

42nd Annual InterCourt Conference



Session 1C: *Innovative Practices*
Parental Engagement

Stronger Families, Safer
Futures: The role of
Evidenced—Based Parenting
in Court Decisions

March 12, 2026
Hilton Columbus at
Easton Town Center
Columbus, OH

FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

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LISA GOLDEN, LISW-S, is a skilled clinician, program administrator, and trainer with more than 20 years of experience working with children, families, and professionals. She currently works as an Implementation Consultant at Triple P America, supporting programs across the country in implementing evidence-based parenting interventions and professional development opportunities for early childhood educators.

Lisa is a licensed supervising social worker and holds a Master's Science in Social Administration (MSSA) from Case Western Reserve University, and a Bachelor's in Social Work from Capital University. Lisa brings extensive experience providing therapeutic interventions to children and families, providing community education, and developing innovative programs to move toward healthy social emotional development and wellness.

Parental Engagement

Tammy Hogsett

Infant & Early Childhood Mental

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Scoring Big: Building Empathy Within Systems: Parents as Partners

EMPOWERING FAMILIES TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES



Tammy Hogsett
B.A.H.C.S., CDCA, CHW



What is your name?

Turn to someone next to you and share the story of your name. Where did it come from? What does it mean to you?



Objectives



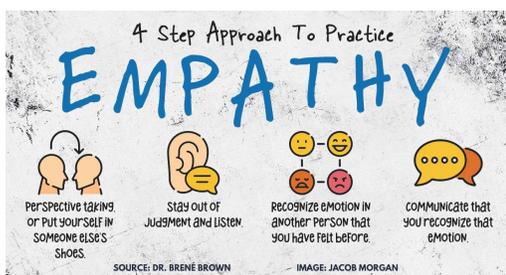
- ▶ Tip-Off: Starting with Empathy
- ▶ Coaching for Success: The Power of Family Engagement
- ▶ March Madness: The Tournament Approach to Engagement
- ▶ Winning the Championship: Measuring Success and Advancing Best Practices



Objective 1 Tip-Off: Starting with Empathy



Starting with Empathy



- ▶ Recognize family experiences and culture
- ▶ Understand trauma's impact
- ▶ Approach with openness, not judgment



Starting with Empathy

- ▶ Families often enter the system feeling overwhelmed and stigmatized
- ▶ It strengthens the youth's support network
- ▶ It uncovers root causes instead of just symptoms
- ▶ It promotes cultural humility
- ▶ It reduces conflict and increases cooperation
- ▶ It improves outcomes for the youth



Challenges Faced by Youth and Families



Emotional Stress

Youth and families experience significant emotional stress impacting their well-being and engagement in support services.

Lack of Resources

Limited access to resources restricts families' ability to obtain necessary support and services.

Social Stigma

Stigma surrounding youth challenges creates barriers to acceptance and seeking help within communities.

System Navigation Complexity

Complex systems and procedures make it difficult for families to access and benefit from rehabilitation programs.



Barriers to Effective Family Involvement



System Mistrust

Families may distrust institutions due to past experiences, affecting willingness to engage effectively.

Logistical Challenges

Practical issues like transportation, time constraints, and scheduling conflicts hinder family involvement.

Cultural Differences

Diverse cultural backgrounds can create misunderstandings and communication barriers in family engagement.

Lack of Family Education

Insufficient knowledge about processes limits families' ability to participate meaningfully.



Hardships Before, During, and After:

- ▶ Families often feel blamed and confused during the juvenile justice process.
- ▶ One in five families reports having to take out loans to pay for court costs.
- ▶ Many families are also victims. Almost 50% report either personally surviving a crime or had a family member who had.
- ▶ Higher frequency and regularity of visitation for juveniles in residential programs is associated with positive behavior and a higher GPA.
- ▶ Distance is a significant impediment to visitation.



Objective 2 Coaching for Success: The Power of Family Engagement



The Role of Families in Outcomes



Family Support Importance

Supportive families offer essential stability and motivation that foster youth success.

