The Pathway to Improved Outcomes for Children and Families

Everyday Actions That Help Build Protective Factors

- **Everyday Actions**
  - Demonstrate in multiple ways that parents are valued
  - Honor each family’s race, language, culture, history and approach to parenting
  - Encourage parents to manage stress effectively
  - Support parents as decision-makers and help build decision-making and leadership skills
  - Help parents understand how to buffer their child during stressful times

- **Protective Factors**
  - Parental Resilience
  - Social Connections
  - Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development
  - Concrete Support in Times of Need
  - Social and Emotional Competence of Children

- **Results**
  - Strengthened Families
  - Optimal Child Development
  - Reduced Likelihood of Child Abuse and Neglect

- **Help parents foster their child’s social emotional development**
  - Model nurturing support to children
  - Include children’s social and emotional development activities in programming
  - Help children develop a positive cultural identity and interact in a diverse society
  - Respond proactively when social or emotional development seems to need support

- **Help families value, build, sustain and use social connections**
  - Create an inclusive environment
  - Facilitate mutual support around parenting and other issues
  - Promote engagement in the community and participation in community activities

- **Model developmentally appropriate interactions with children**
  - Provide information and resources on parenting and child development
  - Encourage exploration of parenting issues or concerns
  - Provide opportunities to try out new parenting strategies
  - Address parenting issues from a strength-based perspective

- **Respond immediately when families are in crisis**
  - Provide information and connections to other services in the community
  - Help families to develop skills and tools they need to identify their needs and connect to supports

Graphics by Norma McReynolds for the NATIONAL ALLIANCE