

PROGRAM UPDATES & HIGHLIGHTS

CAST 2020-2021 Impact Report

Zero Abuse is pleased to present the first annual <u>CAST Impact Report</u>. This data was aggregated from our annual CAST Data Collection survey and illustrates the specific effect CAST has had in higher education and beyond as we strive to make the world a safer place for children.

We would like to take this time to thank every CAST faculty member and institution who submitted data for the 2020-2021 academic year. Please be on the lookout for our 2nd annual survey form in the coming months as we seek to gain additional insight into CAST's successes for the 2021-2022 academic year!

PACEs Collaboration

Zero Abuse Project is happy to announce that the CAST program has entered into a collaboration with **PACEs Connection**. PACEs Connection is a social network that strives to empower those working to deploy resiliencycentered and trauma-informed resources and practices in their communities. Among the many resources PACEs Connection offers are free handouts! These can be modified to add your logo, printed, and shared at-will. A great look at PACEs science can be found in this presentation you are encouraged to download and share! In addition, we encourage the CAST community to consider joining the PACEs Connection through creating their own **Community PACEs Initiatives**.

ACEs Health Champions Meeting

The Academy on Violence and Abuse has teamed up with the CAST program to offer CAST faculty and students a unique opportunity to learn more about emerging topics in ACEs research and violence prevention/intervention through its ACEs Health Champions Gatherings. Please visit their website for access to past presentations and to RSVP for upcoming events to gain access to empowering information at no cost!

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New CAST Approval & Reapproval News

The Zero Abuse Project CAST Approval process is a rigorous evaluation process equivalent to national accreditation for a CAST program, allowing the academic institution to demonstrate its leadership in child maltreatment intervention and prevention education. We are happy to announce that the the University of Illinois Springfield (UIS) has successfully been re-Approved for its 2nd consecutive term. Approval status lasts five years and includes nationwide recognition for both the postsecondary institution and any students who complete the requisite CAST coursework for their undergraduate or graduate program. To learn more about our Approval process, please contact the CAST Director at tyler@zeroabuseproject.org. To begin the Approval application process, please visit our website here. Details on the recent innovations pushing CAST to new heights at UIS can be discovered through this most recent field update.

NPEIV Think Tank

Registration is now open for the 2022 **National Partnership to End** Interpersonal Violence Across the **Lifespan (NPEIV) Think Tank.** NPEIV is a dedicated CAST partner, with **Action** Team II dedicated to training and mentoring, where CAST awareness, growth, and resource provisioning is an ongoing project-of-interest. The Think Tank is a great opportunity for CAST faculty, students, and frontline professionals to learn from experts in the field of interpersonal violence (IPV) while also working with Action Team II to enhance our CAST project while also exploring new projects that will propel IPV-based training and mentoring in novel ways. The Think Tank is **Saturday**, August 27, 2022 in San Diego, CA. If interested in attending, please register here.

CAST Testimonials

We wish to thank students and faculty for submitting your CAST testimonials. Some of our testimonial highlights include:

- "There is no such thing as "too much training" when it comes to preparing social practitioners for the realities we face in the field.."
- "I believe CAST should be a vital part of any program preparing students to work with children who may be victims of abuse or neglect.""
- "I would love to see this movement continue, and I would love to see more universities provide this kind of training in preparation for the next generation, so that people that go into the field are much better equipped."

If you have a testimonial (or several) to share that you'd like to have highlighted, please feel free to **share these with us**.