



# ANNUAL REPORT 2018–2019

## LOUISIANA CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND

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Submitted By:  
Social Research and Evaluation Center (SREC)  
College of Human Science and Education (HSE)  
Louisiana State University (LSU)

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# LSU

Social Research &  
Evaluation Center

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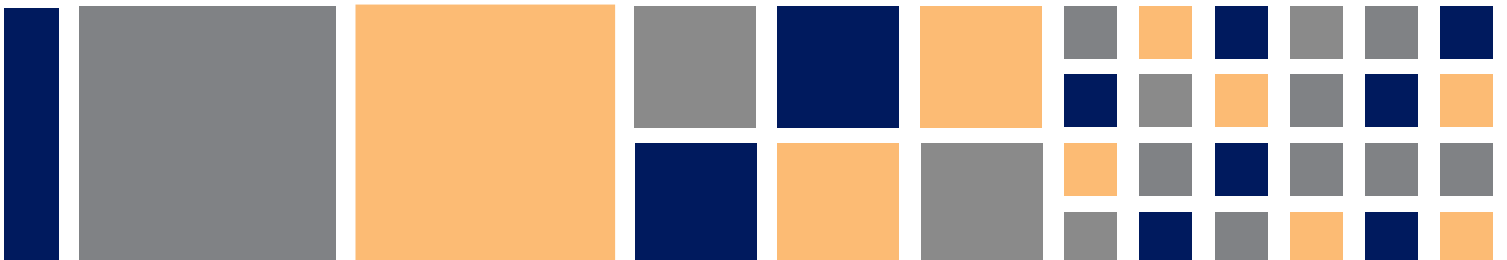
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*The LSU Social Research & Evaluation Center is a unit within the College of Human Sciences and Education that fosters healthy social systems by facilitating the development, implementation and evaluation of social programs; conducting research, and providing consultation and expertise to higher education institutions, communities, policy makers, and partners.*

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# MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KATINA M. SEMIEN



## **"A Brighter Tomorrow for Louisiana's Children"**



Dear Community Partners:

The needs of families are as unique as the challenges they face. Each day, the safety and well-being of some of Louisiana's children are threatened by child abuse and neglect. Intervening effectively in the lives of these children and their families is not the sole responsibility of any single agency or professional group, but rather it is a shared community concern. The Louisiana Children's Trust Fund is proud to be part of the shared community of leaders throughout the State who have made it their mission to work towards the eradication of abuse and neglect and to further collaborate and activate stakeholders statewide for this effort.

One of those collaborations include a partnership with the Louisiana State University Social Research and Evaluation Center (SREC). This alliance has been a vital part of the efforts of the Louisiana Children's Trust Fund. Through the research and evaluation data provided by SREC, we are able to adequately identify and access best practices utilized by agencies and organizations that receive direct funding in addition to identifying unmet needs in various regions within the State.

It is through these vital relationships that we are able to fulfill our purpose to support community based efforts to develop, operate, expand, enhance and coordinate initiatives and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect, to support the coordination of resources and activities to better strengthen and support families and to foster understanding, appreciation and knowledge of diverse populations in order to effectively prevent and treat child abuse and neglect. Simply stated, it is our goal to protect Louisiana's most important asset.... our children.

Sincerely,

Katina M. Semien. Esq.  
Executive Director  
Louisiana Children's Trust Fund

# MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR FRANCESCA L. HAMILTON-ACKER



**The work provided by the Louisiana Children's Trust Fund grantees is instrumental in helping to prevent child abuse and neglect**



"LCTF partnerships with its grantees and community partners are instrumental in making up the whole equation to help prevent child abuse and neglect."

Dear LCTF Grantees and Community Partners:

The Louisiana Children's Trust Fund continues to contribute significantly to help prevent child abuse and neglect in the state of Louisiana and continues to fulfill its most important objective in aiding in the prevention of abuse and neglect. The success of the Louisiana Children's Trust Fund is largely due to the important partnerships that it has with its grantees who deliver services. The financial support that the trust fund provides to its grantees and community partners increases prevention efforts by protecting children, strengthening family well-being, and educating the public about children's safety.

The Louisiana Children's Trust Fund is proud of and grateful for the partnerships that it has with its grantees and community partners.

The evaluation process gives grantees an opportunity to provide information about their programs and overall outcomes. We appreciate the hard work of each grantee as provide services in their parishes and regions. This evaluation helps us to identify methods that work and areas of improvement.

We thank our grantees for their participation in this evaluation process and in keeping with the mission of protecting the children of Louisiana. As board chair, it is my honor to serve our community as we work to protect our children, impact families, and educate the public about our children's safety, I am,

Sincerely,

Franchesca L. Hamilton-Acker  
Board Chair  
Louisiana Children's Trust Fund

# LCTF STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Franchesca Hamilton-Acker, Board Chair**  
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**Carnell Washington, Vice Board Chair**  
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**Honorable Marie B. "M'Elise" Trahan**  
Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family  
Court Judges

**April Wehrs**  
Louisiana Association of Chamber of  
Commerce Executive



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Louisiana Children's Trust Fund (LCTF) most important objective is to aid in the prevention of abuse and neglect in Louisiana. To support this objective, LCTF provides financial support to a variety of prevention efforts to protect children, strengthen family well-being, and educate the public about children's safety.

LCTF makes annual grant awards to aid in the prevention of child abuse and neglect in the state. Grant awards fund programs and conferences which are implemented in five LCTF-identified areas of intervention, namely, 1) Teaching children personal safety and life skills; 2) Education and support services for parents; 3) Hospital and/or home visitation and support services to families; 4) Public awareness and education programs for adult; and 5) Training and education of teachers, professionals, and volunteers. The findings and recommendations are summarized below.

## **The annual review assessed the grantee's project descriptions, implemetation, and evaluations to ensure accountability.**

- ❖ The Louisiana Children's Trust Fund (LCTF) awarded 46 grants in 2018-2019 to 37 agencies. These grants included 37 programs and nine conferences.
- ❖ Many of the grants (n=36) identified specific regions to serve in the state and ten grants were available state-wide.
- ❖ The total amount awarded was \$783,000. After a grantee closed at mid-year, the 45 remaining grantees reported \$758,768 in grant awards. The grant awards ranged from \$4,760 to \$47,300. The median award was \$15,000. A balance of \$61,016 was reported unspent at the end of the year.
- ❖ Grantees selected funding areas covered by their program or conference. The most commonly reported funding area was Teaching Children Personal Safety and Life Skills, which was reported by 22 grantees (48%).
- ❖ The majority of grantees (58%) reported supplementary support for their program or conference in addition to the financial award from LCTF. Many projects received funding in multiple areas such as monetary, in-kind, or volunteer support.
- ❖ The protective factors most frequently addressed by programs and conferences were Children's Social and Emotional Competence (78%), followed by Social Connection (64%), Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development (58%), and Nurturing and Attachment (58%).
- ❖ Almost 2,750 people were served through conferences and over 760,000 individuals were reached through programs. Six programs specifically served individuals with disabilities, 113 children and 62 adults.
- ❖ The majority of the grantees, 32 out of 45 (71%), reported that an evaluation of their project was conducted to assess its effectiveness. An evaluation design with data collected during program implementation (n=36) was most often reported.
- ❖ Grantees experienced barriers to implementation. The most commonly reported barriers reported concerned recruitment, implementation and retention issues (n=16, 36%).

