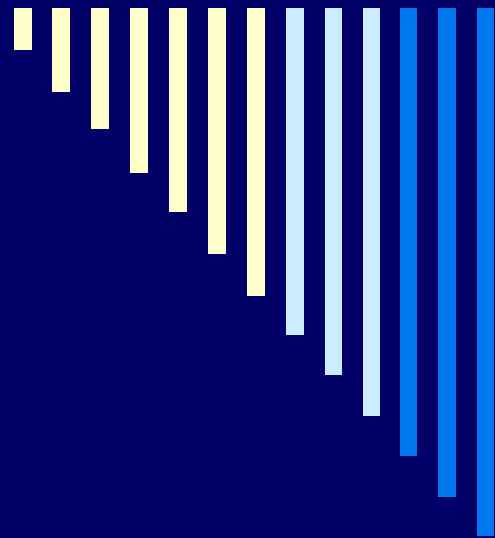
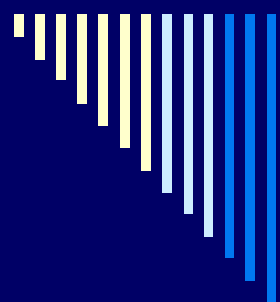


Early Childhood Mental Health

**Presented by the
Early Childhood Mental Health
Advisory Council**



Early Childhood Mental Health Advisory Council



Why We're Here

- Provide an update on recent developments in ECMH including:
 - **ECMH Advisory Council**
 - **Strategic Planning Process**
- Promote local/regional collaborations around ECMH
- Building an ECMH system in Kansas



The Early Childhood Mental Health Advisory Council

- **State-level group created in March 2007 of over 50 representatives of mental health, early childhood, higher education and others**
 - **Our charge:**
 - **Communicating among state-level organizations and between state and local levels**
 - **Creating an ECMH strategic plan as part of the statewide early childhood plan**
 - **Serving as a unified voice to advocate and educate**
-



Vision of KECCS

- ❑ To make Kansas the best place to raise a child
- ❑ To implement collaborations and partnerships that support families & communities
- ❑ To ensure that all children are healthy and ready to learn when they enter school



Goals

Goal 1

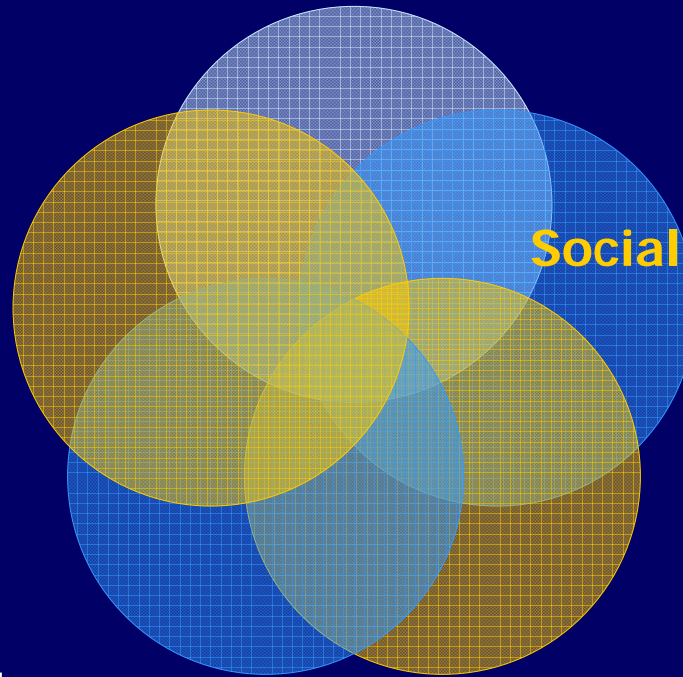
Health Insurance and Medical Homes

Goal 5
Family Supports

Goal 2
Mental Health and
Social-Emotional Development

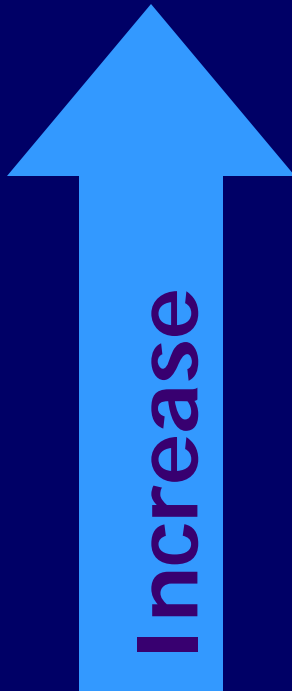
Goal 4
Parent Education

Goal 3
Early Care and Education Services





GOAL 2 Objectives



- Early identification, prevention of social/emotional problems and mental health needs
- **Mental health services**
- State's ability to evaluate and assess outcomes



