

The SafeCare review was released in August 2020, with a program rating of “Supported.”

### *How does SafeCare fit with FFPSA?*

SafeCare is a manualized, skills-based parent training program for parents of children 0-5 that has been used extensively by child welfare systems. The program fits within the FFPSA in-home parent skill-based program domain. Features of SafeCare include:

- Brief parenting program (18 sessions) that can be completed in 3-5 months
- Addresses parent-child interactions, home safety, and child health
- Strong focus on neglect and physical abuse
- Appropriate for parents/relatives caring for children who are candidates for foster care
- Easily integrated with other services
- Trauma-informed curriculum
- Implementation model allows for local trainers to sustain the implementation

### *What does a “Supported” rating mean?*

As defined by Abt Associates, a program is rated as supported if it has a study carried out in a usual care or practice setting that achieves a rating of moderate or high on design and execution, and demonstrates a sustained favorable effect of at least 6 months beyond the end of treatment on at least one target outcome.

There is no requirement for states to select “well-supported” programs for their FFPSA plans. Beginning in September of 2024, 50% of state FFPSA funds will need to focus on well-supported and the remaining 50% of their funds on supported and promising programs. We are hopeful that your state will consider the SafeCare model for your FFPSA plan, especially given the program’s fit with FFPSA standards. For additional information and details, please see this fact sheet: [https://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Family-First-Act-Fact-sheet\\_ChildTrends\\_March2020.pdf](https://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Family-First-Act-Fact-sheet_ChildTrends_March2020.pdf)

### *What is next for SafeCare?*

Our highest priority at the NSTRC is to achieve a “Well-Supported” rating. We are pursuing opportunities to conduct additional studies on SafeCare that meet the Prevention Services Clearinghouse standards. We are working closely with states, including Colorado and Iowa, that plan to include SafeCare in their FFPSA submissions and are developing rigorous evaluations that can bolster the SafeCare evidence base.

Also, please note that *SafeCare Augmented* is still under review with the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse. This is the version of SafeCare that is ranked as effective by the Home Visiting Evidence of Effectiveness (HomVEE) review launched by the Department of Health and Human Services. SafeCare Augmented is simply standard SafeCare with additional training for SafeCare providers in Motivational Interviewing and addressing domestic violence. It does not require additional sessions. To learn more, see <https://safecare.publichealth.gsu.edu/training/safecare-augmented/>

### *How can FFPSA decision makers learn more about SafeCare?*

NSTRC leadership is available for web meetings and/or conference calls to assist FFPSA planners in forming the unique SafeCare plan most relevant for the families of focus in your state.

We are deeply grateful for the time, input, and enthusiasm shared by so many of you in support of SafeCare. We encourage all states, territories, and tribes that want to utilize available child welfare programming funds to provide services to families with a child up to 5 years to contact us at [safecare@gsu.edu](mailto:safecare@gsu.edu). NSTRC can assist you in achieving your FFPSA goals and prevention planning.