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*Based on these findings, the following are recommended:*

1

**UNDERSTANDING EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS**

by increasing knowledge of evidence-based interventions and designation levels provided by FRIENDS National Center for Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP). The end of year survey responses showed that many grantees were not knowledgeable about their evidence-based intervention and its designation level. We also suggest that LCTF provide agencies with technical support through its university partner. The university partner could offer information on nationally known evidence-based registries, and provide consultation to agencies who need assistance with selecting appropriate evidence-based interventions.

2

**UNDERSTAND THE LINK BETWEEN PROTECTIVE FACTORS AND EVALUATIONS**

as described in the “Strengthening Families” model. Focusing on these strategies is effective in reducing maladaptive behaviors that contribute to child abuse and neglect. As LCTF continues to focus on accountability and to improve overall outcomes, it will become more critical for agencies to establish links between protective factors and evaluation designs. This report recommends that agencies improve evaluation efforts by implementing plans that aim to address child abuse plan’s goals and objectives.

3

**COLLECT DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

consistently and accurately. There is a need for agencies to improve their capacity to collect demographic information. A large portion of demographic data was not reported among agencies, specifically parents/caregivers, adults, and professionals/volunteers. Collecting basic demographic information will allow LCTF to examine the extent to which programs are reaching their intended population and filling gaps in a particular parish or region. Intake forms could be modified to collect this information.



# INTRODUCTION

The safety and wellbeing of our children remains a pressing concern across the United States and is particularly imperative for the state of Louisiana. The 2015-2017 Louisiana mortality rate for children ages one through fourteen, was 26.4 deaths per 100,000 children. Louisiana has the fourth-highest rate of child mortality for ages one through fourteen. According to the Child Death

Review Report from 2015-2017, 2,145 children died, and 719 of those deaths were due to injury, which represents a yearly average of 715 infant and child deaths. During this time, Louisiana ranked in the top ten states with the highest mortality rates for infants and children in almost all age groups. (Bureau of Family Health, 2019).

Child abuse and neglect is a leading factor in the staggeringly high rates of child mortality in Louisiana. In 2017, Louisiana had 44,793 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 19,851 reports were referred for investigation. In 2017, there were 10,356 victims of abuse or neglect in Louisiana, a rate of 9.3 per 1,000 children, a decrease of 8.3% from 2016. Of these children, 85.9% were neglected, 15.2% physically abused, and 5.2% sexually abused. The number of child victims has decreased by 8.3% in comparison to the number of victims in 2016. (U.S. DHHS, 2019).

Child abuse and neglect can have multiple detrimental effects on a child's physical, psychological, and behavioral health. Effective prevention efforts are critical to ensuring the immediate and long-term safety and well-being of children in Louisiana. Each year, the Louisiana Children's Trust Fund (LCTF) selects high-quality proposals and funds a range of prevention efforts to protect children, strengthen family well-being, and educate the public about children's safety.

## History and Background of Louisiana Children's Trust Fund

The Louisiana Children's Trust Fund (LCTF) is a quasi-governmental organization, under the Louisiana Children's Cabinet within the Governor's Office. In 1983, the Louisiana legislature established LCTF to fund agencies addressing child abuse throughout the state. In operation for 35 years, LCTF is one of

the longest established Children's Trust Funds in the nation. A Governor-appointed Board of Directors oversees LCTF, and an Executive Director manages it. LCTF Board oversees the Louisiana State Plan for Child Abuse and Neglect, which proposes strategies for tackling child abuse and neglect through funding for prevention efforts.

The primary source of LCTF funding is a Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) grant awarded by the U.S. Children's Bureau Administration for Children and Families (ACF) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (U.S. DHHS, 2017). Duplicate birth certificate fees provide additional public funding.

## The Mission of the Louisiana Children's Trust Fund is:

**"To prevent child abuse and neglect among Louisiana's children and families through building strong cross-sector partnerships and through increased child safety public awareness."**  
(LCTF, 2019)

The purpose of the Louisiana Children's Trust Fund (LCTF) is three-fold:

1. To support community-based efforts to develop, operate, expand, enhance, and coordinate initiatives, programs, and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect;
2. To support the coordination of resources and activities to strengthen and support families to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect;
3. To foster understanding, appreciation, and knowledge of diverse populations to effectively prevent and treat child abuse and neglect.

## LCTF Grant Awards and Grant Reviews

LCTF oversees a grant recruitment and award process. A review of funded programs is conducted annually by LCTF to assess program planning, implementation, and evaluation. Through the annual review, LCTF aims to ensure the accountability and efficiency of its grants. The yearly review involves analyses of grantee reports collected at two points: mid-term and end of the year.

LCTF has dedicated funding and support to provide children and families with a wide range of resources, including direct social services, conferences, training, and public campaign events. LCTF awards grants across five funding or program areas: 1) teaching children personal safety and life skills; 2) education and support services for parents; 3) hospital and/or home visitation and support services for families; 4) public awareness and education programs for adults; and 5) training and education for teachers, professionals, and volunteers.

## Protective Factors

All programs funded by LCTF are expected to address protective factors as described in the Strengthening Families' model. Focusing on these strategies is effective in reducing maladaptive behaviors that contribute to child abuse and neglect. Protective factors are evidence-based characteristics demonstrated by families as described below:

- ❖ **SOCIAL CONNECTIONS** – Having positive relationships with friends, neighbors, and other community members that provide assistance and support.
- ❖ **CONCRETE SUPPORTS IN TIMES OF NEED** – Meeting the basic needs of the family and having access to community resources that provide those needs.
- ❖ **KNOWLEDGE OF PARENTING AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT** – Obtaining proper knowledge related to child development in the social, emotional, and physical domains.
- ❖ **CHILDREN'S SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE** – Teaching children to socialize with others and adequately regulate emotions through modeling positive behavior.
- ❖ **NURTURING AND ATTACHMENT** – Providing children with a loving and caring environment can help them grow and develop healthy self-esteem and confidence in themselves.
- ❖ **PARENTAL RESILIENCE** – Coping with adverse life events or activities in an appropriate, effective manner.

# APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

LSU-SREC employed a collaborative, utilization-focused approach. The goal of this report is to provide LCTF with useful information to

demonstrate accountability and review project activities. There are six main evaluation questions addressed in this report.

The current report is a review based on the 2018-2019 grant period. The Louisiana State University's Social Research and Evaluation Center (LSU-SREC) conducted a data analysis provided by LCTF and grantees' end of year reports. This report includes information about the grantee's project implementation, outcomes, and a description of individuals served.

## Evaluation Questions

1. Who are the 2018-2019 LCTF grantees? What are their programs, conferences, and grant activities?
2. How much funding do grantees receive from LCTF? What other, non-LCTF sources of funding do grantees receive?
3. What is the geographical distribution of LCTF grants?
4. Who are the LCTF grants serving?
5. How are grantees assessing the effectiveness of their programs?
6. What are the impacts of programs as reported by LCTF grantees?

## Data Analysis

LSU-SREC analyzed the 2018-2019 grant awards data provided by LCTF and end of year data provided by grantees. LSU-SREC collected grant information, funding, geographical information, participant information, grant implementation, and outcome effectiveness data in June 2019 through a web-based data reporting system. All grantees completed an end-of-year survey, a 100% response rate (n=45). Multiple methods were used to analyze data, including statistical analysis of quantitative data (i.e., descriptive statistics), and thematic coding and content analysis of qualitative data.

An important note: one grantee, Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana (PCAL), closed operations mid-year, and all grant activities ceased; therefore, end of year data was not submitted. This report will describe the findings of the 45 grantees that completed the year and submitted end-of-year surveys.

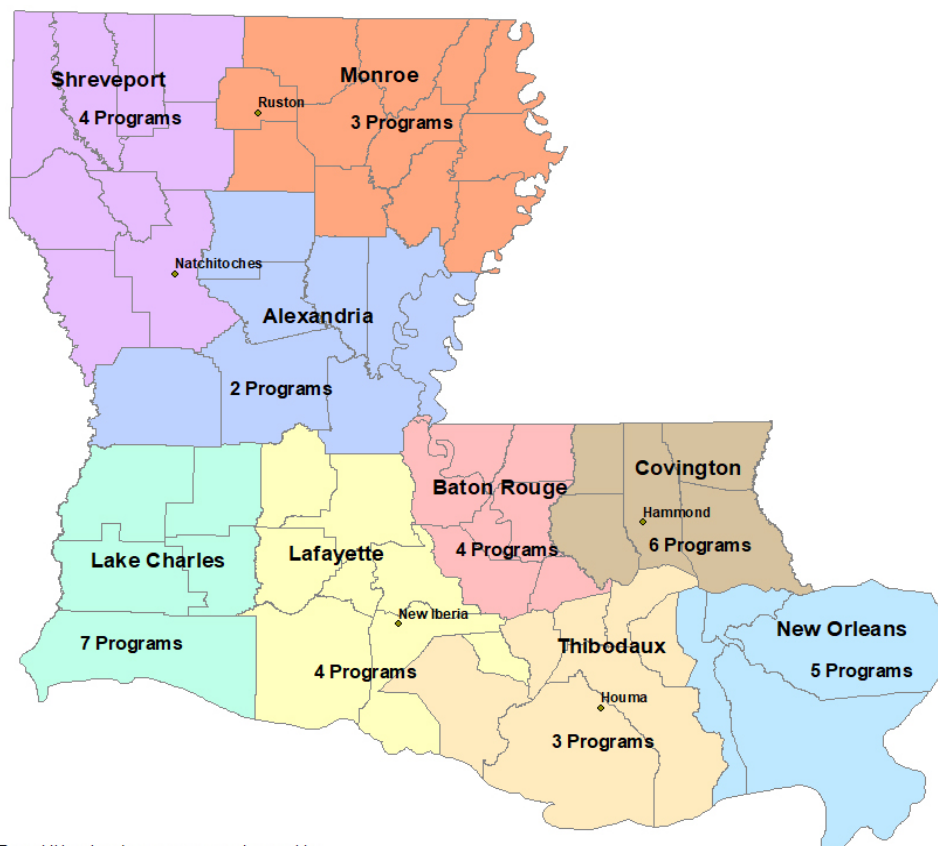
A Data User Guide and a Training Webinar/Video were developed and provided to grantees to assist in their data entry and the submission of the requested data.

# DESCRIPTION OF LCTF GRANTS

LCTF awarded 46 grants for the 2018-2019 funding year, with 45 completing the year. The 45 grants surveyed included 36 programs and nine conferences from 36 agencies. Programs generally deliver a specified curriculum. Conferences are usually general events that occur over a short duration, which may include training or meetings offered to a particular group. Of the 45 grantees, 18 grantees served specific populations of interest, such as children or adults with disabilities and others (Table 12 presents a full list). Appendix A has a complete list of grant recipients.

## Geographical Reach of Funded Projects

The review of projects showed that LCTF funded programs across all nine regions of the state. About 22% or ten grants had state-wide reach. The remaining 36 (78%) grants served specific areas of the State. The map in Figure 1 illustrates the number of funded projects per region or multiple regions in some cases where children and families were served. Projects that serve children and families in more than one region are counted in each region served.



1. Ten additional projects are operated statewide

2. Projects serving children and families in more than one region are counted in each region served

LSU SREC 2019

Figure 1. Number of grants funded by the region served

## Program Areas

Each grantee may choose funding areas to categorize their program or conference. Table 1 lists the number of grants by funding category. Grantees may select more than one funding category.

FUNDING AREAS	NUMBER OF GRANTS
Teaching children personal safety and life skills	22
Education and support services to families	18
Hospital and/or visitation and support services to families	1
Public awareness and education program for adults	9
Training and education of professionals and volunteers	15

Table 1. Number of grants by funding category

## Grant Awards and Expenditures

The total amount of money awarded was \$783,000 among 46 grants. After a grantee closed at mid-year, the 45 remaining grantees reported \$758,768 in grant awards. The largest grant award was \$47,300, the smallest grant award was \$4,760, and the median grant award was \$15,000. Figure 2 presents the distribution of grant awards by the agency.