Role in Rehabilitation

Families play a key role in rehabilitation by advocating and supporting youth reintegration.



Objective 3

March Madness: The Tournament Approach to Engagement



Tangible Tools

- ▶ **Communicate Clearly:** Deliver information in multiple forms (verbal, written) and check for understanding.
- ▶ **Build Connection:** Prioritize positive, consistent connections and focus on strengths rather than just deficits.
- ▶ **Pop Up Community Events:** Local festivals, Open Houses, etc...
- ▶ **Strength Based:** Create opportunities for parents/caregivers to identify strengths
- ▶ **Use Positive Reinforcement:** Praise efforts and accomplishments to motivate good behavior
- ▶ **Mindful of Learning Styles:** Process Mapping
- ▶ **Family Members as experts:** Include their thoughts and opinions



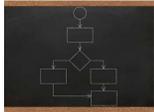
Tangible Tools Continued

- ▶ **Family Engagement Meetings:** Empower families to shape decisions.
- ▶ **Case Planning:** Ensure youth and families have a voice. Treat families as partners in case planning and decision-making.
- ▶ **Clear Policies:** Establish clear rules with rewards for compliance.
- ▶ **Dignity and Respect:** Family beliefs and cultures are acknowledged and incorporated into the services.
- ▶ **Cognitive Aids:** Folders, calendars, written reminders for memory support.
- ▶ **Therapeutic Mentoring:** Connecting youth with positive adult figures.
- ▶ **Avoid Jargon:** Use family friendly language
- ▶ **Advisory Board:** Coordinate an opportunity for parents/caregiver input



Bracket-Style Goal Setting and Progress Tracking

Breaking Down Goals



The bracket model divides large goals into smaller, manageable steps for easier progress tracking.

Tracking Progress



Progress is visually tracked through each bracket stage, helping to maintain focus and motivation.

Celebrating Milestones



Milestones are recognized at each bracket level, encouraging accountability and motivation.



Objective4
Winning the Championship:
Measuring Success and Advancing
Best Practices



Indicators of Successful Family Engagement

Positive Outcomes for Youth

- ▶ Reduced rates of recidivism and repeated contact with the justice system.
- ▶ Improved school attendance, academic performance, and social behavior.
- ▶ Successful completion of probation, diversion, or rehabilitation programs.

Increased Access to Resources and Support

- ▶ Families receive information about available resources (e.g., counseling, education, legal assistance).
- ▶ Barriers to accessing services (transportation, language, childcare) are minimized or addressed.
- ▶ Families report feeling supported by system staff and community partners.



Indicators of Successful Family Engagement

Empowerment and Advocacy

- ▶ Families demonstrate increased confidence in advocating for their child's needs and rights.
- ▶ Parents and guardians participate in training or workshops related to juvenile justice.
- ▶ Family members contribute to system improvement efforts (e.g., advisory boards, policy feedback)

Satisfaction with the Process

- ▶ Families express satisfaction with their involvement and the outcomes achieved.
- ▶ Feedback mechanisms (surveys, interviews) show positive perceptions of the system.
- ▶ Complaints and grievances are addressed promptly and respectfully.



Conclusion

- ▶ Implementing positive parent engagement is not unlike preparing for a championship basketball game. It demands intentional planning, active participation, and a belief in the power of teamwork. By adopting the mindset of a winning team—where every member's contribution is valued and communication is prioritized—complex systems and families can create an environment in which every youth has the opportunity to succeed.



References

- ▶ [Family Engagement in Juvenile Justice Systems: Building a Strategy and Shifting the Culture - CSG Justice Center](#)
- ▶ [family-engagement-in-juvenile-justice.pdf](#)
- ▶ [Evidence-based Programs - MPG Literature Review - Family Engagement](#)
- ▶ [Meigs-Gallia CASA/GAL Program](#)



THANK YOU!



Stronger Families, Safer Future: The Role of Evidenced-Based Parenting in Court Decisions

Lisa Golden, LISW-S
Implementation Consultant
Triple P America, Inc.





