

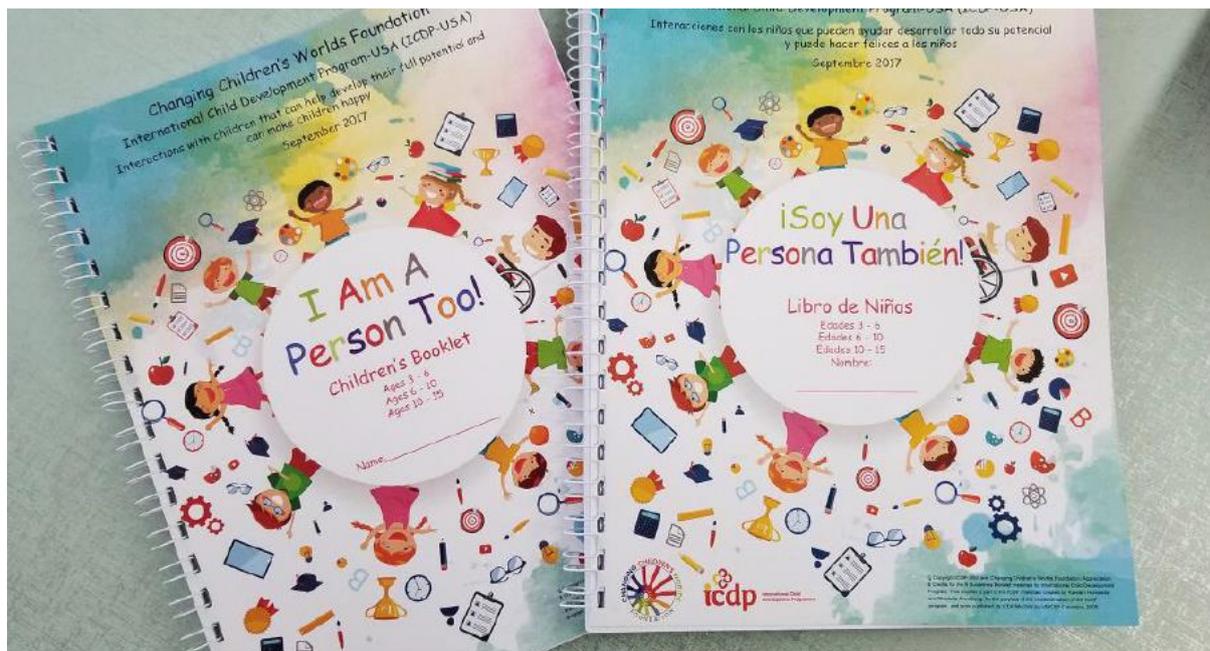
ICDP IN USA - UPDATE 2017

ICDP USA has achieved implementation of over 100 programmes for parents and their children.

2017 was an outstanding year for the Changing Children’s Worlds Foundation (CCWF) under whose umbrella ICDP USA operates.

CCWF brought support to 345 parents/caregiver and 707 children in a record number of programmes from Chicago to Aurora to Elgin.

These programmes range from 4 to 22 parents each, in Parenting Learning Groups ranging from 9 to 16 weeks, often with supplementary Children’s Programmes directly supporting children’s social/emotional, learning and self-regulation skills in parallel to the parenting sessions.



“ICDP: The Best Start” has been implemented in diverse communities throughout Illinois, as well as in Louisiana (New Orleans). Kimberly Svevo-Cianci, founder ICDP USA explains:

Our universal, public health approach, “The Best Start” provides strengthening support for ALL. This is especially important for those who had not been exposed to empathy-based attitudes, behaviours, communications, interactions and relationships in the past as the norm growing up, or who are not experiencing positive relationships in their current families.

Many children, and adults, have had adverse childhood experiences that can potentially

undercut positive development and well-being while young, but also impact our well-being, even our health - as adults.

Adverse experiences include having parents who divorce, a parent who died, a parent who was violent or who drank too much, was incarcerated or suffered from mental illness or who neglected us.

Experiences of poverty, of fearing whether you will have a safe place to sleep, or food to eat, or clothes to wear, or an adult who cares about you - can also be traumatizing.

“The Best Start” supports health equity because it helps build resilience and strength in our parents and in children - to be better equipped with social/emotional skills, which are also critical to being able to learn and to succeed in a job... to face the challenges in the world. A health equity approach is an investment in giving each of us a stronger foundation from which to thrive. We all need a little, no - a lot of, love - to be our best selves as adults. And so do our children.

Some of the programs and partners we are most proud of as of end December 2017, include:

Kane County Jail, St. Charles; Chicago Children's Advocacy Center; Family Focus Programs (Aurora, Cicero, Hermosa, Melrose Park); U-46 Illinois Park Early Childhood Center, Elgin; D129 Todd Early Childhood Center, West Aurora; Children's Home & Aid Programs (Carpentersville, Engelwood, Humboldt Park); Tri-Cities Family Services (Batavia, St.Charles); D131 East Aurora Early Childhood Center; Logan Square Neighborhood Association in CPS Schools/YMCAs; Cook County Juvenile Detention Centre.