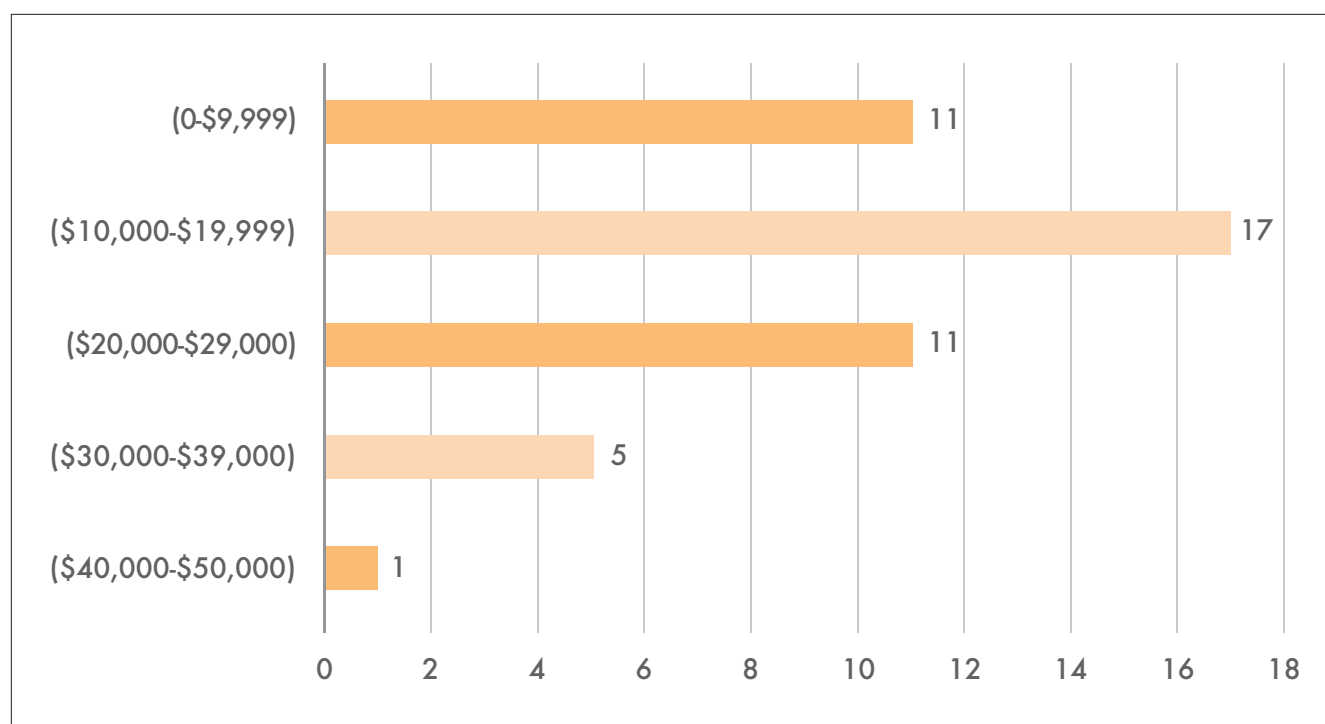


Figure 2. Distribution of LCTF Grants by Agency

Of the \$758,768 awarded, \$697,752 was expended, leaving a balance of \$61,016. Of the 45 grantees, 31 grantees spent all of their grant awards, and 14 grantees reported money unspent at the end of the year (see table 2).

TOTAL GRANT AWARDED	TOTAL GRANT EXPENDED	DIFFERENCE
\$758,768*	\$697,752	\$61,016

\*Numbers reflect 2018-2019 LCTF grant award for 45 grantees after one grantee closed mid-year.

Table 2. Summary of Expended Funding

## Funding Distribution by Region

LCTF determines grant distributions by the number of confirmed child abuse and neglect cases reported to the Department of Children and Families Services (DCFS) in each region. When possible, LCTF matches funding to areas of the state with the most need, as demonstrated by the number of DCFS claims (see table 3).

REGIONS	AMOUNT OF TOTAL LCTF FUNDING AWARDED	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDING
Region1 - New Orleans	\$87,843.00	12%
Region2 - Baton Rouge	\$54,401.68	7%
Region3 - Covington	\$103,360.57	14%
Region4 - Thibodaux	\$45,000.00	6%
Region5 - Lafayette	\$58,100.00	8%
Region6 - Lake Charles	\$67,571.33	9%
Region7 - Alexandria	\$18,333.33	2%
Region8 - Shreveport	\$73,333.33	10%
Region9 - Monroe	\$58,520.00	8%
Statewide Projects	\$192,305.00	25%

Note: If a grantee served more than one region, the funding amount was divided by regions served.

Table 3. Percentage of LCTF Funding by Each Region

## Additional Sources of Support

In addition to LCTF funding, the majority of the grantees (n=36 or 80%) reported other support for their program or conference that included monetary, in-kind, and volunteer support.

NON-LCTF SUPPORT	NUMBER OF GRANTS
Monetary	26
In-Kind	26

Table 4. Distribution of non-LCTF support

As presented in table 4, twenty-six (58%) grantees reported additional monetary funding from sources other than LCTF. Grantees received financial support from sources such as private foundations, community/charitable organizations, health care, universities, government agencies, and private donations. The sum of additional funding was \$5,249,167, with a minimum donation of \$136 and a maximum of \$1,900,000. The median reported monetary support reported was \$23,875.

Over half of the grantees received volunteer support, with over 4,000 volunteers reported (n=26 or 58%). Grantees also benefited from in-kind support (n=26 or 58%). Grants received in-kind support in different forms such as:

- Media and promotional support (e.g., A/V equipment, speakers, printing, photography)
- Office/program space and other resources
- Legal consultation
- Baby supplies, diapers, toys
- Food
- Swimming lessons
- Clothing
- Furniture
- Transportation
- Bedding



# Grant Characteristics

## Protective Factors

An essential element of an LCTF grant is the ability to address and strengthen protective factors as described in the Strengthening Families’ model. Grantees may address multiple protective factors concurrently. The most frequently addressed protective factor was Children’s Social and Emotional Competence (n=35 or 78%), followed by Social Connection (n=29 or 64%), Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development (n=26 or 58%) and Nurturing and Attachment (n=26 or 58%). Figure 3 shows the number of grants that addressed each protective factor.