**Department of
Children & Youth**

Ohio Children's Trust Fund



Stronger Families, Safer Futures: The Role of Evidenced-Based Parenting in Court Decisions

Lisa Golden, LISW-S, Implementation Consultant

Evidence-based parenting programs like the Triple P model can prevent and mitigate behavioral health challenges for children and youth

CONFIDENT,
COMPETENT
PARENTS

=

HAPPIER,
HEALTHIER
KIDS

Making the link





Triple P is a coordinated system of parent training offering multi-level programs of increasing intensity with content for developmental periods of infancy through adolescence

It is based on a public health model of parent education and support and the aim is to:

- Promote children's healthy development
- Prevent children's social, emotional and behavioral problems
- Prevent child maltreatment
- Strengthen parenting at a population level
- Destigmatize seeking information and support

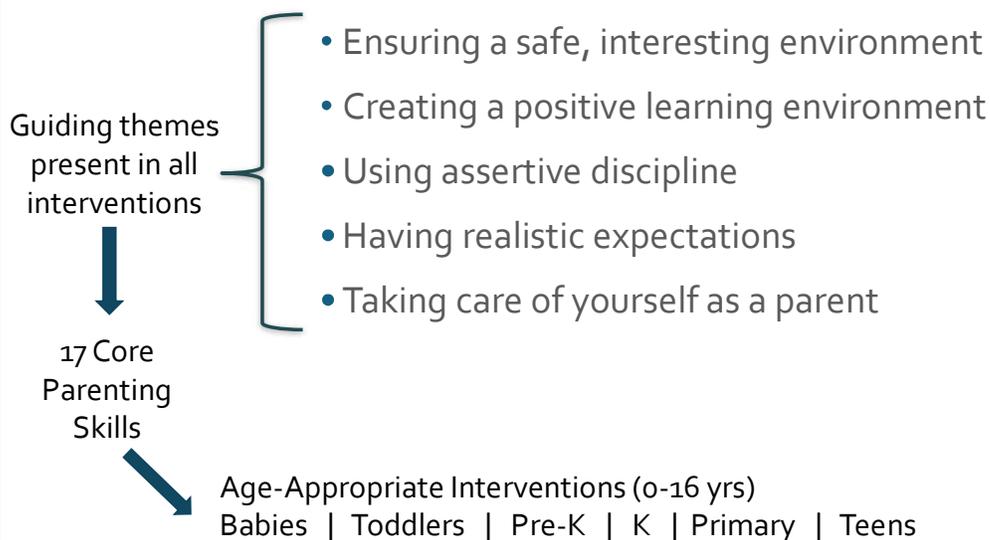
Taking a Universal Approach

"One Team"

Offering parenting support to **all families** can prevent children and youth from needing behavioral health interventions

- Reduces stigma
- Increases access
- Improves engagement
- More specialized/intensive services for those most in need

Principles of Positive Parenting



US Triple P System Population Trial

Triple P implemented at a county level focus on prevention of child/family problems

Compared 9 counties receiving Triple P to 9 control counties (care as usual)

Intervention counties had:

- 16% lower out of home placement (effect size = .87)
- 13% lower hospitalizations/ER visits (effect size = 1.01)
- 33% lower substantiated cases of child maltreatment (effect size = 1.30)

Prinz, R. J., Sanders, M. : R., Shapiro, C. J., Whitaker, D. J., & Lutzker, J. R. (2009). Population--based prevention of child maltreatment: The U.S. Triple P System Population Trial. *Prevention Science, 10(1)*, 1-12..