For more information about the
KECCS Plan, visit
www.keccs.org

or contact us at
keccs@ku.edu



ECMH Strategic Planning:

- **Early childhood mental health is defined as a young child's capacity to experience, manage and express a full range of positive and negative emotions; develop close, satisfying relationships with others; and actively explore environments and learn.**

("Building a Comprehensive System to Address Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Disorders," Zero to Three Policy Brief, January 2007).

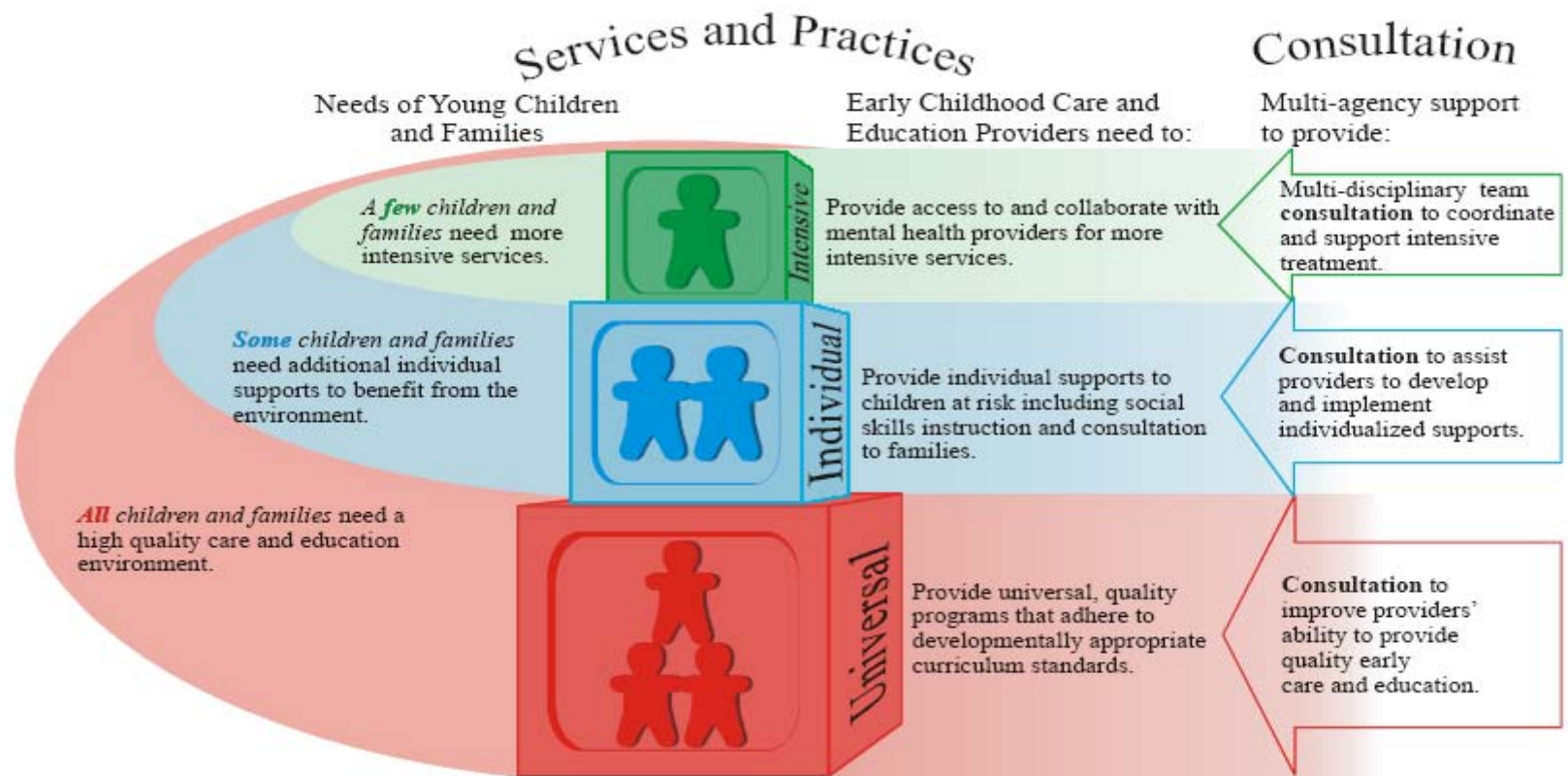


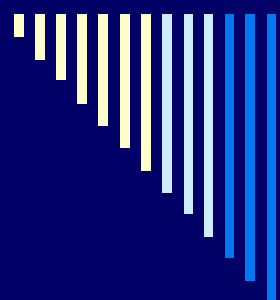
Taking A Systems Approach

Jane Knitzer (2000) proposed an approach which:

- **Promotes the emotional and behavioral well-being of all young children**
 - **Strengthens the emotional and behavioral well-being of children at risk due to biological or environmental factors**
 - **Helps families address barriers they face to ensure healthy emotional development**
 - **Expands the competencies of nonfamilial caregivers and others**
 - **Ensures that young children experiencing atypical development and their families have access to needed services and supports**
-

The Oregon Model for Supporting Young Children's Social and Emotional Development in Early Childhood Care and Education Settings





What's New in Kansas ECMH?

- ❑ **Completion of Strategic Plan developed by Early Childhood Mental Health Advisory Council**
- ❑ **The re-emergence of the Kansas Association of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (KAIMH) as a leader in the field, with development of a web site (www.kaimh.org) that has become a communication hub for the ECMH community**
- ❑ **Kansas Endorsement for Early Childhood Mental Health**



Vision and Goals

Our Vision...

Healthy social and emotional development of children through age 5, through a system of promotion, prevention and treatment within the context of the family and the larger community.



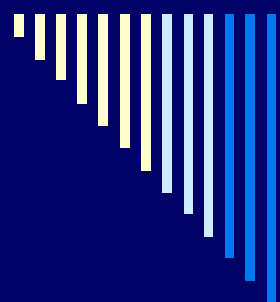
Our Goals

- Every community has access to well-qualified early childhood consultants working with young children, families and providers.
- **A structured, coordinated communication system brings people and resources together.**
- High-quality services are delivered in a multi-tiered pyramid approach, including promotion, prevention and treatment.
- **Young children and families have access to services in their natural environments.**
- The ECMH system will be sufficiently funded so that monies are available for project, program and policy identification; selection, design, implementation, and evaluation, including research and other identified needs.



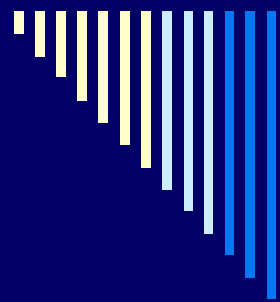
Goal 1: Every community has access to well-qualified early childhood consultants working with young children, families and providers.

- **Develop an endorsement system to increase professionalism, ensure quality and build a common understanding of credentials and their meaning.**
 - **Promote evidence-based training which is aligned with the endorsement system and coordinated among mental health, health and early childhood professional development.**
 - **Create and sustain partnerships among multi-disciplinary teams at the state and local levels.**
 - **Recruit and mentor professionals from a variety of ethnic, racial and cultural backgrounds and genders.**
 - **Utilize technology to provide access, training, mentoring, TA, consultation, opportunities for reflective supervision.**
-



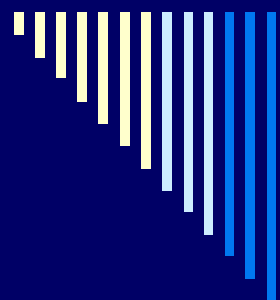
Goal 2: A structured, coordinated communication system brings people and resources together.

- **Expand the KAIMH website to be a central resource for early childhood mental health.**
- **Promote local coordination and collaboration among multi-disciplinary teams around ECMH.**
- **Sustain healthy communication between state and local levels.**
- **Improve communication and coordination between child and adult services within mental health system to ensure a family-centered approach to care.**
- **Ensure that mental health is integrated into public awareness campaigns about the importance of the early years.**



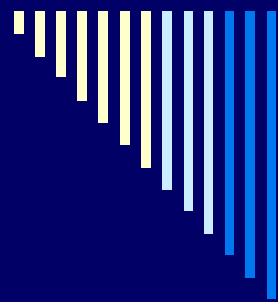
Goal 3: A structured, coordinated communication system brings people and resources together.

- Utilize pyramid to help communities identify and address service gaps.
- Develop protocols to guide movement among the three tiers.
- Ensure effective transition from early childhood (Birth-5) and K-12 services.
- Connect mental health services with child welfare and court systems.
- Integrate family and social support systems.



