**CHILD NEGLECT** is a failure to meet children’s basic needs – whether the failure is the responsibility of parents, communities or society – and this void places children in harm’s way.

**Facts about Child Neglect**

- **Most Common Form of Child Maltreatment:** Child Neglect
- **Possible Long-Term Impacts:**
  - Cognitive and Academic Deficits
  - Social Withdrawal and Limited Peer Interactions
- **Cost of Child Maltreatment in billions of USD (2008):**
  - $585 B total burden
  - $1.24 B lifetime productivity loss due to death

**Good news IT’S PREVENTABLE**

Child Neglect within the SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL MODEL

**Child Neglect Risk Factors**

- **SOCIETY**
  - Poverty and deprivation of basic needs
  - Lack of collective (shared) responsibility for children
  - Low level of importance to politicians – lack of political will
- **COMMUNITY (Neighborhood)**
  - Environmental problems
    - Neighborhood violence
    - Unemployment
    - Inadequate housing
    - Social isolation
  - Caregiver childhood adversity
- **FAMILY**
  - Maternal depression
  - Situational or enduring problems
    - Mental health
    - Substance abuse
    - Interpersonal family violence
  - Apathy/hopeless
- **CHILD (Individual)**
  - Child vulnerability
    - Young age
    - Poor health
    - Disabilities and behavioral challenges
  - Unmet basic needs

**Protective Factors to the Rescue**

- **SOCIETY**
  - Concrete Supports
- **COMMUNITY (Neighborhood)**
  - Concrete Supports for Parents (Quality Child Care)
  - Community Norming of Acceptable Parenting Behaviors
  - Social Connections (Cohesion)
- **FAMILY**
  - Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development (Early Childhood Education)
  - Parental Resilience (Hope)
  - Faith and Spirituality
  - Nurturing and Attachment
- **CHILD (Individual)**
  - Attachment
  - Social and Emotional Competence of Children

To learn more about building healthy communities and preventing child neglect, visit [http://ctfalliance.org/neglect](http://ctfalliance.org/neglect)