



child
welfare
ACADEMY

Strengthening Families Alaska

Promoting 5 Protective Factors
in Child Welfare Practice

Tribal Child Welfare Conference

September 27, 2023

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Session Objectives

1. Introduce the 5 protective factors that strengthen families.

2. Understand how the 5 protective factors are applied in Child Welfare practice.

5 Protective Factors

1. Parental Resilience

2. Social Connections

3. Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development

4. Concrete Supports in Times of Need

5. Social and Emotional Competence of Children

Child Welfare and the 5 Protective Factors

Child Abuse Prevention

Activity
Nights

Book Shares

(What are
you doing?)

Investigation & Assessment

Interviews

Identifying
Safety
Threats

Family Services

Case Plans

Attending
Services



CASE PLAN – PARENT/CAREGIVER

ORCA#: _____

Name: _____ Parent Significant Other Indian Custodian Other

Child: _____ Primary Goal: _____ Alternative Goal: _____

Child: _____ Primary Goal: _____ Alternative Goal: _____

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Child: _____ Primary Goal: _____ Alternative Goal: _____

Why is OCS involved?

Why does the parent/caregiver think OCS is involved?

If a caregiver is not a part of the regular home, why is OCS not placing the child with that caregiver?

PROTECTIVE FACTORS THE PARENT/CAREGIVER HAS AND NEEDS TO BE PROTECTIVE OF THEIR CHILD(REN):

PARENTAL RESILIENCE:

SOCIAL CONNECTIONS:

KNOWLEDGE OF PARENTING AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT:

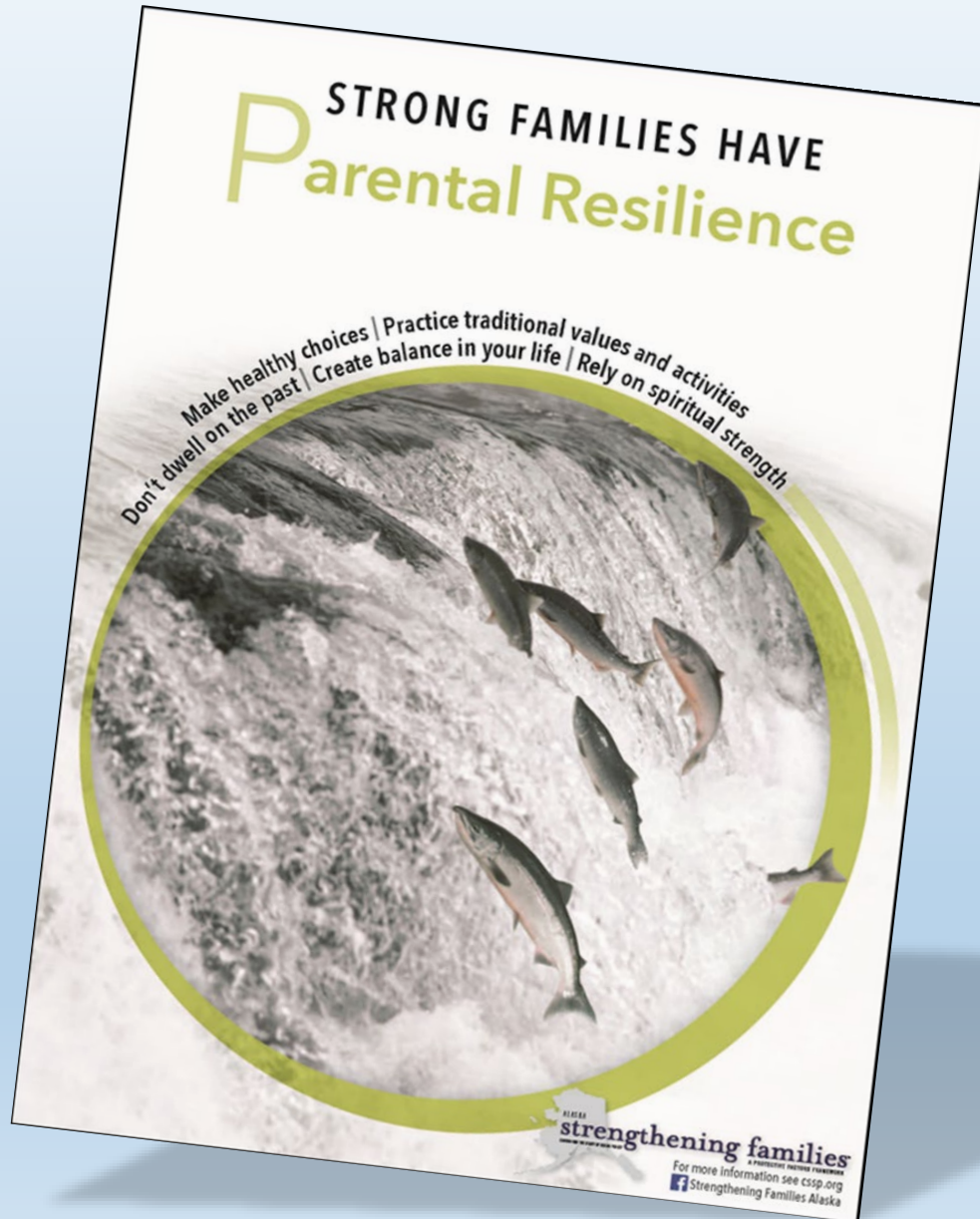
CONCRETE SUPPORTS IN TIMES OF NEED:

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE OF CHILDREN:

Case Planning with OCS and a Parent



1. Parental Resilience



*Overcoming obstacles,
bouncing back from hardships,
self care, problem solving and
managing negative emotions.*

What Parental Resilience Looks Like:



Resilience to general life stress

Hope, optimism, self confidence, problem solving skills, self care and willingness to ask for help, ability to manage the negative

Resilience to parenting stress

Not allowing stress to interfere with nurturing, positive attitude about parenting and child

Things that can get in the way:

Have their own trauma history

Have co-occurring issues (DV, substance abuse, mental health)

Feel negative about themselves

Worry about seeking help for their child

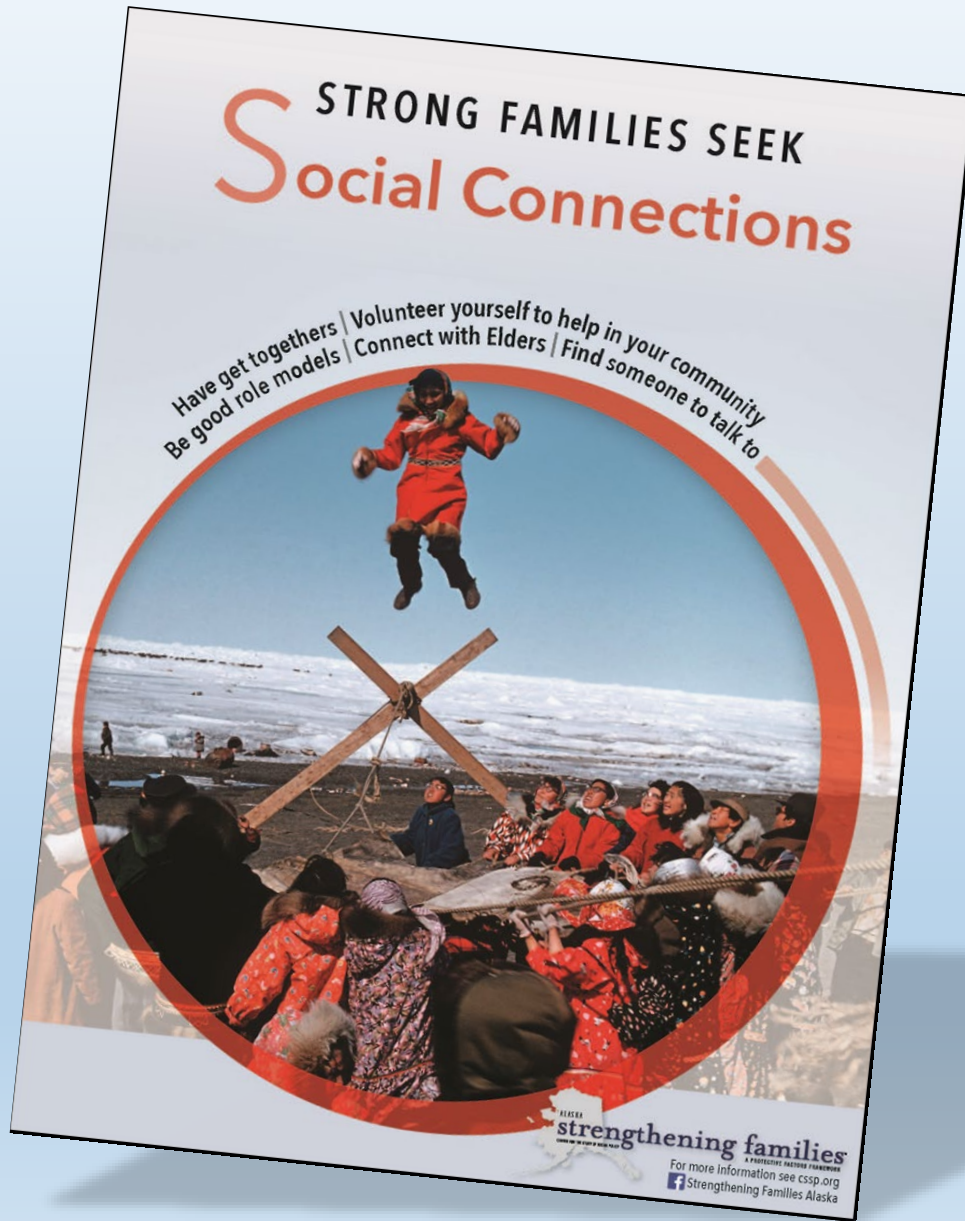
Parenting children who have experienced trauma

Parenting children with special needs

Worry about what could happen to their children in hostile environments



2. Social Connections



Positive relationships that provide emotional, informational, instrumental, and spiritual support.

Things that can get in the way:



Socially isolated

History of conflicted relationships

Lack of skills and tools to develop or recognize positive relationships

Social Media?