Goal 4: Young children and families have access to services in their natural environments.

- **Ensure that services are available in the home and other settings where children are.**
- **Reduce stigma and other barriers to mental health services.**
- **Advocate for funding which provides financial access to all young children and supports related services (e.g. case management, community planning, etc.)**



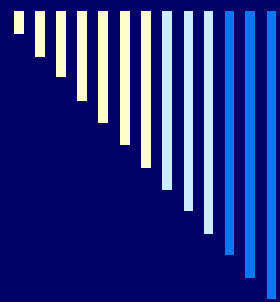
Goal 5: The ECMH system will be sufficiently funded so that monies are available for project, program & policy identification; selection; design; implementation; evaluation, including research & other needs.

- ❑ **Build the skills and capacity for the ECMH advocacy network.**
- ❑ **Develop comprehensive data base that is readily accessible.**
- ❑ **Create strategies for braiding different funding sources to support system components, as well as the system as a whole.**
- ❑ **Engage higher education to support the research and evaluation needs of the system.**
- ❑ **Explore alternative funding sources, including corporations and foundations.**



Year 1 Priorities

- **An ECMH endorsement system**
 - Expanded connections among EC and MH professionals at the state and local levels
 - **High-quality training to build capacity among practitioners**
 - Completion of a three-year strategic plan
-



In 2001, The Kansas Legislature allocated \$1 million dollars towards the Children's Initiative to focus on the mental health needs of very young children

- The purpose of this funding is to expand or enhance Community Based Mental Health services for very young children (birth to age 5) who experience, or are at risk for abuse, neglect, and/or future emotional, social, or behavioral disorders.**
- This opportunity has created therapeutic learning environments in existing community based preschool Programs AND has expanded to serve more children and families, through the utilization of Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation.**



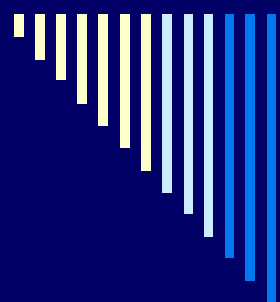
Therapeutic Preschool Jan. 2001

- ❑ Six programs were initially funded-- FSGC, Area MHC, Crawford County, Franklin County, High Plains and Johnson County
 - ❑ Many other therapeutic preschools were created around the state as a “spin-off” of this initiative
 - ❑ Different models were utilized across the state. FSGC already had a therapeutic preschool was able to expand their services.
 - ❑ A cooperative relationship was established with both Sheldon Headstart and Community Action Headstart in Topeka.
-



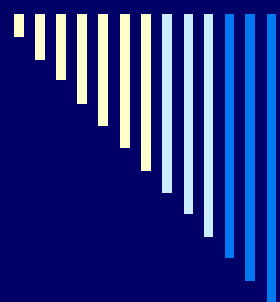
Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation July 2006

- June 2008, all of the Therapeutic Preschool programs became **self-sustaining**. Funding was then directed towards other best practices in early childhood.
 - **Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation is identified as best practice and aims to prevent, identify, treat, and reduce the impact of mental health problems among children from birth through age five.**
-



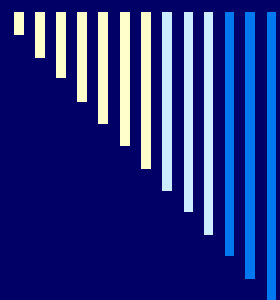
What is ECMH Consultation?

- ECMH Consultation is implemented within a collaborative relationship between a professional consultant with mental health expertise and one or more individuals with other areas of expertise - primarily child care professionals, early education and child development professionals, and families.



Child care providers and families

- These partners have the capacity and, more importantly, multiple opportunities to directly impact the lives of infants, young children, and their families. These are the natural environment for children and families and are embedded into every culture.



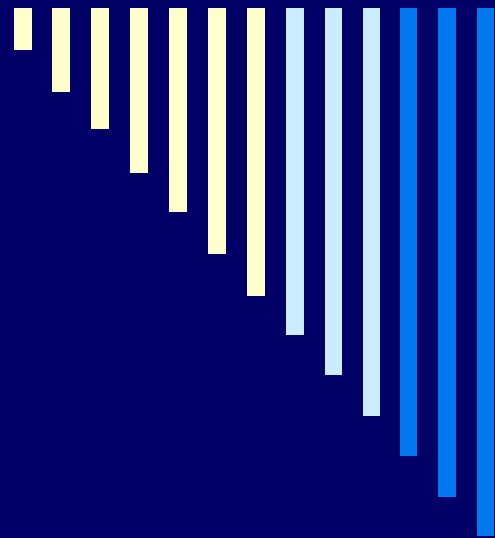
What does this mean?

