

Center for Child & Family Health

SCALING THE RESOURCE PARENT CURRICULUM FOR NORTH CAROLINA CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

A 2023 Traditional grant, \$200,000 was awarded for a 12-month planning process to develop a plan for scaling the “Caring for Children who have Experienced Trauma: A Workshop for Resource Parents” (aka, Resource Parent Curriculum, RPC; National Child Traumatic Stress Network, 2011) across NC. A scaling plan was conceptualized as a strategy to create a “second generation” of RPC trainers, known as Agency-Wide Trainers or AWTs, so that NC would have a greater number of effective trainers, and, in turn, more caregivers would have access to and benefit from the RPC. The AWTs would teach direct service professionals to facilitate the workshop directly for resource parents across NC. Foster parents and family relatives typically care for children who are placed into a new home due to maltreatment are known as “resource parents.” The resource parents’ skills are critical to the well-being of the children in their care, and often lack a trauma-informed perspective. When resource parents have difficulty managing behaviors symptomatic of trauma reminders, children’s symptoms can potentially worsen, leading to moving the child into another placement. Implementing RPC trainings for more resource parents will better position those parents to promote the well-being of the maltreated children in their care.