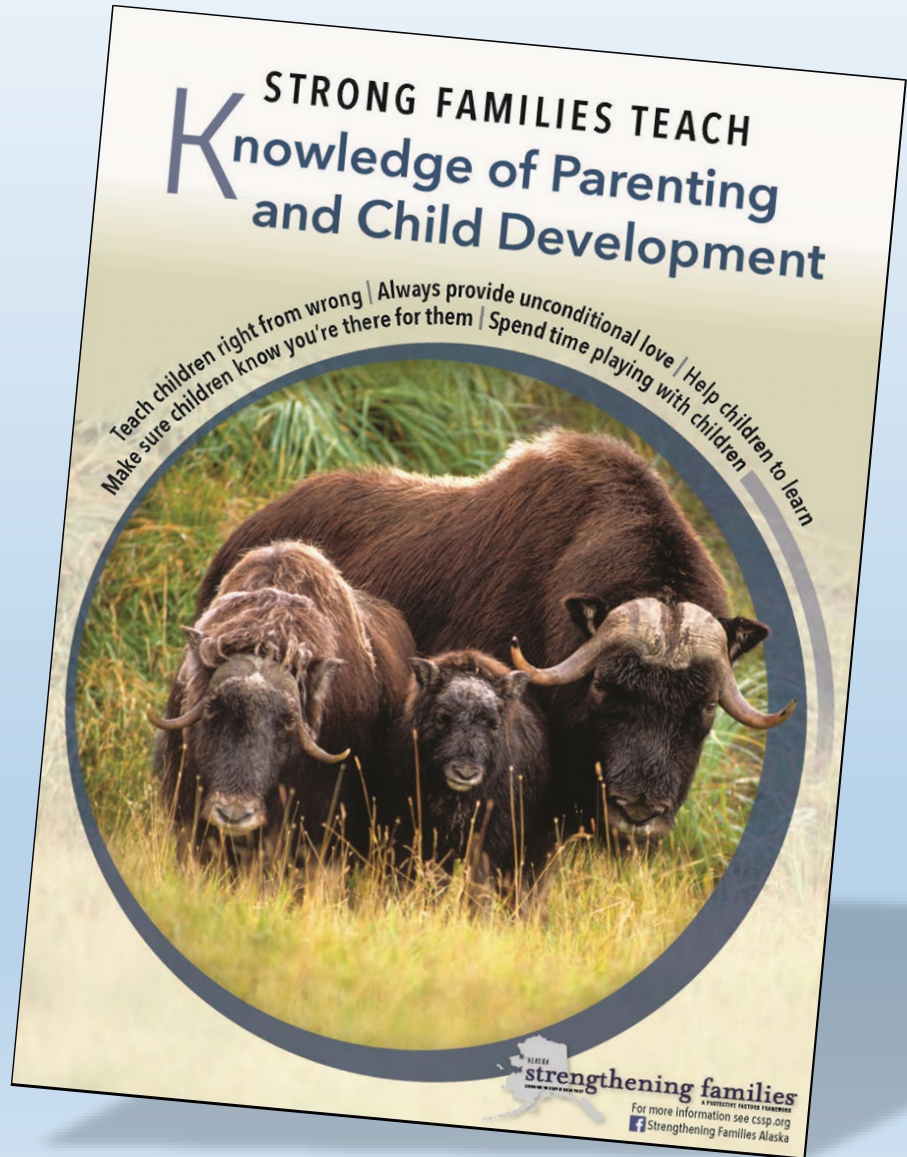
The opposite of Connection is Addiction



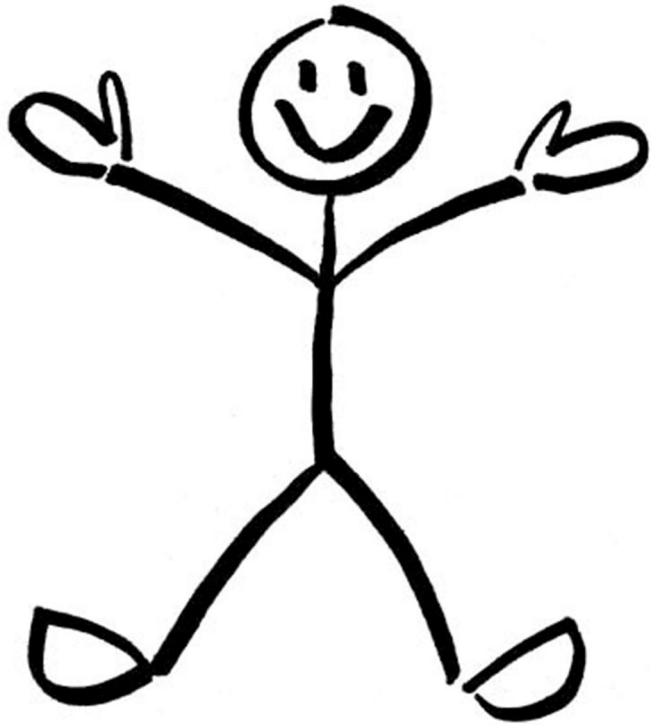
2. Social Connections



3. Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development



Understanding child development and parenting strategies that support physical, cognitive, language, social and emotional development.

