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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MEDIA CONTACT:**

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**Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families Named Research and Capacity Building Site by Quality Improvement Center on Domestic Violence in Child Welfare (QIC-DVCW)**

SAN FRANCISCO – Today, [the Quality Improvement Center on Domestic Violence in Child Welfare (QIC-DVCW)](https://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/children-youth-teens/quality-improvement-center-domestic-violence-child-welfare-advancing-adult-child-survivor-centered-practice/) announced the selection of its third 2017-21 Research and Capacity Building Project: [Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families.](http://www.alleghenycounty.us/Human-Services/About/Offices/Children%2C-Youth-and-Families.aspx)

The research and capacity building projects will test an innovative Adult & Child Survivor-Centered Approach within the child welfare system and among community partners. Allegheny County joins projects in Illinois and Massachusetts in working to help all members of families that are experiencing domestic violence who are involved in child welfare. The sites will collaborate with dependency courts, community organizations that work with families, such as domestic violence (DV) programs that serve survivors, and with DV offender intervention programs to create a safety net and healing community for both adult and child survivors of domestic violence.

The QIC-DVCW is a five-year cooperative agreement between Futures Without Violence and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children’s Bureau to generate and disseminate knowledge that will improve how child welfare agencies and community organizations work together to help families experiencing domestic violence.

“We’re thrilled to work with Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families. We will be on a journey together to understand what works to create safer conditions for families experiencing domestic violence and to increase well-being for everyone.” said Lonna Davis, Director of Children and Youth Programs for Futures Without Violence.

The approach that will be tested builds on research and practice lessons learned over 25 years that show how the safety and well-being of child survivors of domestic violence are closely linked to the safety and well-being of their survivor parent.

[Futures Without Violence](https://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/) is leading this endeavor along with an experienced group of partners including the [Center for the Study of Social Policy](https://www.cssp.org/), the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](http://www.ncjfcj.org/), the [University of Kansas School of Social Welfare,](http://socwel.ku.edu/) and the [Center for Health & Safety Culture at Montana State University](https://chsculture.org/).

**About FUTURES**

Futures Without Violence is a national health and social justice nonprofit that develops groundbreaking programs, policies, and campaigns to empower individuals and organizations working to end violence against women and children. Striving to reach new audiences and transform social norms, we train professionals such as doctors, nurses, judges, educators and athletic coaches on improving responses to violence and trauma. We also work with advocates, policymakers, and others to build sustainable community leadership and educate people everywhere about the importance of respect and healthy relationships. For more information, visit [www.futureswithoutviolence.org](http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org).

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