

About IVPA, NPIN, and the ERIC System & ERIC/EECE

The Illinois Violence Prevention Authority (IVPA)

Established by the Illinois Violence Prevention Act of 1995, the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority (IVPA) is the first state agency of its kind dedicated to violence prevention in the United States. In creating the IVPA, the Illinois State Legislature recognized the need for a comprehensive, collaborative public health and public safety approach to violence prevention.

The IVPA is co-chaired by the Illinois Attorney General, Jim Ryan, and the Director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, Dr. John Lumpkin. The Authority's board includes state agency directors and appointed private sector officials working in the area of violence prevention.

Primary Goals

In keeping with its mandate, the IVPA has defined five main goals:

- Develop and implement a statewide plan for violence prevention
- Fund local and statewide anti-violence programs
- Coordinate existing violence prevention initiatives and encourage collaborative projects
- Evaluate and provide technical assistance for violence prevention programming
- Conduct public education and awareness efforts about violence and its prevention

Background on Primary Goals

Planning

The IVPA's planning document, "Building a Safe Illinois: A Violence Prevention Plan for Illinois," outlines the scope of interpersonal violence in Illinois and presents the risk factors and best practices associated with violence prevention. Based on this information and a survey of the violence prevention field, the IVPA has developed a 3-year anti-violence program that includes funding priorities and implementation strategies.

Funding

The Authority distributes grants statewide through a program that recognizes effective violence prevention efforts. In cooperation with the Illinois Secretary of State's Office, the IVPA generates monies to support funding activities through the sale of specially designed "Prevent Violence" (PV) license plates. Approximately 50,000 PV plates have been sold since January 1996, generating over \$2 million in revenue as of September 1998. The Authority began distributing these funds to innovative violence prevention programs in July 1997.

Initially, the Authority established three funding priorities: family violence prevention, youth violence prevention, and community safety. In the 1998 spring legislative session, an additional \$1 million was allocated to the Authority. These funds will be used to support additional programming, including, for the first time, grants for community policing programs and grants to support research projects.

IVPA members review and score proposals for funding and make recommendations to the Authority Board. The Authority provides funding for programs that address the following areas:

- Community-based youth violence prevention programs (mentoring programs, after-school programs, job programs, etc.)
- Implementation and evaluation of comprehensive Pre-K–12 school-based violence prevention programs
- Early childhood intervention programs (0–5) designed to prevent violence and identify and serve children and families at risk
- Family violence and sexual assault prevention initiatives
- Programs that integrate violence prevention initiatives with health care provision or alcohol and substance abuse prevention efforts
- Innovative community policing or law enforcement approaches to violence prevention
- Technical assistance and training to help build the capacity of communities, organizations, and systems to develop, implement, and evaluate violence prevention programs

More than 60 agencies have received funding from the IVPA in its first two years of grantmaking.

Coordinating

The IVPA plays a leadership role in linking together violence prevention efforts throughout the state. The IVPA accomplishes this through coordinating the violence prevention efforts of the state and local agencies represented on the Authority Board, emphasizing multidisciplinary, collaborative prevention efforts. The IVPA also actively works with other agencies and organizations in the private sector, encouraging networking and exchange of best practice models.

As a result, diverse violence prevention initiatives benefit from the increased efficiencies resulting from partnerships. The Authority is a participant and funder of five major collaborative projects.

Evaluating and Technical Assistance

Ongoing evaluation allows the IVPA to maintain a cohesive violence prevention strategy as new programs come into being and existing programs evolve.

Projects funded by the IVPA are responsible for meeting the Authority’s evaluation criteria and are given the assistance and support of the IVPA in achieving their goals. In addition, the Authority provides technical assistance to help communities and organizations develop and successfully implement their anti-violence programs. During FY 99, the IVPA funded several research projects that evaluated the effectiveness of different approaches to violence prevention.

Educating

The IVPA conducts public education and awareness campaigns to promote citizen action and involvement in violence prevention. Through the use of public service announcements, a videotape, and print material, the IVPA emphasizes the theme that violence prevention works. Young children are reached through an expanding outreach program that includes a “peace pledge,” a customized song, a mascot, and a newsletter. The IVPA also encourages the public to purchase prevent violence license plates through the message: “Actions Speak Louder Than Words: Do Something.”

The National Parent Information Network (NPIN)

The ERIC Clearinghouses on Elementary and Early Childhood Education (ERIC/EECE) and on Urban Education (ERIC/CUE) invite you to join them on the National Parent Information Network (NPIN), an Internet-based information network and service for parents, organizations, and individuals who support parents in raising and educating their children.

