



Project DIRECT Team



Courtney N. Baker, Ph.D., Director

Dissemination and Implementation Research in Early Childhood at Tulane

Many young children with behavior and pre-academic problems do not grow out of them without help. Our goal is to bridge the gap between research and practice in order to ensure the most effective intervention and prevention programs are provided in low-income community settings serving young children. With this effort, we work actively to close disparities in health and achievement.

Project DIRECT conducts research...our findings improve the well-being of children and families in New Orleans and across the country.

Our research efforts focus on better understanding and improving how evidence-based practices are implemented in underresourced settings serving young children and their families. Project DIRECT's research is equitable, relevant, and culturally competent. We use a best practice community-based participatory research (CBPR) approach, and our activities are monitored by our Community Advisory Board (CAB).

Project DIRECT provides clinical services...our efforts locally help each child get the healthiest start possible.

Our team utilizes an early childhood consultation model as the best practice approach to working with young children. In most cases, we do not pull children from their classrooms to work with them one-on-one; instead, we support teachers and other caregivers to implement behavioral interventions in the classroom setting. In line with the Pyramid Model Framework, we also provide support for classroom- or center-wide initiatives that promote the healthy development of young children and their families.

Project DIRECT trains the next generation...our program provides training and professional development in child development, mental health, and early care and education.

The activities of our team feature hands-on training opportunities, in which Tulane students learn how to conduct best practice community-based research and community members benefit from our capacity-building consultation model and our traditional professional development seminars.

Contact us today!

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