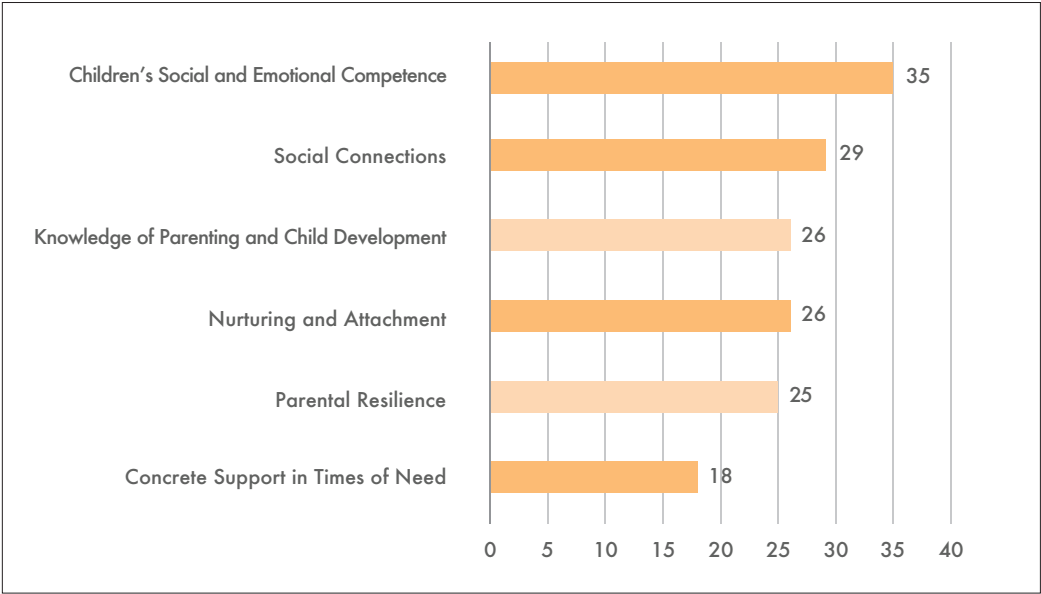


Figure 3. Number of Grants by Protective Factor Addressed

## Evidence-based Interventions

LCTF encourages grantees to adopt evidence-based interventions that have established outcomes appropriate to the grantee’s participants. Each program, not conferences, are asked to identify intervention(s) used and the level of evidence associated with it. A total of 27 programs reported a total of 40 evidence-based interventions used over the year, and nine programs did not report any evidence-based interventions (see table 5).

LEVEL OF EVIDENCE	NUMBER OF INTERVENTIONS
Well-supported Practice	25
Supported Practice	4
Promising Program	7
Emerging Practice	3
No level of evidence provided	1

Table 5. Distribution of Level of Evidence-Based Interventions

## Training in Interventions

Appropriately training the staff on the selected evidence-based intervention is an essential element of implementation. Proper training can prepare the team to deliver the intervention with fidelity. Among the 35 programs, the majority of programs (n=33 or 94%) trained staff before the implementation of the model. Only two programs indicated there was no training before implementation (see table 6).

	NUMBER OF PROGRAMS	% OF PROGRAMS
Yes	33	94%
No	2	6%

Table 6. Percentage of Programs Providing Training

Additional training can help reinforce the central elements of the model. The majority of programs (n=21 of the 35 programs or 60%) reported that additional training was held during the delivery of the services to support program fidelity. All programs responded.

## Activities and Services

LCTF programs (n=36) were asked to select one or more categories that described their program. The majority of the programs reported providing direct services (n=27 or 77%). Table 7 shows the distribution of programs by type of programming.

TYPE OF PROGRAM	COUNT
Direct Services	27
Public Awareness	11
Workshop	3
Other	2

Table 7. Percentage of Programs Providing Training

Programs (n=36) were asked to describe the types of activities and services provided. The most common activities or services were Outreach Events (n=17 or 47%), Teaching Children Life Skills (n=16 or 44%), Education Class/Training for Professionals/Volunteers (n=16 or 44%), and Parenting Workshop (n=15 or 42%). Figure 4 shows the full list of program services and activities.

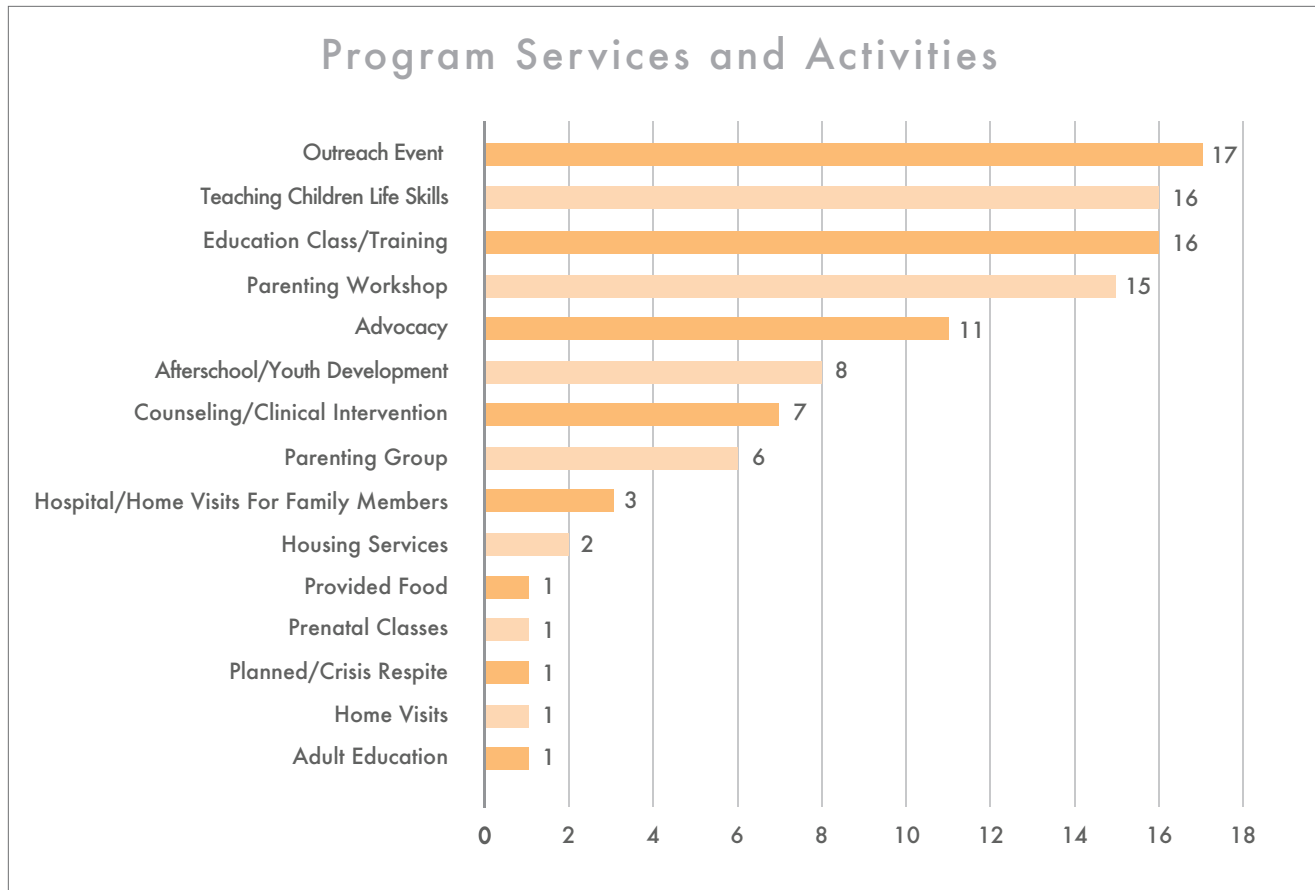


Figure 4. Number of Program Services and Activities

## Public Awareness Activities

The majority of the grantees (39 out of 45 grantees or 87%) reported promoting child abuse and neglect prevention or other public awareness activities during the year. Grantees utilized many different methods to advocate for child abuse prevention. These methods have been grouped into categories and presented in Table 8.