- Thirteen Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants were established across the state of Kansas since 2006.
- In this last year, Family Service and Guidance Center alone, provided consultation to 39 children and 16 centers.



How did this help children in Shawnee County?

- 93% of these children were prevented from being expelled from their care site.
 - 70% demonstrated a decrease in problem behaviors after 90 days.
 - 88% demonstrated an improvement in their protective factors after 90 days. (Initiative, Self-Control, Attachment).
-



Early Childhood Mental Health Endorsement



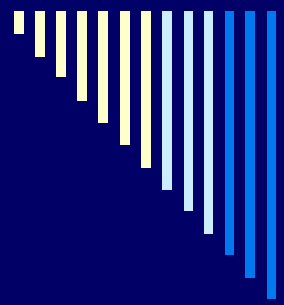
What Is Endorsement?

- **Recognize the professional development of early childhood and family service providers within the diverse and rapidly expanding field of early childhood mental health.**
 - **Verifies that applicant has attained a specified level of functioning and understanding based on a set of competencies that reflect best practice, as identified by professionals and policymakers in our state.**
-



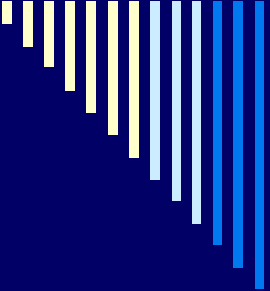
Why Do We Need an Endorsement System?

- **To ensure the quality of services to Kansas children and families**
 - **To increase understanding of the skills required by professionals to promote healthy socio-emotional development in young children and families**
 - **To create a consistent language to improve communication within and across systems**
-



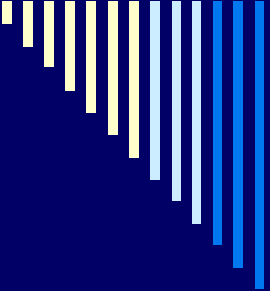
Why Do Employers and Administrators Need an Endorsement System?

- To inform prospective employers, agencies and peers about culturally-sensitive, relationship-based practice promoting early childhood mental health
- To assure hiring of qualified staff with comprehensive knowledge and skills



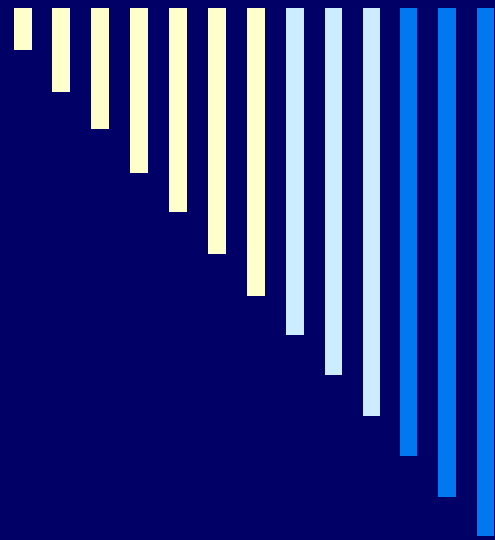
Why Do Individuals Need an Endorsement System?

- To have a professional development plan that focuses on knowledge, best practice skills, and supervised work experiences that lead to increased confidence and credibility within the early childhood and family field.
 - To be recognized for their education, training, leadership roles and work experiences within a rapidly growing field.
-

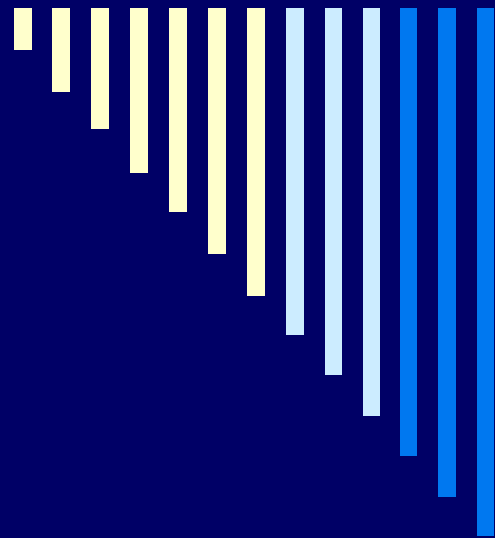


What Are the Elements of an Endorsement System?

