The Role of Collaboration in Working with Child Welfare Families Affected by Substance Use Disorders

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Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Center for Substance Abuse Treatment

and the
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
Children’s Bureau
Office on Child Abuse and Neglect

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Administration for Children and Families
www.samhsa.gov
The *National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare (NCSACW)* is a national resource center providing information, expert consultation, training and technical assistance to child welfare, dependency court and substance abuse treatment professionals to improve the safety, permanency, well-being and recovery outcomes for children, parents and families.
Mission

To improve safety, permanency, well-being and recovery outcomes for children, parents and families affected by substance use and co-occurring disorders in the child welfare and family judicial systems.

Goals

• Provide a continuum of technical assistance and training strategies and venues that assist local, State and Tribal agencies to improve systems and practice.

• Use a framework and models of effective collaboration to provide stakeholders with a variety of practices, policies and procedures that lead to improved outcomes and use of resources
Efforts Across the Nation

NCSACW In-Depth Technical Assistance Sites (IDTA)
Children Affected by Methamphetamine Sites (CAM)
Children’s Bureau Regional Partnership Grants (RPG)
OJJDP Family Drug Courts (OJJDP)
Regional Partnership Grants (RPGs)

- Authorized by the Child and Family Services Improvement Act of 2006
- 53 regional partnership grants awarded in September, 2007: $145 million over 5 years
- Improve the safety, permanency, and well-being of children affected by methamphetamine and other substance abuse
- The grants address a variety of common systemic and practice challenges that are barriers to optimal family outcomes
Brief Overview of RPGs

- The **53 grantee** lead agencies are based in **29 States** and include **six Tribes:**
  - Crow
  - Choctaw
  - Cook Inlet
  - Klamath
  - Omaha
  - White Earth

- The lead agencies represent a wide range of governmental and private sector organizations: child welfare, substance use treatment, courts & other child and family service entities
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

- **Project:** Choctaw Wind Horse Project SOAR

- **Partners:**
  - Choctaw Nation (multiple tribal TX programs)
  - 2 County Departments of Human Services
  - 3 County Drug Courts
  - 18 School Districts
  - 2 Health Coalitions

- **Target Population:** 60 foster child/families per year
  (Services co-located in 3 Counties with Drug Courts)
Cook Inlet Tribal Council

**Project:** Alaska Native Family Preservation Unit

**Partners:**
- Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc.
- Cook Inlet Tribal Council Family Services and Recovery Services
- Alaska Office of Children’s Services
- Native Village of Eklutna.

**Target Population:** Alaska Native and American Indian families; 420 unduplicated families
White Earth Band of Chippewa

- **Project:** White Earth Reservation Child Well Being Project
- **Partners:**
  - White Earth Indian Child Welfare
  - White Earth Substance Abuse Program
  - White Earth Home Health
  - White Earth Tribal Courts
  - White Earth Law Enforcement
  - White Earth Tribal Mental Health
  - Indian Health Services
  - White Earth Child Care
  - Dream Catcher Homes
  - Supportive Housing Services
- **Target Population:** 50 caregivers and 125 children who are in or at-risk for out of home placement, per year.
RPG Tribal Cultural Strategies

• Culture based Assessment
  - White Earth & Omaha Tribes

• Cultural Support Services
  - Positive Indian Parenting (adapted for tribal practices)
  - Culture, Language & Tribal History Education
  - Cultural Ceremonies (e.g. healing, naming & honoring)
  - Utilization of Elders & Traditional Cultural leaders

• Cross-agency Staff & Community Training
  - Project Making Medicine (Child abuse, Domestic Violence, Parent/Child Interaction)
  - Wellbriety Educational Curriculum
  - White Bison Medicine Wheel
  - Walking in Beauty on the Red Road (the evidenced-based, family-oriented recovery program)
  - Community Substance Abuse Education & Awareness activities

• Cross-agency Advisory Councils – Bridges vs Silo’s!
  - Promotes system & practice ownership, collaborative planning/decision making and sustainability planning.
Quick Look @ Tribal RPG Data!
Children Remain at Home

Percentage of children identified as a risk of removal from the home who are able to remain in the custody of a parent/caregiver through case closure

- **Cumulative Tribal Data (n=789)**: 92.8%
- **RPG Children (n=8,237)**: 92.7%

Red: Removed from Home Prior to RPG Case Closure
Blue: Remained at Home through RPG Case Closure
Average Length of Stay in Foster Care

For children discharged from foster care, average length of stay (in days) from date of most recent entry into such care until date of discharge.