What Is NPIN?

The National Parent Information Network (NPIN) finds and shares high-quality materials related to parenting and parent involvement in education. The focus is on creating an attractive, widely available resource collection that incorporates graphics and other parent-friendly features of the Internet. NPIN:

- provides an attractive, single point of access on the World Wide Web to high-quality information on parenting and parent involvement in their children's education;
- continually adds new information to its already broad collection for parents and those who work with parents; and
- trains parents and parenting professionals in the skills needed to use NPIN and other World Wide Web resources.

For parents . . . NPIN offers easy access to high-quality information on raising healthy children and on becoming informed partners in their children's education.

For organizations . . . NPIN provides research-based information that can be incorporated with local resources on parenting and on how parents can be actively involved in their children's learning—at home, at school, and in their communities.

What Does NPIN Do?

Since 1993, NPIN has been developing one of the largest collections of high-quality, noncommercial information on the Internet on parenting, child development, and family life. The U.S. Department of Education, through the National Library of Education, supports the National Parent Information Network through the ERIC program.

NPIN includes the following services:

PARENT NEWS — An award-winning Internet source of news for parents on child rearing and education, *Parent News* is updated every 2 months and includes feature articles; listings and descriptions of parenting-related organizations, newsletters, books, and Internet sites; and community parent-support programming ideas.

PARENTS AskERIC — An electronic mail question-and-answer service for parents and those who work with parents on issues related to child development, care, and education.

PARENTING-L — An informal Internet discussion list for parents and parenting professionals that focuses on current parenting concerns.

RESOURCES FOR PARENTS AND PARENTING PROFESSIONALS — A large and growing collection of articles, essays, and other materials on family life, child development, and parenting from birth through early adolescence.

NPIN ILLINOIS — An information service and World Wide Web site that connects parents and families to services and resources around the state. Visit the information link for Illinois families at: <http://npinil.crc.uiuc.edu>

How Can You Participate?

- Visit NPIN's Web site at: <http://npin.org>
- Use PARENTS AskERIC by emailing parenting questions to: askeric@askeric.org
- Work with NPIN to share your high-quality parenting materials. The list of organizations contributing information to NPIN continues to expand. It includes the Center on School, Family, and Community Partnerships; the National Association for the Education of Young Children; the National Urban League; National Fathers' Network; and many other organizations.
- Provide feedback, and suggest new materials to be acquired and topics or issues that you or the families you work with would like to see included on the National Parent Information Network.
- Contact NPIN to discuss a training workshop for your local family center, library, Head Start program, school, or parenting organization.

For more information, contact:

National Parent Information Network
ERIC Clearinghouse on Elementary and Early Childhood Education
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Children's Research Center
51 Gerty Drive
Champaign, IL 61820-7469
Telephone: 217-333-1386
World Wide Web: <http://npin.org>
Electronic Mail: npin@uiuc.edu
Toll-Free Number: 800-583-4135

The ERIC System and the ERIC Clearinghouse on Elementary and Early Childhood Education

The Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) is a national information system designed to provide users with ready access to an extensive body of education-related literature. Established in 1966, ERIC is a program of the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, and is administered by the National Library of Education.

The ERIC database, the world's largest source of education information, contains nearly a million abstracts of documents and journal articles on education research and practice. You can access the ERIC database online via the Internet, on CD-ROM, or through the printed abstract journals *Resources in Education* and *Current Index to Journals in Education*. The database is updated monthly (quarterly on CD-ROM), ensuring that the information you receive is timely and accurate.

The ERIC system, through its 16 subject-specific clearinghouses, associated adjunct clearinghouses, and support components, provides a variety of services and products that can help you stay up to date on a broad range of education-related issues. Products include research summaries, bibliographies, reference and referral services, computer searches, and document reproduction.

The ERIC Clearinghouse on Elementary and Early Childhood Education (ERIC/EECE), one of the 16 ERIC clearinghouses, specializes in the education, care, and parenting of children from birth through early adolescence, and operates the National Parent Information Network (NPIN). All the ERIC clearinghouses acquire significant literature within their particular scope; select the highest quality and most relevant materials; and catalog, index, and abstract them for input into the ERIC database. The clearinghouses also provide research summaries, bibliographies, information analysis papers, and many other products and services. Together, the clearinghouses present the most comprehensive mosaic of education information in the country.

For more information on the ERIC system and ERIC/EECE, please visit our World Wide Web site at <http://ericece.org> or call us at 800-583-4135.

ERIC Clearinghouse on Elementary and Early Childhood Education and
the National Parent Information Network