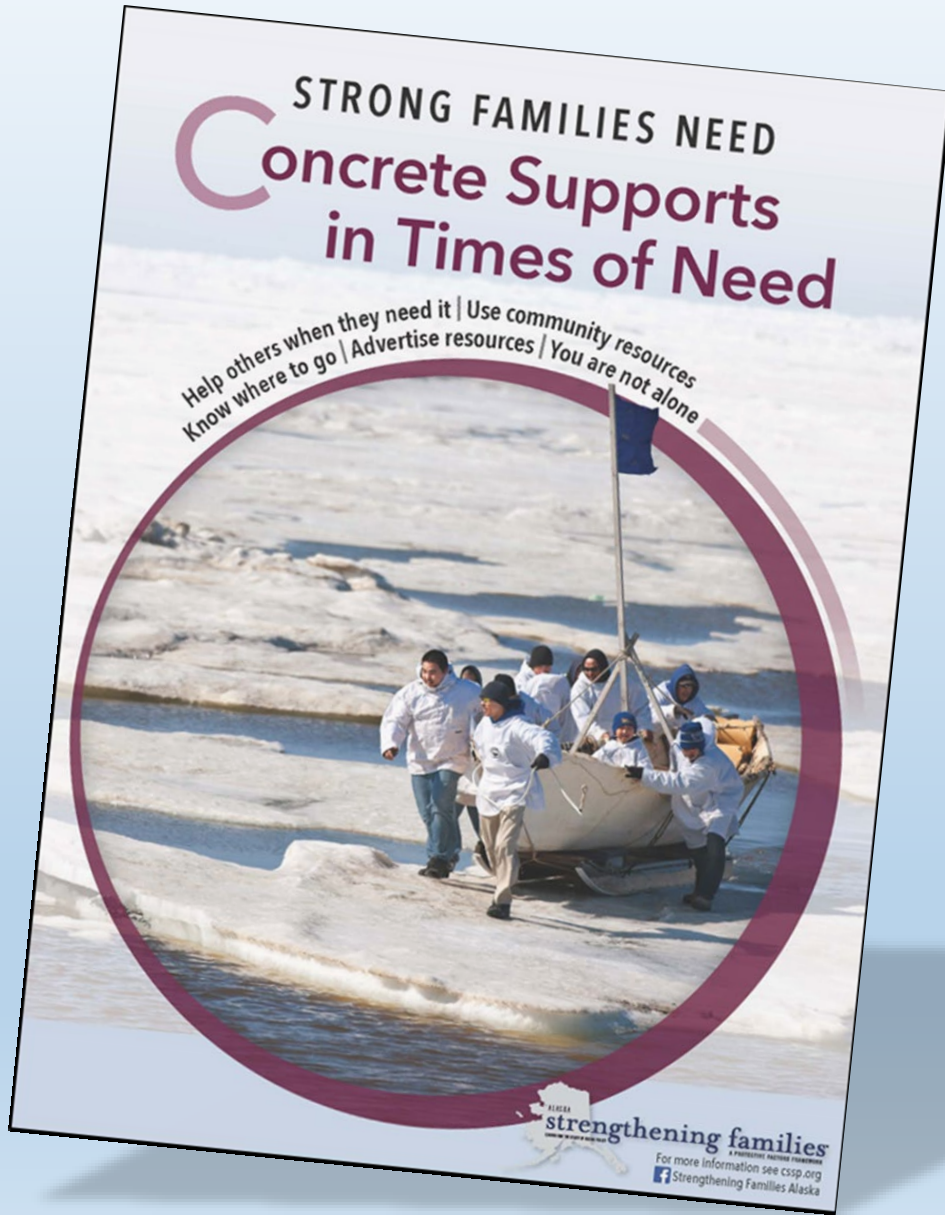


What do children
need to grow
into a healthy
adult?

What Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development (KPCD) Looks Like:

- Nurturing parenting behavior
- Using appropriate developmental expectations
- Creating a developmentally supportive environment
- Using positive discipline techniques
- Effectively managing child behavior
- Recognizing and responding to the child's specific needs

4. Concrete Supports in Times of Need



Families have access to and know how to access what they need to navigate challenges and to be successful.

Have you ever needed help?



What do Concrete Supports looks like?