Percentage of RPG Children Discharged from Foster Care Within Given Number of Months

- Less than 1 month: 14.6% (Tribal), 10.9% (RPG)
- 1-5 months: 27.8% (Tribal), 21.9% (RPG)
- 6-11 months: 30.1% (Tribal), 19.2% (RPG)
- 12-17 months: 19.9% (Tribal), 11.9% (RPG)
- 18-23 months: 8.6% (Tribal), 9.0% (RPG)
- 24 months+: 17.9% (Tribal), 8.2% (RPG)
Timeliness of Reunification

Percentage of children who were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the most recent entry into foster care

**Percentage of RPG Children Who Were Reunified Within Given Number of Months**

- **Cumulative Tribal Data** (n=147)
  - Less than 3 months: 32.0%
  - 4-6 months: 26.2%
  - 7-9 months: 12.5%
  - 10-12 months: 17.6%
  - 12 or more months: 38.8%

- **RPG Children** (n=2,843)
  - Less than 3 months: 10.9%
  - 4-6 months: 12.6%
  - 7-9 months: 5.4%
  - 10-12 months: 12.9%
  - 12 or more months: 30.2%
RPG Children Assessed for and Connected to Needed Supportive Services

- Developmental Services: 64.8% (Cumulative Tribal Data) vs. 76.7% (RPG Children)
- Mental Health or Counseling Services: 70.3% (Cumulative Tribal Data) vs. 82.2% (RPG Children)
- Primary Pediatric Care: 71.9% (Cumulative Tribal Data) vs. 88.7% (RPG Children)
- Educational Services: 99.5% (Cumulative Tribal Data) vs. 82.3% (RPG Children)
Access to Substance Abuse Treatment

Percentage of parents or caregivers who were able to access timely and appropriate substance abuse treatment; number of days between program entry and treatment entry.

**Percentage of Adults, Number of Days Between Program Entry and Treatment Entry**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days Between Program Entry and Treatment Entry</th>
<th>Cumulative Tribal Data (n=198)</th>
<th>RPG Adults (n=8441)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 days (i.e. same day)</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to 14 days</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 to 45 days</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>46 to 90 days</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91 to 180 days</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 180 days</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Retention in Substance Abuse Treatment

Percentage of parents/caregivers referred to substance abuse treatment who remained until treatment completion; average length of stay in treatment for referred parents/caregivers

**Substance Abuse Treatment Discharges, Percentage by Discharge Status**

- **Completed Treatment**: Cumulative Tribal Data (n=198) - 58.2%, RPG Adults (n=7,176) - 36.6%
- **Transferred to Another Program**: Cumulative Tribal Data - 3.8%, RPG Adults - 7.6%
- **Dropped Out**: Cumulative Tribal Data - 22.0%, RPG Adults - 16.0%
- **Other**: Cumulative Tribal Data - 20.7%
RPG Adults Assessed for and Connected to Needed Supportive Services

- Housing Assistance: 67.8% Cumulative Tribal Data, 68.4% RPG Children
- Parenting Training: 67.1% Cumulative Tribal Data, 86.0% RPG Children
- Domestic Violence Services: 51.9% Cumulative Tribal Data, 70.1% RPG Children
- Employment-Vocational Services*: 61.4% Cumulative Tribal Data, 67.8% RPG Children
- Continuing Care/Recovery Support: 69.9% Cumulative Tribal Data, 88.0% RPG Children
- Alternative Therapies**: 58.2% Cumulative Tribal Data, 87.9% RPG Children

