

The Five Protective Factors

The Children's Trust and our partners strengthen Massachusetts families by helping them build these Protective Factors in their lives.



1 Parental Resilience

The ability to cope and bounce back from all types of challenges.

2 Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development

Accurate information about raising young children and appropriate expectations for their behavior.

3 Social Connections

Friends, family members, neighbors, and others in the community who provide emotional support and assistance.

4 Children's Social and Emotional Development

A child's ability to interact positively with others and communicate his or her emotions.

5 Concrete Support in Times of Need

Accessing life essentials, such as food, clothing, and housing, when there is an immediate need.



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The Center for the Study of Social Policy developed the Protective Factors.