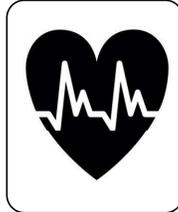
Broad research base



400+
Evaluation
studies



Shown to be
effective
across
diverse
populations



Improves
health and
well being
for parents
and children



Improves
child
behavior



190+
Randomized
Controlled
Trials

Research Findings

The evidence consistently shows impact on:

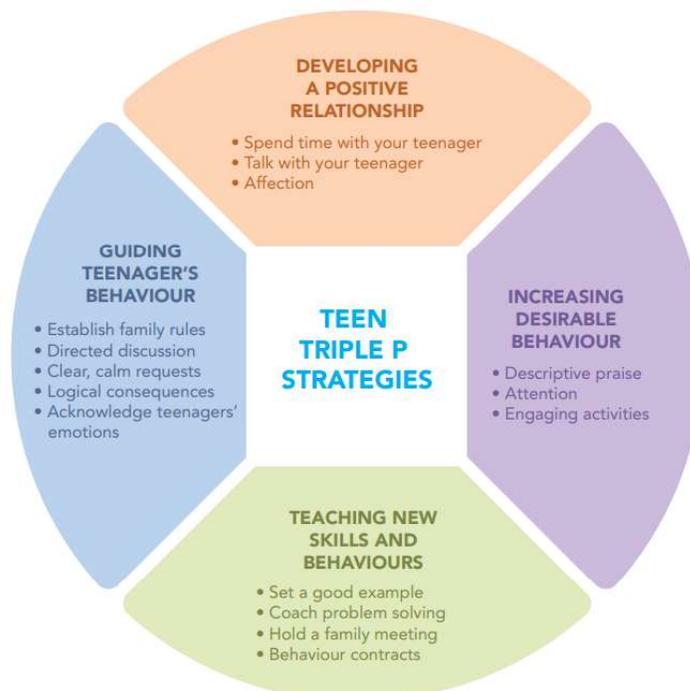
- Increased positive parenting
- Reduced coercive parenting
- Lower social, emotional and behavior problems
- Improved parent-child relations
- Decreased parent stress

<https://pfsc-evidence.psy.uq.edu.au/>

Evidenced Based Registries

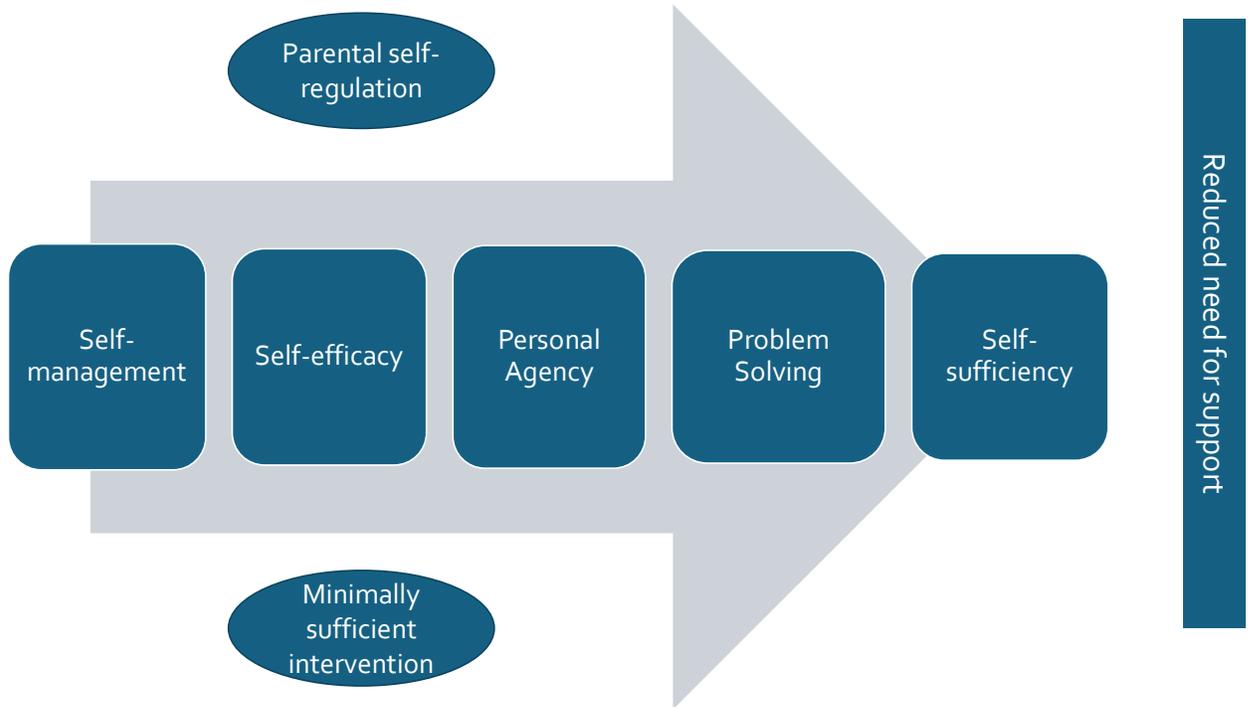
- California Evidence Based Clearing House (child welfare)
<http://www.cebc4cw.org/>
- Prevention Services Clearinghouse (child welfare)
<https://preventionservices.acf.hhs.gov/>
- Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development (youth well-being)
<http://www.blueprintsprograms.com/>
- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
<https://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/>

