

CRCF Illuminates Research **No.1**

A New Lens in Child Protection Settings: The Trauma-Informed ARC Framework

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What is the Social Issue?



Many children and youth face challenges that compromise their well-being and social functioning, including exposure to interpersonal trauma.

Trauma “occurs as a result of violence, abuse, neglect, loss, disaster, war and other emotionally harmful experiences.”¹

One model that aims to improve services for children impacted by trauma is the Attachment, Self-Regulation, and Competency (ARC) Framework: A System-Based Approach to Trauma by Blaustein and Kinniburgh². ARC is a promising intervention that has been implemented in more than 300 sites in the U.S.³

1 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2014, p. 2
 2 Blaustein & Kinniburgh, 2018; www.arcframework.org
 3 <http://www.traumacenter.org/>



What is the CRCF Doing?

- Delphine Collin-Vézina and her research team have been supporting the implementation of 4 ARC programs in partner agencies across Quebec.



This model [...] encourages a proactive response to childrens' [...] trauma versus a reactive response.

Assunta Gallo, Director of Youth Protection (CIUSSS Centre-Sud-de-Montreal)

Workers are better able to respond to [the childrens'] needs and intervene with greater sensitivity and empathy.”

Mohsen Romdhani, Director General (Boscoville)

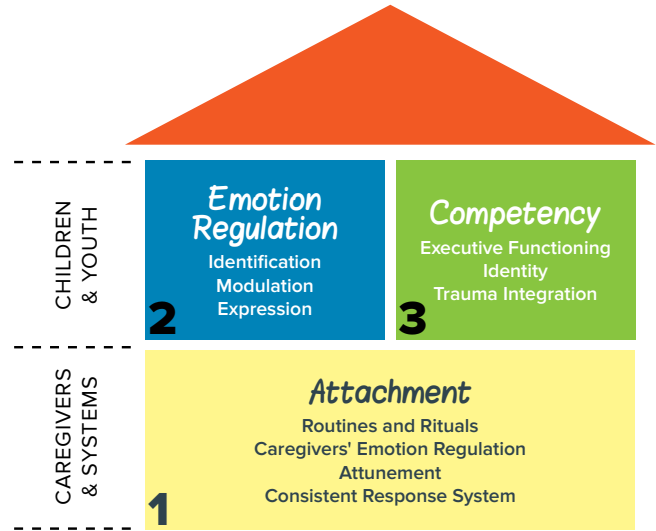
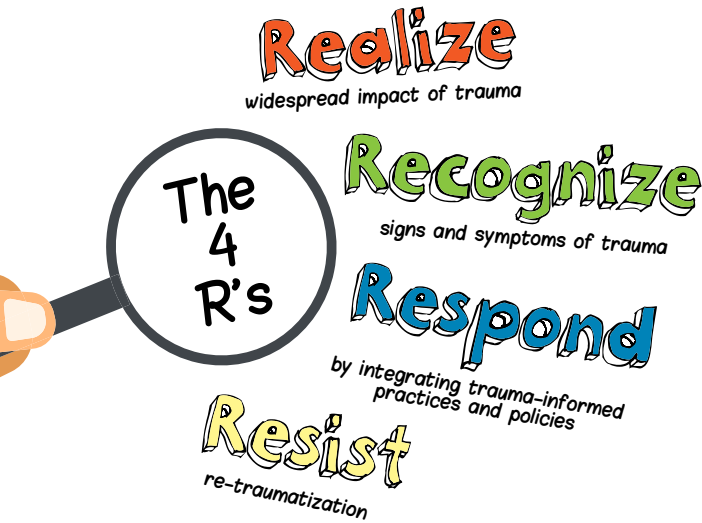
See reverse for more information

What is ARC?

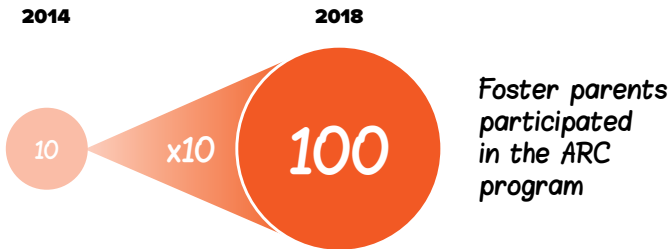
- We can positively shift the trajectories of vulnerable populations by adopting programs that incorporate the Four R'S: Key Assumptions in a Trauma-Informed Approach.⁴

4 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2014, p. 9

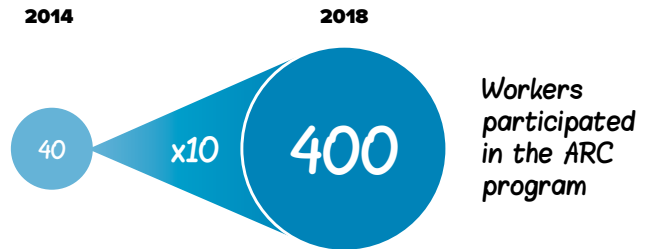
- The ARC framework is one of these trauma-informed approaches and comprises 10 building blocks or intervention targets.



What has Been Accomplished?



- The ARC program improves placement stability and positively shifts the foster parents' perspectives on the children's challenges.



- The program improves the caregivers' sensitivity and attunement to the children and youths experience.

ARC Team in Quebec

PARTNERS: Health and Social Services: CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal, CISSS de l'Outaouais, CISSS de Lanaudière, CIUSSS de la Capitale-Nationale, CIUSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal, CIUSSS Mauricie-Centre-du-Québec; CISSS Montérégie; CISSS Abitibi-Témiscamingue; CISSS Bas-St-Laurent; CIUSSS Estrie; CISSS Chaudière-Appalaches; CISSS Gaspésie; CIUSSS Saguenay Lac St Jean **School Boards:** Lester B. Pearson School Board, English Montreal School Board **NGO:** Boscoville

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