Protective Factors Response

Name of CHLD 392 Classroom: Willow Room, Infant Room

Identify five ways the ASCDL classroom currently promotes components of the Protective Factors. For each one, identify the resources provided in the training which addressed this issue.

1. Promoting family involvement through family events throughout the semester, this was learned in the training through the section on social connections. The family events that are held could consist of family picnics, or family outings to a park. These types of events get families out of the house and doing things together that is beneficial for making social connections.

2. The teachers in the infant room help the infants to address their emotions when they are feeling upset by giving them words for their emotions because they are too young to know or be able to classify their emotions. This was addressed in the training through social-emotional competence.

3. The ASCDL gets families involved by having them help clean and set up the room at the beginning of each semester. This helps families to get involved in the classroom and to feel that they are a part of their children’s day at school. This helps to fulfill the parental resilience of the Protective Factors by allowing the parents to feel connected to the school that their child attends.

4. The ASCDL helps to build trust and mutual respect by making sure to check in with families and strives to be effective communicators when dealing with parents and situations. This was addressed through knowledge of parenting in the Protective Factors presentation where they addressed the importance of the family being involved in the children’s lives.

5. At the ASCDL there is a very open communication system between parents and staff. A lot of the parents are friendly with each other and thus it creates an open environment where parents share with other parents about childcare. This was addressed in the social connections part of the Protective Factors presentation where the presenters stressed the importance of making social connections. They also stressed the importance of making social connections with the families and peers at the child’s school.

Based on your previous knowledge and experience with families, list three ideas for new ways (ideas not incorporated while you were completing your practicum) the classroom could promote an element of Protective Factors which could result in strengthening families. For each, identify resources provided within the training which addressed this issue.

1. One way that the ASCDL could promote the elements of Protective Factors is by providing families with community resources that would be beneficial to them, such as local doctors, community swimming lessons, babysitters, or social groups for the families to participate in. This would address access to concrete support aspect of Protective Factors. This would allow the families of the ASCDL to become more knowledgeable about the resources out there and about community involvement.

2. Another way that the ASCDL could promote Social Connections is by hosting a parent night where parents could come and talk about issues that they are facing with other adults. Sometimes it can be overwhelming to raise babies, being able to vent about your issues and get advice from people going through the same thing could be helpful to the families. They could model this kind of parent night after a Parent Café type of set up where the parents could break up into small groups and share experiences with one another.

3. Another way that the ASCDL could help improve in knowledge of parenting and child development is by having members of the community who specify in parent education programs come in a speak to the parents about specific topics that would be relevant to the parents. The ASCDL could host parent information nights on relevant topics that the parents would benefit from.

Research the topic of a specific component within the Protective Factors. Find a new idea that has the potential of strengthening families in this classroom. Provide the link and explain why you feel this would be a valuable implementation for the classroom.

The ASCDL could have parents attend a parenting class put on by First 5 in order to expand their knowledge about parenting and child development. This could be beneficial for parents who may need a little extra support at home when raising their child. This would help to strengthen the Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development in the Protective Factors.

<http://first5butte.org/families/parenting/>