

FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

BUILDING COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND ENGAGEMENT THROUGH FILM SCREENINGS

PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AMERICA



On March 22, 2017, CANTASD (the National Child Abuse and Neglect Technical Assistance and Strategic Dissemination Center) hosted a Digital Dialogue with Zach Hiner from Prevent Child Abuse America and Trevor Storrs from the Alaska Children's Trust. The conversation focused on how to use film screenings to engage communities in child abuse and neglect prevention, focusing on national and community experience with a documentary film—Resilience—as an example. This document summarizes what we heard from over 80 individuals from around the country who joined the call.

Poll Question 1: WHAT GROUPS IN YOUR COMMUNITY WOULD THE FILM BEST HELP YOU TO REACH?

Film can be a powerful tool for gripping audiences and starting conversations around what can be done to help. Sharing a film like Resilience is also an effective way to get new audiences quickly up to speed to take part in critical conversations. Participants identified the following audiences as prospective partners in a screening:

- Families, community members, young people, and the general public
- Social service partners: Social workers and social work students; mental health providers; probation, law enforcement and juvenile justice; and health care providers
- Education: School systems, teachers, school social workers and guidance counselors, school administrators, school board members, and parents and students
- Public officials
- Funders
- Child welfare partners: CASA advocates, resource families, and child welfare staff
- Other: Fatherhood groups, faith leaders, and promotoras



Poll Question 2: WHAT RESOURCES DO YOU NEED TO HOST A FILM SCREENING SUCCESSFULLY?

Presenters shared tips they have learned in planning and holding film screenings. Necessary resources include:

- Access to the film, discussion & facilitator's guide
- Facility within which to hold the event
- A good facilitator who can deal with issues that might be triggered for participants

Tips included:

- Focusing on what parts of the film would be of greatest interest to your audience
- Leaving the audience with specific ideas of what they could do
- Having a plan for next steps for the community

Locate our resources:

- Access the Digital Dialogue recording and handouts
- Learn more about the *Resilience* film
- Go to the **PCAA** homepage

DO YOU WANT TO SHARE YOUR PERSPECTIVES ON THESE QUESTIONS WITH US? JOIN US ON SOCIAL MEDIA: FACEBOOK.COM/CANTASD and TWITTER.COM/CANTASDCENTER

