



PEP Early Childhood Plus

The development of solid social-emotional skills in young children is directly related to their success in school and in life. **PEP Early Childhood Plus** touches over 1,000 children each year through consultation, training, and support for parents, teachers, and caregivers.

For over 50 years, PEP has developed nationally recognized expertise for nurturing healthy social-emotional development in our community's youngest learners — from birth to age 6. PEP's team of highly trained early childhood professionals each have master's degrees and more than two decades of experience working with children.

PEP's early childhood work is trauma informed and grounded in four philosophies and practices: **Conscious Discipline®**, **Re-ED**, **the Sanctuary Model®**, and **The New Ohio Model of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation**. With all these approaches parents and caregivers are critically important partners in co-creating plans that position their children for success



100% of child care staff surveyed agree that the **PEP Early Childhood Plus** consultant had a strong understanding of child development, behavior, and mental health issues.



CHILD CARE CONSULTATION*

With the goal of maintaining children in their childcare settings, PEP consultants equip staff, parents, and other caregivers with skills that promote healthy development for children experiencing social, emotional, and behavioral difficulties in group environments. This program is a provider of Starting Point's Special Needs Child Care program.

COMMUNITY-BASED CONSULTATION

PEP staff provides in-home or virtual early childhood mental health consultation, education, and training to families and caregivers looking for help with their young child's social, emotional, and behavioral needs. Two types of service are available for children from birth to six years: Short-Term Community-Based Consultation and Intensive Parenting Support Service.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DISTRICT CONSULTATION

In response to stressors intensified by the pandemic, PEP consultants work with select Cuyahoga County school districts with the goal of supporting the social-emotional development of young children in preschool and kindergarten. The program aims to teach and model skills necessary to help students feel safe and succeed in a school setting; share self-care tools for parents to improve the home environment; and build teachers' skills in self-regulation and trauma-informed care.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING* – WHOLE CHILD MATTERS MASTER TRAINER

Trainings for early childhood professionals across the state focus heavily on social-emotional development, trauma-informed care, and professionalism in the classroom. Trainings are designed to reduce aggression, reduce impulsivity, and increase attention in the classroom – all while promoting collegiality between teachers. By equipping professionals with the proper skills, the goal is to promote healthy social-emotional development and school readiness in young children.

CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL COLLABORATIVE

PEP consultants provide support to Child Care Resource and Referral agencies, often referred to as CCR&Rs, in nine counties. CCR&Rs assist parents and child care providers with accessing services that benefit young children. PEP's collaboration with the CCR&Rs aims to align mental health supports to the unique initiatives at these agencies and is designed to help fill service gaps in infant and early childhood mental health care. In addition to working directly with CCR&Rs, PEP consultants can assist with child care programs, classrooms and families that have specific needs as identified by the CCR&R.

“[Our consultant] has been such a support to our families, students and staff.
She goes above and beyond to offer her service and skills.
I have become a better teacher by observing her and working with her.”

— Teacher, Kiddie City