly follow-up reflective practice sessions. This training provides 20.25 CME/CEU credit hours for physicians, nurses, social workers, and psychologists. *28-hour program.*

Cost:

- Virtual – \$18,000 for 20 participants
- In-person – \$25,000 for 25 participants

Touchpoints for Special Contexts and Audiences

BTC offers adaptations of the Touchpoints training program, including:

- Touchpoints in Libraries
- Touchpoints for Mental Health Clinicians
- Touchpoints in the Context of Developmental Challenges
- Families in Recovery: Touchpoints in the Context of Substance Use Disorder

Touchpoints Relationship-Based Reflective Practice and Coaching

Reflective practice is a powerful tool for deepening our learning. Reflective practice helps us think about past experiences with families and plan for the future. It also helps strengthen professional and organizational practice. This training provides supervisors a model for reflective coaching and supervision to support staff using the Touchpoints approach. *14-hour training program that includes 3 hours of reflective practice sessions. Prerequisite: Touchpoints: The How of Child and Family Engagement training. Contact us for pricing.*

Act Early: Partnering with Families on Developmental Screening and Referrals

Even in the best of times, discussing concerns about a child's development with families can stir up anxious responses that may feel like resistance to us as providers. Yet acting early to promote children's development can lead to more hopeful futures for any child showing the earliest signs of developmental delay.

Conversations with families about developmental screening and referrals can respect their perspectives, connect their understanding with yours, mobilize timely follow through, and save you time in the long run. As the experts on their children, families often become the most effective advocates for their children. This series of workshops will give you and your team the strategies and tools you need to

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collaboratively engage families in developmental screening and referral processes to support families to act early. *15 hour training program*

Capacity: 20 participants

Cost: \$14,500

Addressing Behaviors that Challenge

When it comes to responding to children's behaviors that challenge us, "one size does not fit all." This course explores how to use a relationship-based care approach to understand and respond to child behaviors that they find challenging. Participants learn to respond to children's behavior by deeply reflecting upon their own reactions to children's behavior, regulating their emotional reactions, and engaging families to mutually understand the reasons for their children's behavior. Participants learn strategies to respond to a child's behavior that supports their learning and development along with our relationship with them and their relationships within their family. Integrated throughout the course is a series of self-paced scenarios in which participants can practice engaging with both children and families to respond to behaviors that challenge. *16-hour course.*

Capacity: 20 participants

Cost: \$12,000

Facilitating the Touchpoints Parenting Program

Research tells us that a loving parent-child relationship is the strongest predictor of a [child's future success](#). The Touchpoints Parenting Program supports positive parent-child relationships in families with young children. This practical curriculum includes five engaging parenting modules in line with the Head Start Program Performance Standards. This training addresses how to implement the Touchpoints Parenting Program. Participants learn strategies for facilitating group discussions that engage parents in conversations about their children's development that support parental competence and confidence. This training is followed by six monthly virtual reflective practice sessions to reinforce the strategies and tools learned. *20-hour training program. Prerequisite: Touchpoints: The How of Child and Family Engagement training.*

Cost:

- *Virtual – \$14,500 for 20 participants*
- *In-person – \$17,500 for 25 participants*

Newborn Behavioral Observations System Training Program

Positive parent-child relationships are essential for young children's healthy development and learning. The Newborn Behavioral Observations system (NBO) is an infant-focused, family-centered relationship-building tool designed to introduce parents to their baby's competencies, challenges, and individuality. Providers use the NBO to foster the development of a positive parent-infant relationship from the very beginning. Participants learn how to use the NBO to describe the newborn's capacities and behaviors from birth to the third month of life. This program offers 11.5 CME/CEU credit hours across many disciplines. *Contact us for details about pricing and format options.*

Supporting Father Involvement Facilitator Training Program

The Supporting Father Involvement (SFI) program, also known internationally as Parents as Partners (PasP), is an evidence-based approach to increasing father involvement and engagement in co-parenting, and fostering children's development.

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BTC offers a 24-hour training for teams interested in implementing the SFI program in their organizations. Participants will learn how to implement this 16-session, parenting-group program that includes co-led group facilitation, an interactive curriculum, case management, and child care during the groups while parents are meeting. The program is designed to focus on co-parenting partners (e.g., parents, grandparents, same-sex couples, etc.) but it can be implemented in a fathers' group format.

SFI is implemented by a team who together attend this training. We will coordinate with you in selecting your SFI Team. The foundational team should include, at minimum, a project director, at least two group leaders, and a case manager.

The program was designed by the team of Dr. Philip A. Cowan, Dr. Carolyn Pape Cowan, Dr. Marsha Kline Pruett, and Kyle D. Pruett, MD. For more information about the SFI program, history, and evidence base, please visit the [Supporting Father Involvement website](#).

Capacity: 20 participants

Cost: \$12,500 per team of 4

Presentations and Conversations

BTC's nationally sought-after experts are available to lead engaging presentations and healing conversations about today's challenges and how we can partner with children and families to overcome them. Our speakers can deliver keynote and plenary presentations or workshops on topics such as:

- birth equity and reproductive justice
- culturally affirming approaches to child and family development
- development and developmental delays
- early relational and infant and parent mental health
- family and community engagement
- mental models and unsticking stuck systems
- organizational learning and change
- promoting positive cultural and racial identities
- race, racism, and racial equity in education, health care, and social services
- social-emotional development in the early years
- trauma-informed care and healing-centered engagement
- whole family, whole community substance use disorder recovery

[Contact us](#) to schedule speakers.

Research and Evaluation

BTC uses a *co-constructed developmental* approach to research and evaluation, with a commitment to *equity* and *collaboration* in the design and implementation of all research and evaluation activities. Learn more about our research and evaluation services [here](#). [Contact us](#) to discuss our full range of services to meet your research and evaluation needs.

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BTC Consulting Collaborative

BTC consultations are informed by developmental, relational, strengths-based, and systems-theory informed approaches. Well-versed in human-centered design and improvement-science processes, BTC consultants bring their extensive experience partnering with a wide array of communities, cultures, and systems to catalyze new insights and opportunities for transformative innovation. Learn more about our consultation services [here](#). [Contact us](#) to discuss our full range of consultation services to meet your needs.

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