Response to a crisis

- Food, shelter, clothing



Assistance with daily needs

- Health care, job opportunities, transportation, education



Services for parents in crisis

- Mental Health, domestic violence, substance abuse

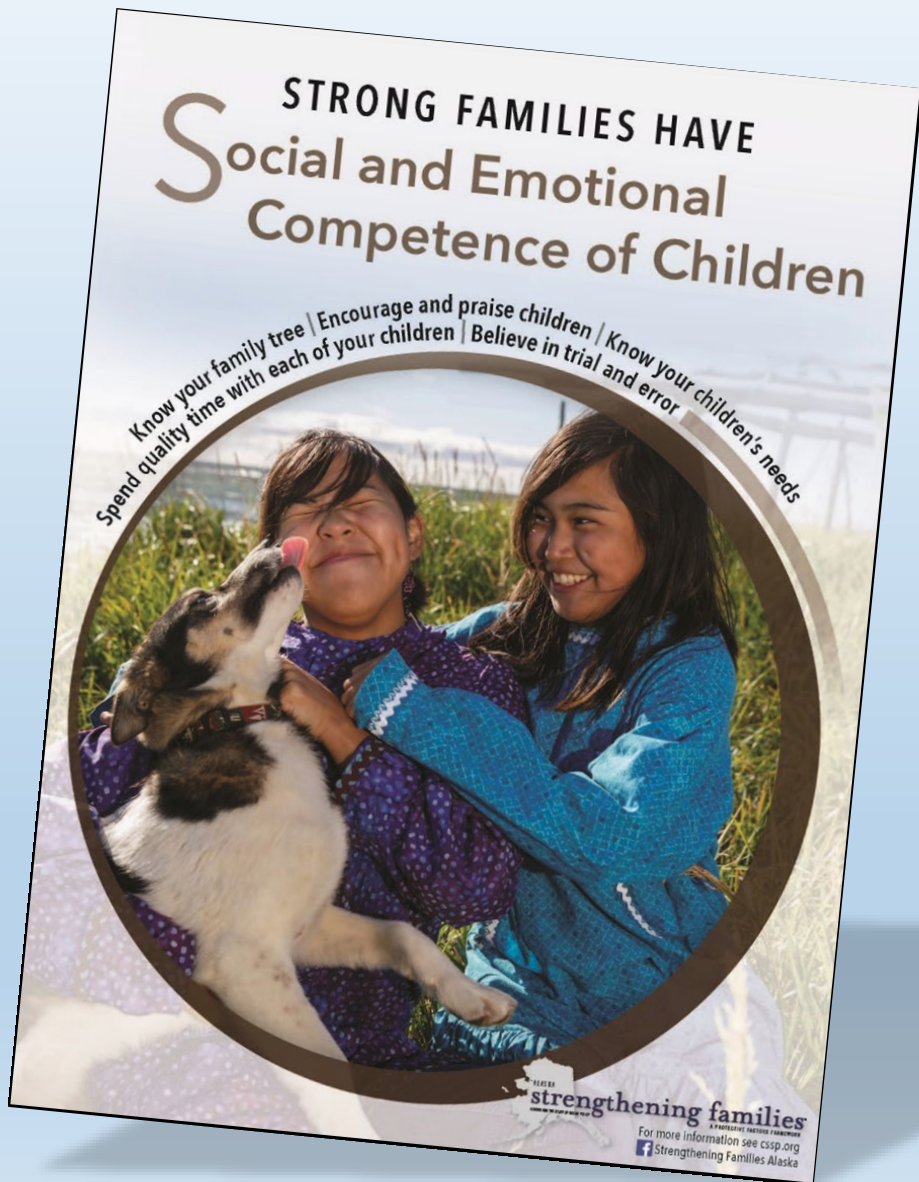


Specialized services for kids

- Mental/behavioral health, day care,

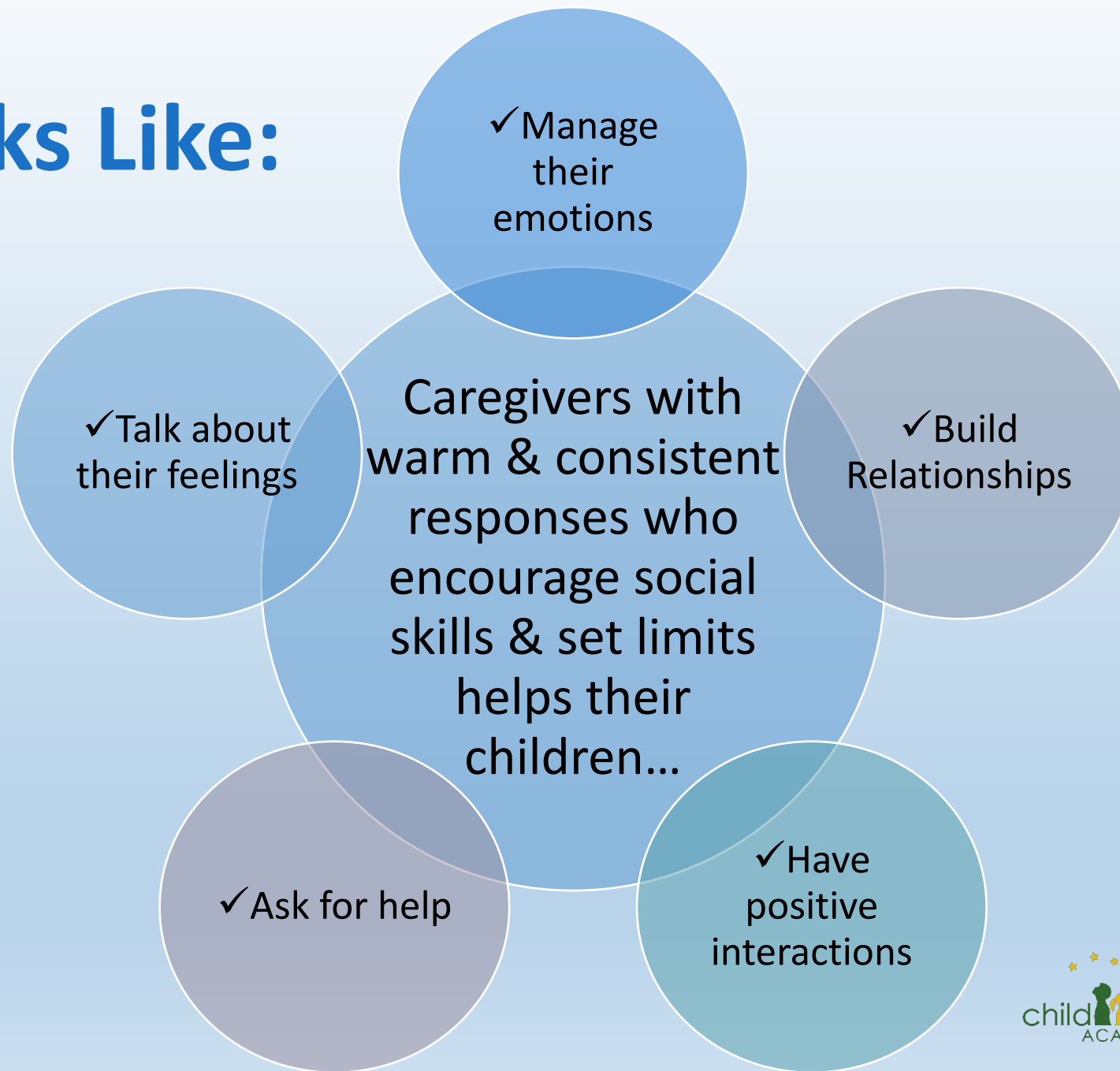


5. Social and Emotional Competence of Children



Family and child interactions that help children develop the ability to communicate clearly, recognize and regulate their emotions and establish and maintain relationships.

What it Looks Like:



5. Social and Emotional Competence of Children

 Children See, Children Do ➤
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Table Talk

What can you do in our communities to strengthen:

1. Parental Resilience
2. Concrete Supports
3. Social Connections
4. Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development
5. Social and Emotional Competence of Children



Upcoming Strengthening Families Training

CWA Facebook Page



Oct 31 – Nov 1
In person SFA Training, Wasilla



SFA Facebook Page



Thank you for joining us!