METHOD	EXAMPLES
Distribution of Materials, Handouts (n=26)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flyers</li> <li>Brochures</li> <li>Handouts</li> <li>Mass e-mails/mailings</li> </ul>
Outreach (n=25)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programs/workshops</li> <li>Speaking engagements</li> </ul>
Social Media/Web Presence (n=24)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Twitter</li> <li>Facebook</li> <li>Instagram</li> <li>Websites</li> </ul>
Public Awareness Activities/PR Campaign (n=23)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blue Pinwheels</li> <li>Blue Ribbons</li> <li>Participated in Public Awareness Campaigns</li> </ul>
Legislative Activities (n=16)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Day at the Capitol</li> <li>Legislative advocacy</li> </ul>
Special Events (n=14)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Galas</li> <li>Events</li> <li>Fairs</li> <li>Tournaments</li> </ul>
Radio and TV (n=5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Radio and TV appearances</li> <li>Articles in a newspaper or local magazines</li> </ul>
Meetings with interested parties (n=2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community members</li> <li>Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services</li> </ul>

Table 8. Types of Public Awareness Activities

## Conference

A total of nine conferences were reported. The majority (n=8 or 89%) described their grant as a Conference, two as a Workshop/Seminar, and a Public Awareness Campaign (22%) and 1 (11%) as a Professional Training. Conferences had over 2,700 attendees. Table 9 presents the results.

TYPE OF CONFERENCE	COUNT
Conference	8
Public Awareness Campaign	2
Workshop/Seminar	2
Professional Training	1

Table 9. Types of Conferences

# DEMOGRAPHICS

Characteristics of program participants are reported below.

## Individuals Served

Grantees reported the number of individuals, children, adults, families, and professionals/volunteers served based on the funding category. Over 50% of demographics for children in Funding Category 1 and Funding Category 3 are known and reported in Table 10. More than 99% of adults, parents, and professionals/volunteers demographics were not reported; therefore, LSU – SREC had to exclude that information from this report.

	FUNDING CATEGORY 1  TEACHING CHILDREN PERSONAL SAFETY AND LIFE SKILLS	FUNDING CATEGORY 2  EDUCATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR PARENTS	FUNDING CATEGORY 3  HOSPITAL AND/OR VISITATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES TO FAMILIES	FUNDING CATEGORY 4  PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR ADULTS	FUNDING CATEGORY 5  TRAINING AND EDUCATION OF PROFESSIONALS AND VOLUNTEERS
Children	16,410		3		
Parent/Caregivers		4,115	4		
Families			3		
Adults				741,454	
Professionals/ Volunteers					5,752
Families who received direct services	7,433				

Table 10. Total Number Served by Funding Category

## Children Served

Funding Category 1: Teaching children personal safety and skills and Funding Category 3: Hospital and/or visitation and support services to families provided the number of children served in survey responses. Table 11 below presents the demographic information of children served.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF CHILDREN	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
<b>Gender</b>		
Female	4,369	27%
Male	5,059	31%
Unknown	6,985	43%
<b>Race</b>		
Asian	162	1%
African American	4,314	26%
Hispanic	340	2%
Native American/Alaskan/Native	30	0%
White/Caucasian	4,187	26%
Multi-racial	152	1%
Other	65	0%
Unknown	7,163	44%
<b>Age</b>		
Birth - 5 years old	187	1%
6 - 11 years old	5,367	33%
12 - 17 years old	4,623	28%
Unknown Child Age	6,236	38%

Table 11. Number of Children Served by Demographics

LCTF funders, specifically CBCAP, are very interested in historically underserved populations. Grantees reported the number of individuals served in each of these specific populations. The results are presented in Table 12.

Number of children with disabilities served	113
Number of adults with disabilities served	62
Number of individuals of racial or ethnic minorities served	5,956
Number of homeless youths, families, and those at risk of homelessness	585
Number of adult former victims of child abuse and neglect or domestic violence	286
Number of fathers served	112
Number non-native English speakers served	3
<b>Other populations served:</b>	
Grandparents	2,800
Foster and adoptive parents	20
Low-income children	100
Children affected by abuse	20

Table 12. Specific Populations Served



# EVALUATION FINDINGS

The majority of the grantees reported an evaluation of their program or conference (n=32 or 71%) in the end-of-year survey; however, at mid-year, all grantees described either an evaluation in

progress or planned. After reporting a planned or in progress evaluation at mid-year, 29% of grantees reported no evaluation program or conference at end-of-year. Table 13 presents these results.

GRANTS EVALUATED	NUMBER OF GRANTS	PERCENT OF GRANTS
No	13	29%
Yes	32	71%

Table 13. Percentage of Grantees Conducting an Evaluation

## Types of Data Gathered and Data Methods

Grantees were asked the type of data gathered and methods used to determine the outcome of their performance measures. Thirty-two grants reported an evaluation, types of data collected, and data methods used. The majority of grantees used surveys, questionnaires, scales, and assessments, both developed in-house and empirically validated. Figure 5 shows the number of data methods used for evaluations, and Figure 6 presents the type of data gathered for evaluation.

