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Collaborative Values Inventory: What Do We Believe about Alcohol and Other Drugs and Services to Children and Families?

Explanation: Many collaboratives begin their work without much discussion in depth of what their members agree upon or what they don't agree upon as well. This questionnaire can serve as a neutral way of assessing how much a group shares ideas about the values that underlie its work. It can surface issues that may not be raised if the collaborative begins its discussion about programs and grant proposals, rather than what its members really value in doing their work. To know that a group may have strong disagreements about some of the most basic assumptions about their community and its needs and resources may help the group clarify later disagreements about less important issues which are really about these more important underlying values.

1. Dealing with the problems caused by alcohol and other drugs would improve the lives of a significant number of children, families, and others in need in our community.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

2. Dealing with the problems caused by alcohol and other drugs should be one of the highest priorities for funding services in our community.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

3. Illegal drugs are a bigger problem in our community than use and abuse of alcohol.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

4. People who abuse alcohol and other drugs have a disease for which they need treatment.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

5. People who are chemically dependent have a disease for which they need treatment.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

6. People who abuse alcohol and other drugs should be held fully responsible for their own actions.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

7. There is no way that a parent who abuses alcohol or other drugs can be an effective parent.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

8. There is no way that a parent who uses alcohol or other drugs can be an effective parent.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

9. There is no way that a parent who is chemically dependent on alcohol or other drugs can be an effective parent.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

10. In assessing the effects of the use of alcohol and other drugs, the standard we should use for deciding when to remove children from their parents is whether the parents are fully abstaining from use of alcohol or other drugs.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

11. In assessing the effects of the use of alcohol and other drugs, the standard we should use for deciding when to remove children from their parents is whether the parents are competently parenting and whether their children are safe.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

12. We have enough money in the systems that respond to the problems of alcohol and other drugs today; what we need is more effective programs using the funding we already have.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

13. We should fund programs that serve children and families based on their results, not based on the number of people they serve, as we often do at present.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

14. We should fund programs that treat parents for their abuse of alcohol and other drugs based on their results, not based on the number of people they serve, as we often do at present.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

15. If we funded programs based on results, some programs would lose some or all of their funding.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

16. Our county agencies do a good job of involving people from the community in planning and evaluating programs that respond to the problems of substance abuse.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

17. Our county agencies do a good job of involving people from the community in planning and evaluating programs that serve families affected by child abuse/neglect.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

18. Changing the system so that more services were delivered closer to the neighborhoods and community level would improve the effectiveness of services.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

19. Changing the system to allow more services to be delivered by for-profit agencies would improve the effectiveness of services.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

20. Changing the system to require that all clients, regardless of income, who receive services should make some kind of payment for the services with donated time, services, or cash would improve the effectiveness of services.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

21. If agencies delivering services to children and families would work more closely together when they are serving the same families, the effectiveness of services would improve.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

22. The most important causes of the problems of children and families cannot be addressed by government; they need to be addressed within the family and by non-governmental organizations such as churches, neighborhood organizations, and self-help groups.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

23. The problems caused by use of tobacco by youth are largely unrelated to the problems caused by the use of alcohol and other drugs by youth.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

24. A neighborhood's residents should have the right to decide how many liquor stores should be allowed in their neighborhood.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

25. The messages which youth receive from the media, TV, music, etc. are a big part of the problem of abuse of alcohol and other drugs by youth.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

26. The price of alcohol and tobacco should be increased to a point where it pays for the damage caused in the community by use and abuse of these legal drugs.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

27. I believe that the Family Group Decision Making model is very effective in assisting families in recognizing the effect of alcohol and other drugs on the family.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

28. I believe that the Family Group Decision Making model is very effective in assisting families to enter and complete treatment for alcohol and other drug problems.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

29. I believe that a comprehensive training program for child welfare staff in serving families affected by alcohol and other drugs will be sufficient to address the problems of substance abuse/dependence in child protective services.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

30. I believe that confidentiality of client records is the most important barrier for alcohol & drug treatment and children services agencies to work together.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

31. I believe that publicly-funded alcohol and drug treatment providers should prioritize women from child welfare as their most important clients to receive services.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

32. Some parents with problems with alcohol and other drugs will never succeed in treatment.

Agree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Disagree

33. The proportion of parents who will succeed in treatment for alcohol and other drug problems is approximately (circle one).

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

34. The proportion of parents who will succeed in family services, regain custody of their children, and not re-abuse or re-neglect is (circle one).

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

35. The most important causes of problems affecting children, families, and others in need in our community are [circle only three]:

a lack of self-discipline
a loss of family values
racism
drug abuse
mental illness
domestic violence
alcoholism
poverty
economic changes that have eliminated good jobs
low intelligence
inadequate support for low-income families who work
lack of skills needed to keep a good job
the harm done by government programs
illegal immigration

the level of violence tolerated by the community
the drug business
incompetent parenting
too few law enforcement personnel
fragmented systems of service delivery
deteriorating public schools
the way the welfare program works
children born and raised in single-parent homes
a lack of business involvement in solutions
too few jails and prisons
illiteracy
child abuse
an over-emphasis upon consumer values
media concentration on negatives
Other _____

36. The primary arena I work in is:

- _____ Alcohol and other drug programs
- _____ Services to children and families
- _____ Other

37. Years of professional experience in my primary arena: _____