- **Membership in KAIMH**
 - **A four-level competency system**
 - **Preparation of professional portfolio**
 - **Documentation of competencies**
 - **Exam at higher levels**
-

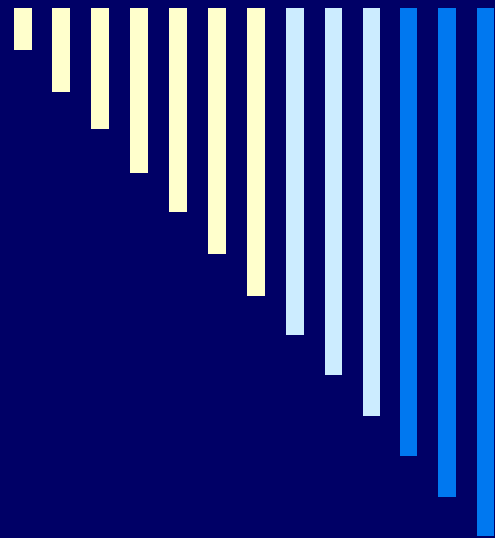


Kansas Association for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health



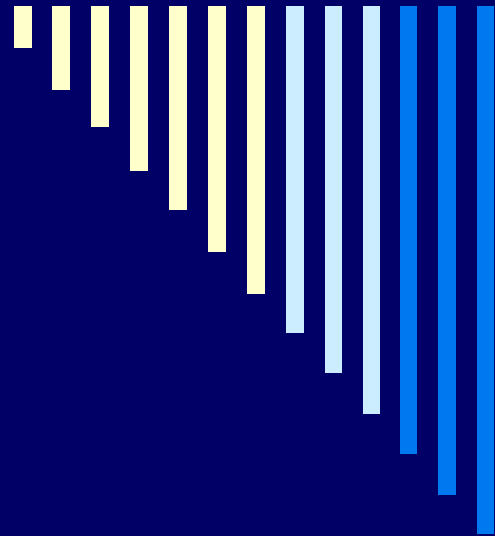
KAIMH

- ✦ **Chapter of the World Association for Infant Mental Health**
 - ✦ **Inclusive organization of early childhood professionals**
 - ✦ **Promotes mental wellbeing and healthy development**
-



**Membership is open to
professionals from all
disciplines who:**

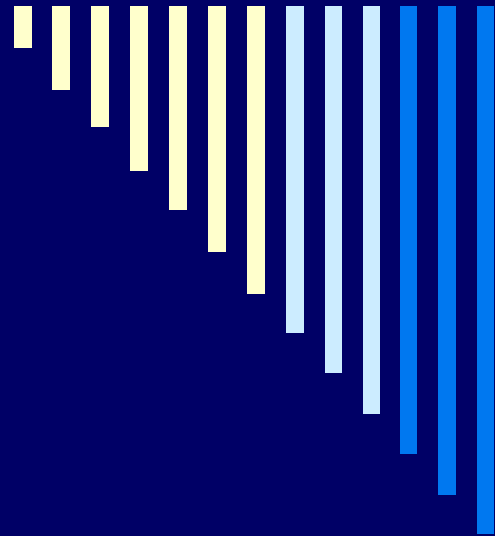
- ✦ Work with young children**
 - ✦ Educate and train professionals to work with young children**
 - ✦ Conducts research on infant mental health**
-



JOIN TODAY

For more Information
about Membership go to:

www.kaimh.org



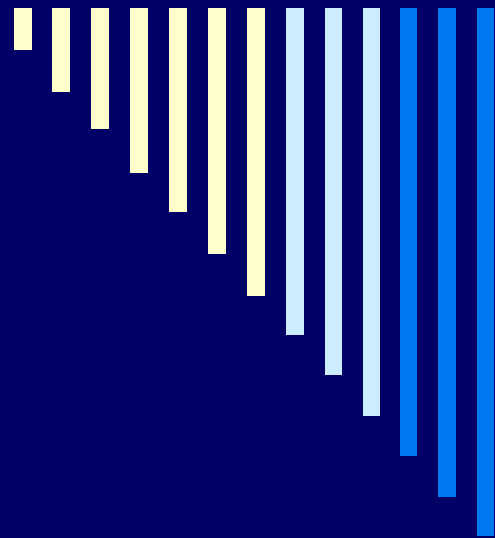
ECMH Professional Training

www.kidstraining.wichita.edu

www.kskits.org

www.kaimh.org

Join the yahoo group



Thanks for being here
today!
