



# ***Center on the Social and Emotional Foundation for Early Learning***

## ***The Pyramid Model: Promoting Social Emotional Competence***

<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel>



**naeyc**



# CSEFEL brings together the expertise of faculty from the following institutions:

- Vanderbilt University (Hemmeter & Corso)
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Ostrosky, Yates, & Santos)
- University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center (Smith & Strain)
- University of South Florida (Fox & Dunlap)
- ZERO TO THREE (Eggbeer & Mann)
- Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development (Kaufmann)



# CSEFEL

- National Center focused on promoting the social emotional development and school readiness of young children birth to age 5.
- Jointly funded by the Office of Head Start and the Child Care Bureau, under the auspices of the Administration on Children, Youth and Families at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



# CSEFEL

- Analyze and synthesize the research on the social emotional development of low-income children and translate the findings into materials that are practical and accessible.
- Engage in intensive T/TA to selected states, territories and/or tribal partners to foster professional development that sustains the use of effective practices at the local level.
- Disseminate evidence-based practices and materials via an interactive website.



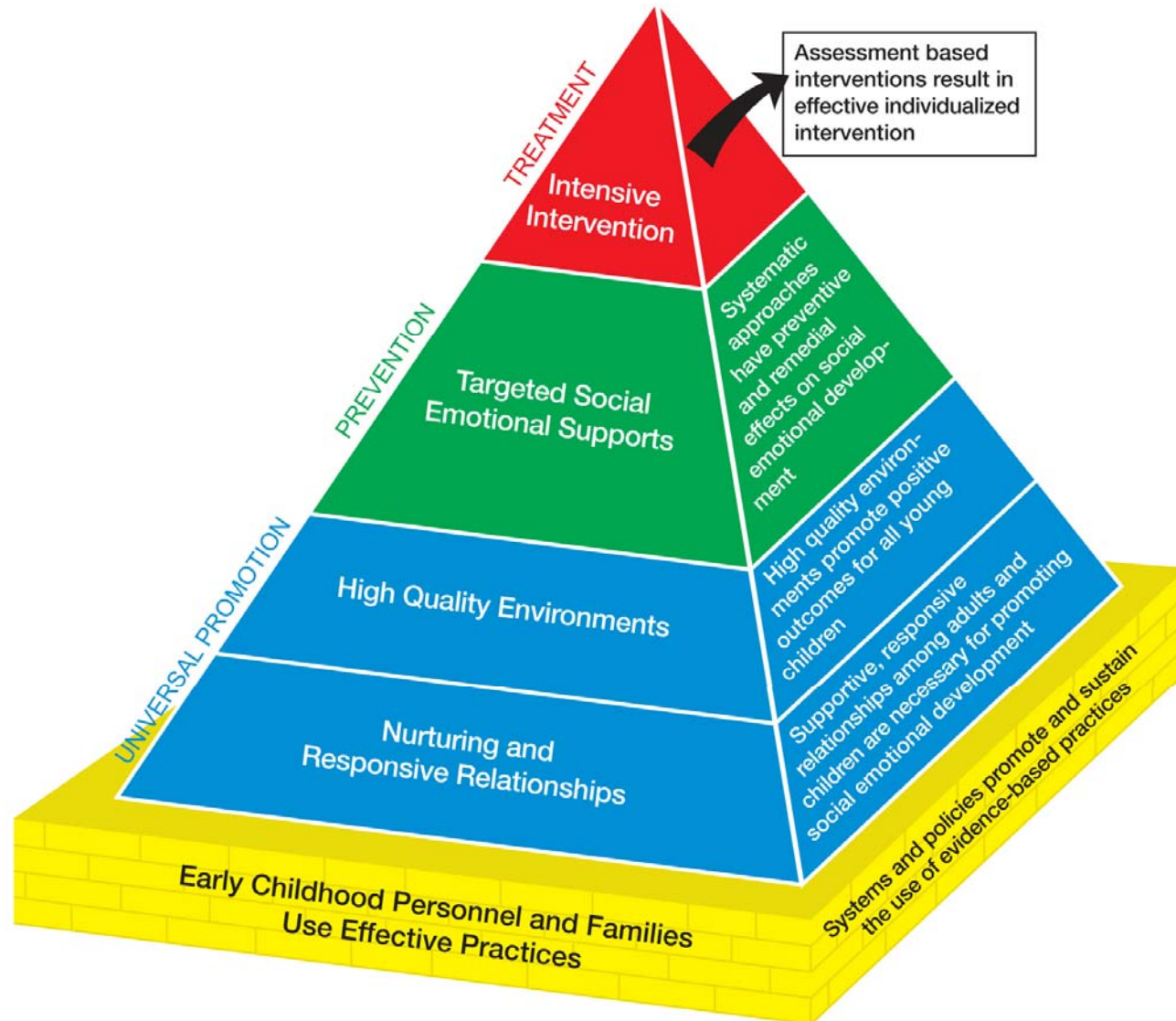
# CSEFEL

## Guiding Principles/Values

- Supporting young children's social and emotional development to **prevent** challenging behaviors;
- **Individualizing interventions** to meet children's and families' unique interests, strengths, and needs;
- Promoting **skill building with enough intensity** to affect change;
- **Implementing strategies in the context** of naturally occurring routines and environments;
- Ensuring fidelity of use through a **systematic change process**; and
- **Modifying strategies** to meet the cultural and linguistic diversity of families and children.



# The Pyramid Model: Promoting Social Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children



# Key Ideas around Developmental Outcomes and Assessment

- The development of social emotional competence in early childhood is an important foundation for children's later success
- Researchers have identified early predictors of problem behaviors (i.e., language difficulties, maternal depression)
- An intervention approach should include universal strategies , secondary strategies and targeted strategies (such as in the *Pyramid Model*)
- Assessment and the early identification of social emotional problem areas are critical



# Key Ideas around Developmental Outcomes and Assessment cont.

- Parents'/caregivers' involvement in the assessment of social emotional competence is important
- Children's social emotional competence is intertwined with culture
- Therefore....

early childhood professionals must look at social emotional development as residing within an environmental context and design assessment processes and interventions that reflect a multi-tiered approach to supporting young children's social emotional competence and decreasing the incidence of challenging behavior

