



## **70,000+ Reasons to Join MAIECMH (most of them little ones)**

*Over **70,000 babies** are born in Minnesota every year. As a member of the Minnesota Association for Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health (MAIECMH), your dues support the advancement of our mission to **promote the social and emotional development and mental health of children, prenatal through age five, and their families and caregivers.***

*How do we do this? Our staff, consultants and statewide network of dedicated volunteers work as ambassadors to advance our mission and strategic goals in our day-to-day work and via MAIECMH committees.*

### **MAIECMH Strategic Goals**

- **Enhance public awareness of infant & early childhood social and emotional development and mental health.**
- **Influence systems statewide to provide education and support for families with children, prenatal through age five.**
- **Assure the competency and growth of a range of diverse professional groups touching the lives of children, prenatal through age five.**
- **Provide leadership in advocating for a statewide continuum of care for families with children, prenatal through age five.**

### **MAIECMH Activities**

- Convening statewide stakeholders via strategic planning, the MAIECMH Advisory Board, and the Policy, Training, Outreach and Endorsement Committees.
- Educating legislators, other state policy leaders, and constituents via one-on-one visits, direct mail, presentations to task forces, conferences and other community events, letters to the editor, magazine and newsletter articles, radio interview on Good Enough Moms™ and participation on conference planning committees and early childhood advisory groups.
- Developing an awareness video for use with families, policymakers and business community.
- Convened multidisciplinary statewide stakeholders, resulting in unanimous support to purchase and implement in Minnesota a professional endorsement program to build competencies promoting social and emotional development and mental health outcomes for the very young.
- MAIECMH currently supports 50+ endorsees and endorsement applicants statewide as leaders and experts in infant mental health in their use of MAIECMH's endorsement program to guide their professional development activities.
- Working with interagency state and community planning groups promoting professional competencies and a comprehensive continuum of care in infant and early childhood mental health. Examples:
  - The University of Minnesota Center for Early Education and Development

(CEED) and the Harris Programs used the competencies in designing the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Certificate Program.

- St. Cloud State University is imbedding the competencies cross-department via the convening of multidisciplinary faculty.
  - The competencies informed the Minnesota Department of Health Family Home Visiting Training Plan in the areas of attachment, infant mental health and reflective supervision. The subsequent creation of a reflective practice consultant position at the Minnesota Department of Health is further embedding the competencies in local public health practice.
  - The Minnesota Department of Human Services Children's Mental Health Division cited the competencies as a resource to grant applicants in a Request for Proposals, resulting in state pilot programs implementing reflective practice.
  - The Minnesota Department of Education used the competencies to inform an application and training award from the national Technical Assistance Center on Social and Emotional Intervention (TACSEI).
  - The Minnesota Department of Human Services is working with CEED and MAIECMH to apply the competencies in a gap analysis and development of recommendations to identify infant/toddler training content that will comprise the Minnesota infant/toddler credential.
- MAIECMH has developed a Policy Communications Plan, including policy briefs, talking points, background information and references for advocates. Policy recommendations include:
- increasing statewide professional development in culturally-competent, relationship-focused infant and early childhood mental health, including regional access to mental health consultation and reflective supervision;
  - ensuring access to a comprehensive system of infant and early childhood mental health services, enhancing the coordinating and referral roles of Interagency Early Intervention Committees (IEICs);
  - supporting voluntary research-informed family home visiting;
  - promoting the use of the ASQ<sup>®</sup>-SE or other social and emotional development screening tools recommended by the state Developmental Screening Task Force, including translation and validation studies with diverse populations; and
  - providing educational material statewide to those interested in early childhood outcomes promoting the benefits of healthy infant and early childhood social and emotional development and use of the statewide *Help Me Grow* phone line.
  - Recommendations for mental health consultation in child care settings are forthcoming.
- MAIECMH operates as the early childhood division of MACMH, enhancing MACMH's annual Child & Adolescent Mental Health Conference, providing access for 1000+ attendees to infant and early childhood mental health presentations. In addition, MACMH's Training Services include a quarterly series of workshops on infant and early childhood mental health.
- MAIECMH works to enhance Minnesota linkages with national and international organizations to share resources, information, programs, policies and best practices. MAIECMH is an affiliate of the World Association for Infant Mental Health and a member of the League of Endorsement States, participating on twice/monthly conference calls and annual working retreats with a dozen other states.
- MAIECMH staff field inquiries from parents of very young children, early childhood providers and students year-round via MACMH's toll-free information and referral line, email and drop-in visits.