

## School of Medicine

Prevention Research Center for Family and Child Health DANCE Program – Caregiving in STEP

## **DANCE Integration: Getting Started with DANCE During COVID-19**

Congratulations on completing DANCE Fundamentals and embarking on DANCE Integration! Below are suggestions to guide DANCE Integration given the complexities presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. These tips will help deepen your understanding of the DANCE tool, continue developing your observation skills, and encourage use of DANCE language and concepts in your day-to-day practice and client telehealth visits.

- 1. **Review** the DANCE Coding Manual and Coding Form(s).
  - Review written examples for each behavior
- 2. Code practice clips and check select Gold Standards on the DANCE Website
- 3. Reflect with supervisor and colleagues.
  - Set goals (e.g., review 2 behaviors, discuss DANCE with a colleague, practice introducing with 2 colleagues, code a video) and discuss DANCE progress with your Supervisor.
  - Share questions, challenges, and insights:
    - How did you start using DANCE in your practice?
    - What do you say when you introduce DANCE to clients? When do you introduce DANCE?
    - What materials have you used to support DANCE discussions with clients?
    - What factors influence your DANCE discussions with clients?
    - How are you using DANCE through telehealth?
- 4. **Identify behaviors** you are curious to observe or address.
  - Based on past visits, identify a DANCE behavior you would like to support with a client.
    Use informal observations/prior reflection if you haven't previously coded DANCE with your client.
- 5. **Share DANCE information** with clients.
  - Use DANCE Cards to begin talking about one or two behaviors. PDFs of the DANCE Cards are available on the DANCE Website (available in English and Spanish).
  - Customize and share a *What My Child Says* handout to affirm strengths and promote areas of enhancement or growth.
  - Use DANCE STEPS to identify NFP guideline materials and PIPE lessons to address areas of enhancement or growth or to maintain strengths.
- 6. Practice coding during Telehealth visits.
  - See the Supporting Parenting with Infants and Toddlers During COVID-19: DANCE in Practice resource on the DANCE Website for guidance on conducting DANCE observations through telehealth.