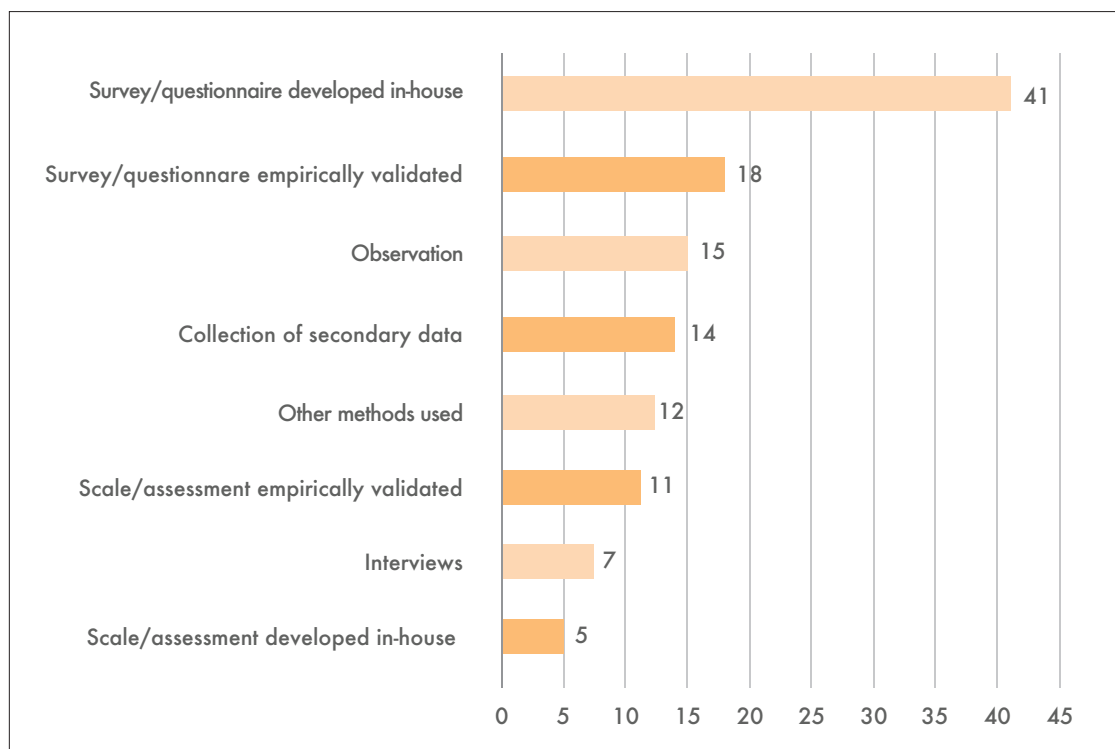


Figure 5. Number of Data Methods Used for Evaluations

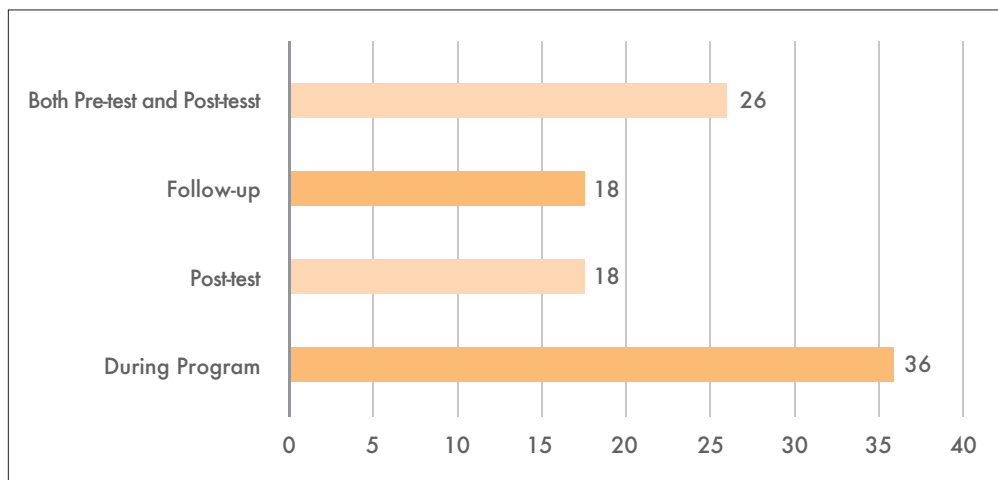


Figure 6. Types of Evaluation Designs

## Summary Evaluation Findings

LSU-SREC reviewed each grantee report for clarity and alignment of outcomes, performance measures, and evaluation methods. Specifically, researchers determined whether program activities were appropriately linked to desired outcomes and activities designed to address child abuse and neglect. The analysis revealed four types of results: 1) grantees clearly articulated goals and evaluation methods; 2) grantees reported evaluation information but did not appropriately link goals to desired outcomes; 3) grantees did not report enough information to make a determination; and 4) grantees did not report any evaluation activities.

Table 14 presents the results of the evaluation review.

EVALUATION RESULTS	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
1) Grantees clearly articulated goals, grant activities and evaluation methods linked to desired outcomes	24	53%
2) Grantees reported evaluation information but did not appropriately link goals to desired outcomes	2	4%
3) Grantee did not report enough information to make a determination	6	13%
4) Grantee did not report ANY evaluation activities	13	29%

Table 14. Evaluation Findings

## Grant Modifications

Four of the thirty-five programs (9%) reported modifications to program interventions. Changes differed by program. Some programs stated that adjustments were necessary because of external circumstances, such as partner commitments or significant weather events. Several programs cited the need to update the material in their intervention to better meet the needs of their participants. Programs updated the curriculum with supplements on predator, cyberbullying, and gun safety awareness.

Adjustments among conferences were also common. A majority of conferences reported some modification(s) [n=4 or 67%]. Some conferences made minor adjustments to the agenda or added new activities, while other conferences experienced additional issues. For example, speakers, workshops, and locations were canceled, leaving grantees searching for new speakers and conference time unfilled.

## Barriers Encountered

Grantees described obstacles encountered during the implementation of the programs or conferences as well as steps that were taken to resolve these problems. Over half of the grantees (n=26 or 58%) reported one or more barriers. Many of the efforts to address the obstacles were similar across projects (see table 15).

BARRIERS	EFFORTS TO RESOLVE
<b>Recruitment, Implementation and Retention Issues (n=16)</b> (Examples: lack of participants, volunteers, not enough time to implement model, family/participant instability [moving], or transportation issues)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community outreach</li> <li>Worked on childcare and transportation issues</li> <li>The material was condensed because of class time restrictions</li> <li>Participant incentives offered</li> <li>Recruitment campaigns – social media, postcards, phone calls, worked with partners on recruitment efforts</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation or Data Collection Issues (n=11)</b> (Example: problems collecting evaluation data)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Worked with school counselors to receive better reports of school improvement</li> <li>Utilized volunteer support for assistance with data collection, data entry, and evaluation</li> <li>Used reminders for surveys</li> </ul>
<b>Needs of the Family (n=5)</b> (Examples: participants and their families needed more support than was anticipated for things like food, clothes, and other services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appealed to the community for support</li> <li>Encouraged participants to access available services</li> </ul>
<b>Coordination Issues (n=2)</b> (Example: lack of support from partners)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learned to navigate partners administrative processes</li> </ul>

Table 15. Barriers to Implementation

# CONCLUSIONS

LCTF awarded 46 grant awards in 2018-2019. One agency closed mid-year leaving 45 projects at the end of the year. All 45 projects completed the end of year data collection survey. The grant recipients included 37 programs, nine conferences from 37 agencies across the state. LCTF awarded \$783,000 to address child abuse and neglect in the state of Louisiana.

