Acknowledgments

This toolkit was prepared and is offered for use by Milwaukee Coalition for Children's Mental Health (CCMH) which is a project of Mental Health America of Wisconsin (MHA-WI) located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. CCMH is funded by the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment at the Medical College of Wisconsin. The vision of CCMH is to "build upon the strengths of our families, communities, and systems to promote children's optimal social emotional health and well-being." This toolkit draws upon the skills, research, and lived experiences of CCMH team members and partners.

Shivangini Gupta led the creation of the toolkit as part of her Master of Public Health capstone through the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Zilber School of Public Health. Her field supervisor, Blake Tierney (CCMH Manager), worked closely with Shivangini to design the capstone as well as complete and disseminate the product. Shivangini and Blake would like to acknowledge the support from the variety of staff, partners, and professors who made this toolkit possible. The toolkit went through many phases of research and revision before arriving at this product that is being published.

Many thanks to Leah Jepson (CCMH Director) and Erin Malcolm (Lead Evaluator) for their guidance, mentorship, and feedback, especially through the piloting process. Thank you for asking questions and providing space to try something new. Thank you also to Sarah Frank, CCMH MSW intern, for providing support wherever it was needed.

Many thanks to partners at Wisconsin state agencies and nonprofits for their support through feedback, connections, research, or staff capacity. Thank you to Children's Health Alliance, especially Karen Ordinans, for letting Sarah Waara work with us to collect stories from family leaders. Thank you to the Wisconsin Office of Children's Mental Health, specifically Linda Hall, Andrea Turtenwald, and Melissa Murphy for your sample proclamation, the statewide initiative for Children's Mental Health Awareness Day, and for your many ideas that shaped the final product. Thank you to Lana Nenide from the Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health for your fact sheets and to Abbe Braun from Supporting Families Together Association for the statewide data.

This project went through a pilot test with a small group of CCMH partners. Thank you to the three partners who shared their stories with us and who provided feedback on the product: Makini Triplett, Kamaria Holland, and Lakeeta Watts. Thank you to Dea Wright from the Milwaukee Office of Early Childhood Initiatives for being part of this and helping us navigate the city proclamation process. Thank you also to Vickie Walsh (United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Waukesha County), Christine Larson (YMCA), and Kevin O'Brien (Children's Wisconsin).

This project was possible due to the support of the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee Zilber School of Public Health faculty and staff: David Kioko, Amy E Harley, Mary Elise Papke, Gage Patterson.

We would also like to thank the thought leaders whose pioneering work laid the groundwork for what we did with this toolkit. Thanks to Dr. Walter Gilliam whose landmark

studies have revealed the injustice of exclusionary discipline in this country. Thanks to the Early Childhood Colorado Partnership for their work with Frameworks Institute for publishing a shared message bank of what works when talking about early childhood development with different audiences. Thanks to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for their *Learn the Signs*. Act Early. work on developmental milestones (and what they are doing now with COVID-19). Thank you to Zero to Three, PreventExpulsion.org, Ross Greene, and many others.

Thank you to each person mentioned (and the many who we could not mention on this page) for supporting us in creating this toolkit for CCMH to spread awareness around children's mental health. This would not have been possible without your valuable contribution. #ItTakesAVillage #WeAreTheVillage