

Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development™ and Care for Kids

Sexual Abuse Prevention Training

May 15 and 16, 2006

Prevent Child Abuse Iowa, Blank Children's Hospital, Community Empowerment, Child Care Resource & Referral, Department of Education, Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Iowa Child Care and Early Education Network, and Orchard Place are partnering to host a training session on two sexual abuse prevention curricula, Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development™ and Care for Kids. Prevent Child Abuse Vermont staff will lead the training.

Participants will learn how to implement the curricula and to train others. An application process will be used to ensure a broad and diverse group of individuals is trained to teach the curricula and to train others. Applications are due to Prevent Child Abuse Iowa by April 17, 2006.

Training Dates and Location:

May 15, 10 am to 5 pm (lunch provided)

May 16, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm (lunch provided)

Location: Country Inn & Suites
1350 NW 118th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50325

Cost:

Maximum of \$180 for Care for Kids materials (discount rate will be available; will confirm price with attendees at a later date)

Day 1 - Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development™

The Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development training helps participants better understand the sexual development of children and how to respond to children's sexual behaviors and questions in ways that promote healthy development. This training also recognizes that a crucial component of nurturing healthy sexual development is protecting children from sexual abuse. Participants will gain an understanding of the scope of child sexual abuse and the relationship between healthy sexuality and child sexual abuse prevention. This curriculum can easily fit within a group-based or in-home parent education program.

Participants will learn to:

- Identify normal sexual behaviors of young children.
- Respond to young children's sexual interactions.
- Respond to young children's questions about sexuality.
- Identify and report suspected child abuse.

Day 2 - Care for Kids

The Care for Kids program is a comprehensive, community-based approach to child sexual abuse prevention that provides early childhood educators, parents and other professionals with information, materials and resources to communicate positive messages about healthy sexuality to young children. The program was created by The Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit in Ontario, and was evaluated and proven effective in 1995.

Care for Kids has been developed to include healthy and developmentally appropriate messages about sexuality and to avoid a single-issue focus on abuse. The messages are very carefully worded in order to: 1) be simple; 2) avoid the major concern about how the touch may have felt to the child and avoid placing responsibility for protection of young children onto themselves; and 3) provide repeated reinforcement along with other childhood precautionary messages. Created by professionals who know children's needs and abilities, this sexual health curriculum can easily fit within existing early childhood programs and will support the prevention of child sexual abuse.

Participants will learn to:

- Implement the seven-session curriculum with children ages three to six in the early childhood setting.
- Conduct an information session for parents and community members to introduce and gain support for the curriculum.
- Provide parents with practical skills in educating their children about healthy sexuality, guiding them toward becoming "askable" adults.

Questions? Contact Prevent Child Abuse Iowa at 1-800-CHILDREN, 515-244-2200, or pcaia@pcaiowa.org