A balance of \$61,016 (8%) had not been expended by projects, as reported in the end of year survey. Thirty-two projects received support from other sources than LCTF which included monetary support, in-kind support, and volunteer support. Grantees received a total of \$5,249,167 in other monetary support from sources like grants, foundations, and government agencies.

At the end of the year, over 760,000 individuals and about 7,430 families were served. Two programs served 175 individuals with disabilities -- 62 adults and 113 children. Demographic information was collected for over 50% of children served. Unfortunately, demographic information was not collected for over 99% of adults served. The collection of demographic information continues to be a challenge for many grantees.

The majority of the grantees (n=32, 71%) evaluated their projects. The majority of the projects used either in-house (n=41) or a validated survey measure (n=18). Data was collected most commonly during the program (n=36).

Grantees experienced several issues related to program implementation. The most frequently reported barriers were in the areas of recruitment, implementation, and retention (n=16). Grantees reported a lack of participants and inconsistent attendance. Frequent mobility and a lack of understanding the program's purpose were contributing factors. Lack of transportation was also reported. Grantees documented their attempts to resolve these barriers. Some of the solutions to the recruitment, implementation, and recruitment issues were as follows:

- ❖ Provided childcare and transportation
- ❖ Condensed program materials due to class time restrictions
- ❖ Offered participants incentives
- ❖ Initiated recruitment campaigns with community partners through social media, postcards, phone calls, and worked with partners on recruitment efforts

Overall, grantees demonstrated resilience to continue their projects even when faced with tough obstacles such as those described in the end of year survey.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

## 1. UNDERSTANDING EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS

LCTF requires agencies to implement evidence-based child abuse and neglect interventions. The data analysis findings recommend that agencies increase their knowledge of evidence-based interventions and designation levels provided by FRIENDS National Center for Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP). The end of year survey responses showed that many grantees were not knowledgeable about their evidence-based intervention and its designation level. We also suggest that LCTF provide agencies with technical support through its university partner. The university partner could offer information on nationally known evidence-based registries, and provide consultation to agencies who need assistance with selecting appropriate evidence-based interventions.

## 2. UNDERSTANDING OF LINKING PROTECTIVE FACTORS AND EVALUATIONS

All agencies funded by LCTF are expected to address protective factors as described in the “Strengthening Families” model. Focusing on these strategies is effective in reducing maladaptive behaviors that contribute to child abuse and neglect. As LCTF continues to focus on accountability and to improve overall outcomes, it will become more critical for agencies to establish links between protective factors and evaluation designs. The report recommends that agencies improve evaluation efforts by implementing plans that 1) aim to address child abuse protective factors and 2) include performance measures and outcomes appropriate for the plan’s goals and objectives.

## 3. COLLECTION OF DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

As in years past, this report findings show a need for agencies to improve their capacity to collect demographic information. A large portion of demographic data was not reported among agencies, specifically parents/caregivers, adults, and professionals/volunteers. These data must be collected consistently and with accuracy. Collecting basic demographic information will allow LCTF to examine the extent to which programs are reaching their intended population and filling gaps in a particular parish or region. Again, we propose that agencies create an efficient and accurate way to capture demographic data. For instance, agencies offering programs could create or modify intake forms to include questions about family income.

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# APPENDIX

## 2018-2019 Programs and Conferences

AGENCY NAME	GRANT NAME	GRANT TYPE
BeauCARE, Inc	Families First - A Supervised Visitation Program	Program
	Second Chances	Program
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Acadiana	Mentoring Matters	Program
Big Brothers Big Sisters of SWLA	Mentoring for "BIG" Impacts on Life	Program
Boys & Girls Club of Greater Baton Rouge	Be Safe Be Smart with Get Real About Violence – Region 2	Program
	Be Safe Be Smart with Get Real About Violence – Region 3	Program
Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana	Boys & Girls Club Professionals: Prevention is the Key	Conference
	Project Impact - Afterschool	Program
Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Louisiana	NFL YET Boys & Girls Club- Project Learn	Program
	Slidell & Covington Boys & Girls Clubs- Project Learn	Program
Child Advocacy Services	Darkness to Light's Stewards of Children - Region 2	Program
	Darkness to Light's Stewards of Children - Region 4	Program
	Preventing to Empower through Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) Training	Program
	Public Awareness and Community Education	Program
Children's Advocacy Center-Hope House	Child Abuse Prevention Project of St. Tammany and Washington Parishes	Program
Children's Coalition for Northeast Louisiana	Jus4Me	Program
City Court of Opelousas	"Youth BLAST" Event	Conference
City of Lake Charles Community Development	Linked Workshop	Conference
CMM Institute	Camp CosmoKidz	Program
Community Renewal International, Inc	Friendship House Neighborhood Support Program	Program
Families Helping Families of Southwest Louisiana	RISE - Resources, Information & Support to Empower	Program
Family & Youth Counseling Agency, Inc	Child Abuse Victim Counseling	Program
Family Service of Greater New Orleans	Youth Wellness Initiative	Program
Gingerbread House Bossier/Caddo Children's Advocacy Center	Knowledge is Power: Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program	Program
Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Information Center of Louisiana	Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Annual Conference	Conference
	Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Information Center of Louisiana	Program



AGENCY NAME	GRANT NAME	GRANT TYPE
Jewish Family Service of Greater New Orleans	Teen Life Counts	Program
Louisiana CASA Association	CASA-Specific QPI Training	Program
Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Children's Advocacy Institute	Conference
Louisiana School-Based Health Alliance	23rd Annual LASBHA (Louisiana School-Based Health Alliance) Conference	Conference
Plaquemines Community CARE Centers Foundation Inc	Active Parenting in Plaquemines Parish	Program
	Triple P in Plaquemines Parish	Program
Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana Inc (closed mid year)	"It's Okay to Ask for Help" Social Norms Campaign	Program
Providence House	Providence House Emergency Shelter for Homeless Families with Children	Program
Rays of Sonshine	Project Connect	Program
Sexual Trauma Awareness & Response	Dating Violence Prevention Program	Program
Southeast Louisiana Area Health Education Center	Triple P Positive Parenting Seminars and Male Involvement	Program
Southern University Agricultural Center	Family and Youth Exposition Conference	Conference
Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center	Back to School Summit Conference/Symposium	Conference
The ARCO of Ouachita	Parenting a Child with Special Needs	Program
The Family Tree Information, Education & Counseling Center	The Safe Space Program	Program
The Food Bank of Central Louisiana	BackPack Program	Program
United Way of Central Louisiana	Parents as Teachers	Program
University of Louisiana at Lafayette	ACE Summit: Promoting a Culture of Collaboration, Advocacy, Research, Education for Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect in Louisiana	Conference
Youth Oasis	Arise Life Skills Program	Program
Youth Service Bureau of St. Tammany	Court Appointed Special Advocates	Program