Triple P – Positive Parenting Program®



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Self Regulatory Framework



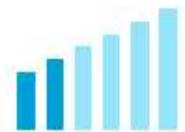
SETTING
(IN-PERSON OR ONLINE)



TIME OF DAY



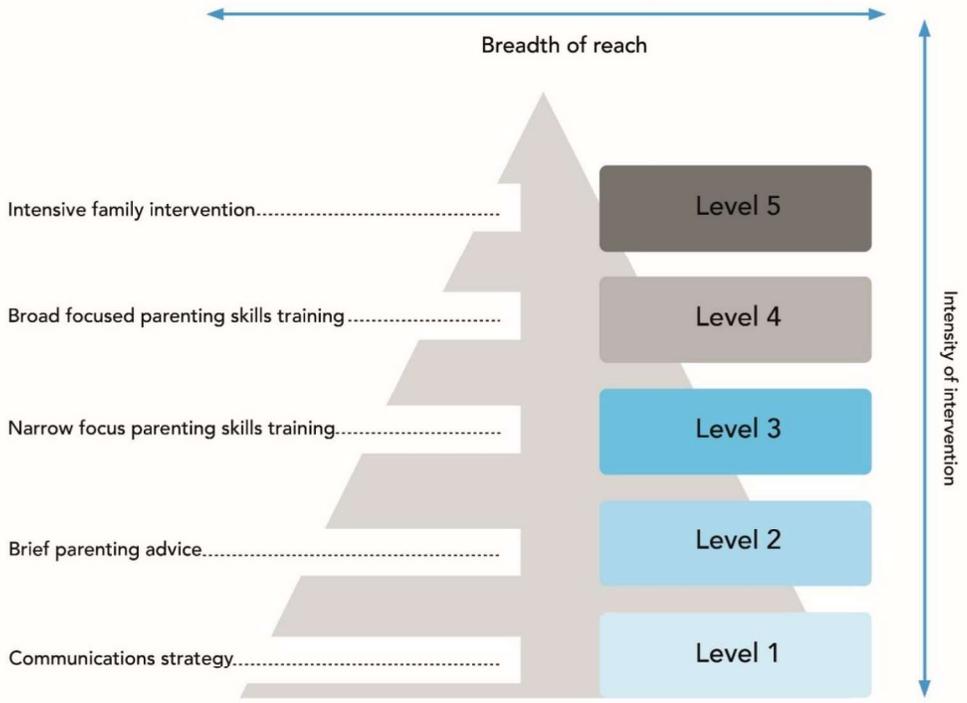
INTERVENTION MODALITY
(E.G. INDIVIDUALLY OR
AS A GROUP)



PROGRAM
INTENSITY

Triple P offers both prevention and intervention scalable across communities making support available for all families at the **right time**, in the **right place**, and with the **right amount**

Not a one-size fits all model



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Coaches in any Community

The Triple P model trains providers across all child and family serving sectors:

Courts, Libraries, Schools, Churches, Pediatric Offices, Community Agencies, Government Agencies, Community Leaders, Peer Supports...

