



Protective Factors for Reducing the Likelihood of Child Abuse and Neglect

Individual or Group	Protective Factors
Individual/Child Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• good health• positive peer relationships• strong, positive social networks• hobbies/interests• high self-esteem• independence• secure attachment with parent/s• social skills• positive disposition
Family/Parental Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• secure attachment with child• positive parent-child relationship• supportive family environment• extended family networks• high level of parental education• parental resilience• concrete support for parents• sound parental coping skills• awareness of stages in child development

Community/Environmental Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• strong, positive social networks• stable housing• employment• family expectations of pro-social behavior• well-resourced schools available in neighborhood• access to health and social services
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Sources: Counts, Buffington, Chang-Rios, Rasmussen, & Preacher (2010); US Department of Health and Human Services (2011).