What is BEES?

- 8 week parent support program
- Designed for parents & caregivers of children 0-3
- Participants must meet specific risk factors

Project Goals

- Support development through a set of sequenced activities
- Test different program delivery systems
- Test curriculum for strengthening early emotional skills in infants and toddlers

Curriculum Themes

- Building parental awareness
- Listening to & interacting with child
- Identifying & labeling emotions
- Developing behavior regulation strategies

Program Sites

- Rural face-to-face: Cheboygan County
- Urban face-to-face: Saginaw County
- Interactive online format: Available statewide

Program Impacts

Preliminary results suggest positive links between BEES and:

- Parenting functioning
- Knowledge about early childhood social-emotional development
- Quality of parenting, including emotionally supportive parenting

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About BEES

BEES was developed through a partnership between MSU Extension’s Children & Youth Institute and the Department of Human Development and Family Studies and funded by a USDA/NIFA Children Youth and Families at Risk grant.

Parents say they learned...

“What my children’s behavior really means and the best way for me to handle it.”

“To stop throwing out empty threats.”

“The importance of talking about feelings and emotions.”

“How to deal with my child’s stress and tantrums.”

“That temper tantrums aren’t toddlers being bad!”

“The importance of structure.”

And so much more!