No required educational background

Trusted, respected providers

No wrong doors for families



- Use of strength-based self-regulatory framework
- Parents determine the goals
- Practitioners use examples that are relevant to the family
- A menu of parenting strategies
- Practitioner helps the parent to make informed choices

Key aspects

Triple P in Ohio – Ohio Children’s Trust Fund

Coordinating with partners to scale Triple P in the state

- OCTF has been a long-time supporter of the Triple P model in Ohio for over 10+ years
- Partnership with the Governor’s Children’s Initiative, JFS, DCY for increased funding to expand capacity for the model statewide
- Bringing evidence-based education and support for parents and caregivers of children and adolescents
- Increasing parenting skills and confidence to address common child and adolescent social, emotional and behavioral problems
- Taking a universal approach with primary prevention; opportunities to link to secondary and tertiary prevention

What's Available

Discussion Groups on common topics

Brief 1:1 consults on a wide range of topics by ages and stages

Multi-week groups or 1:1 support for:

- General parenting strategies

- Children with anxiety

- Children with disabilities

- Children on the Autism spectrum

- Parents who struggle with anger and/or unhelpful thoughts

Triple P Online

Key features:

- Program for caregivers of children from birth -12 and tweens/teens
- Video clips of families in action
- Interactive exercises
- Individual goal setting
- Prompting for self-evaluation
- Downloadable worksheets and resources
- Personalized and printable workbook

For those with younger kids

- Module 1: What is Positive Parenting?
- Module 2: Encouraging behavior you like
- Module 3: Teaching new skills
- Module 4: Managing misbehavior
- Module 5: Dealing with disobedience
- Module 6: Planning ahead to prevent problems
- Module 7: Making shopping fun
- Module 8: Raising confident, capable kids

For those with tweens and teens

- Module 1: What is Positive Parenting?
- Module 2: Encouraging appropriate behavior
- Module 3: Teaching new skills
- Module 4: Managing problem behaviors
- Module 5: Planning ahead to prevent risky situations
- Module 6: Raising confident, capable teenagers

Triple P Online Overview

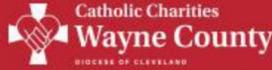
MVP: Wayne County Juvenile Court

Triple P Teen Seminar Series

Primary focus: Truancy Cases

Provider: Catholic Charities of Cleveland

- Virtual delivery since 2021 with court contract
- In person delivery beginning in FY26
- Currently funded by Ohio Children's Trust Fund
- FY25 served 27 families
- 66% mothers



POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM SEMINARS

Support your 13-16-year-old through the teenage years with confidence! This introductory Triple P series gives parents and caregivers practical tools and positive strategies to help guide teens' behavior, strengthen communication, and reduce stress at home.

Learn simple techniques you can start using right away — with the option to continue into more in-depth support after this series. Available both virtually and in person for your convenience.

SEMINAR TOPICS INCLUDE:

RAISING RESPONSIBLE TEENAGERS

- Taking part in family decision-making
- Being respectful and considerate
- Getting involved in family activities
- Developing a healthy lifestyle
- Being reliable
- Being assertive

RAISING COMPETENT TEENAGERS

- Developing self-discipline
- Establishing good routines
- Getting involved in school activities
- Being a good problem solver
- Following school rules
- Having supportive friends

GETTING TEENAGERS CONNECTED



In-Person 2026 Seminar Dates

Raising Responsible Teenagers

February 26th, May 28th, August 27th, November 12th

Raising Competent Teenagers

March 26th, June 25th, September 24th, December 10th

Getting Teenagers Connected

January 22nd, April 23rd, July 23rd, October 22nd

All groups are held at 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm at 215 S. Walnut St. Wooster, OH 44691.

MVP: Hamilton County Juvenile Court

Triple P Online

Primary focus: Custody filings

- Required for all custody cases in Sept 2024
- Both parties to demonstrate completion during pre-trial phase
- Magistrates typically ask parents to share learnings
- Currently working on data collection process



Refer



Host



Advocate



Train and
deliver



Support



Connect

Ways to be involved

Thank you!

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