*Only Cook Inlet and White Earth
** Only White Earth
Collaborative Capacity Instrument (CCI): Summary Scores, Cook Inlet, White Earth & Choctaw, Year 1 and 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community/Family</td>
<td>2.03</td>
<td>2.36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Related Agencies</td>
<td>2.41</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budgeting</td>
<td>2.02</td>
<td>2.39</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff Development</td>
<td>2.13</td>
<td>2.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Info Sharing</td>
<td>2.17</td>
<td>2.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outcomes</td>
<td>2.12</td>
<td>2.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>2.15</td>
<td>2.43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engage/Retain</td>
<td>2.37</td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screen/Assess</td>
<td>2.38</td>
<td>2.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values</td>
<td>2.52</td>
<td>2.76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Mean Scores

Year 1
- Community/Family: 2.03
- Related Agencies: 2.41
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- Staff Development: 2.13
- Info Sharing: 2.17
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Year 5
- Community/Family: 2.36
- Related Agencies: 2.67
- Budgeting: 2.39
- Staff Development: 2.42
- Info Sharing: 2.67
- Outcomes: 2.46
- Children: 2.43
- Engage/Retain: 2.60
- Screen/Assess: 2.66
- Values: 2.76
Cross Agency/Partner Collaboration

• Now let’s take look at this same data set from a Tribal Relational Worldview approach!
Relational Worldview
Native and Tribal Thought

Context
Mind
Body
Spirit

BALANCE
Relational Worldview

**Individual and Family Level**

- **Social History**
  - Economics
  - Work/School
  - Family/Peers
  - Community
  - Culture

- **Context**
- **Mind**
- **Body**
- **Spirit**

- **Innate Positive**
- **Learned Positive**
- **Innate Negative**
- **Learned Negative**

- **Knowledge/Judgment**
- **Thinking Process**
- **Self-Esteem**
- **Memories**
- **Emotions**

- **Bio-Chemistry**
- **Genetics**
- **Health Status**
- **Sleep/Rest State**
- **Substance Use/Abuse**

**Mind**
- **Self Esteem**
- **Memories**
- **Emotions**

**Body**
- **Bio-Chemistry**
- **Genetics**
- **Health Status**
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**Context**

**Spirit**
Relational Worldview
Organizational Level

Physical
Economic
Political
Social

(Context)
Environment

(Mind)
Infrastructure

(Spirit)
Mission

(Body)
Resources

Policies/Procedures
Mgmt. Structure
Personnel Mgmt.
Fiscal Mgmt.
Service Design
Strategic Plans

Human Beings
Leadership
Champions
Information
Funding
Coalitions

Mandate
Org. Spirit
Values
Purpose
Vision
Mission
Relational Worldview
Organization and Community Level

Working with Related Agencies
Building Community Supports
Underlying Values
(Shared Vision)
Joint Accountability and Shared Outcomes

Environment
(Mind)
Infrastructure
(Spirit)
Mission
(Body)
Resources

Daily Practice
- Screening & Assessment
- Engagement & Retention in Care
- Services to Children Information Systems

Training/Staff Development
Budgeting/Program Sustainability

Screening & Assessment
Engagement & Retention in Care
Services to Children
Information Systems
Relational Worldview

1 = Not agree, 2 = Somewhat agree, 3 = agree

Working with Related Agencies
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Summary Scores, Year 1 and 5
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Working with Related Agencies

Building Community Supports

Underlying Values
(Shared Vision)

Joint Accountability and Shared Outcomes

Training/Staff Development

Budgeting/Program Sustainability

Daily Practice
- Screening & Assessment
- Engagement & Retention in Care
- Services to Children

Information Systems

Environment
(Mind)
Infrastructures
(Body)
Resources
(Mission)
(Spirit)
Sustainability Status of Tribal RPGs

**Fully Sustained**
Choctaw - 100%
Cook Inlet Tribal Council – 80% (minus co-located state staff)
White Earth - 100%

**Un-sustained**
Crow
Klamath
Omaha
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