

The Baby TALK Model – Approach – Curriculum FACT SHEET

Mission	To positively impact child development and nurture healthy parent-child relationships during the critical early years
Model	 ✓ Framework for building a system ✓ Begins with universal screen of families of young children ✓ Relationship-based approach to family engagement ✓ Emphasis on identifying and serving the most at-risk ✓ Research-based curriculum ✓ Evidence-based strategies for engaging and providing support
Goals	 ✓ Building strong relationships ✓ Creating a system of support for families ✓ Supporting parental sense of competence ✓ Promoting parental stress ✓ Promoting protective factors and resilience ✓ Promoting positive parent and child outcomes
Origin	Baby TALK has been serving families with young children since 1986
Key Methods & Approaches	 ✓ Nurturing families in support of optimal early childhood development ✓ Applying a developmental approach to family engagement ✓ Facilitating parent-child interaction ✓ Affirming parental competence ✓ Using active listening, reflection and strength-based strategies ✓ Building community connections
Distinctive Features	 ✓ Proven history of identifying families with the greatest risk factors than other targeted programs of its kind ✓ Effective approach for professionals to identify at-risk families early and to implement supportive services ✓ Extensive protocols to guide effective encounters with families ✓ Flexibility to tailor protocols and curriculum based on the needs of families
Target	 ✓ Expectant and parenting families with children birth through age 5 ✓ Model application for a variety of Federal, State and Private funding streams
Where is Baby TALK?	 ✓ Over 1200 trained professionals across 32 states ✓ Fully implemented Baby TALK programs in six states ✓ Baby TALK is a research-based and evidence-based model approved by Illinois State Board of Education and by DFSS for all center-based programming and Prevention Initiative home visiting ✓ Baby TALK is implemented in over 100 programs in Illinois
Delivery Methods & Curriculum	 ✓ Home visiting, including comprehensive wraparound services ✓ Center-based programming for family engagement roles and classroom teachers ✓ 273 pieces of curricula to engage and reflect with families; 370 pieces to facilitate parent-child interaction