



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

Many collaboratives begin their work without much discussion of what their members agree or disagree about in terms of underlying values. This questionnaire is 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 work with an emphasis on programs and operational issues, without addressing the important values issues affecting their work. Learning that a group may have strong disagreements about basic assumptions that affect its community's needs and resources may help the group clarify later disagreements about less important issues which are really about these more important underlying values.

After reviewing the results from a collaborative's scoring of the Inventory, it is important to discuss the areas of common agreement and divergent views. That discussion should lead to a consensus on principles that the collaborative members agree can form the basis of state or local priorities for implementing practice and policies changes, leading to improved services and outcomes for families.

Identify your own role in your organization:

1. Staff Level:

- Front-line staff
- Supervisor
- Manager
- Administrator
- Other, Specify: _____

2. Gender:

- Male
- Female

3. Area of Primary Responsibility:

- Substance Abuse Services
- Child Welfare Services
- Dependency Court Judicial Officer
- Attorney Practicing in Dependency Court
- Domestic Violence
- Mental Health
- Other, Specify: _____

4. Age: _____ Years

5. Jurisdiction of Agency or Court:

- Federal Government/National
- State Office
- Within State Regional Office
- County
- Community-Based Organization
- Reservation
- Other: Specify _____

6. Race/Ethnicity:

- African-American
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Caucasian
- Hispanic
- Native American
- Other: _____

7. Years of professional experience in my primary program area: _____

Circle the response category that most closely represents your extent of agreement with each of the following statements:

- 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.**

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly 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.**

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

- 3) **Dealing with the problems of child abuse and neglect should be one of the highest priorities for funding services in our State.**

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

- 4) **Illegal drugs are a bigger problem in our community than use and abuse of alcohol.**

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

- 5) **People who abuse alcohol and other drugs have a disease for which they need treatment.**

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

- 6) **People who are chemically dependent have a disease for which they need treatment.**

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

- 7) **People who abuse alcohol and other drugs should be held fully responsible for their own actions.**

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

- 8) **There is no way that a parent who abuses alcohol or other drugs can be an effective parent.**

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

- 9) **There is no way that a parent who uses alcohol or other drugs can be an effective parent.**

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

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

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

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

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

12) Parents who have been ordered to remain clean and sober should face consequences for non-compliance with those orders.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

13) Parents who are noncompliant with dependency court orders should face jail time as a consequence.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

14) We have enough money in the systems that respond to the problems of alcohol and other drugs today; we need to redirect the money to use it better.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

15) 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.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

16) 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.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

17) We should provide incentive funds and penalties to courts based on their results in meeting statutory timelines.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

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

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

19) In our community, agencies should involve people from the community and court system in planning and evaluating programs that respond to the problems of substance abuse.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

20) In our community, agencies should involve people from the community in planning and evaluating programs that serve families affected by child abuse/neglect.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

21) In our community, dependency courts do a good job of involving people from the community in planning and evaluating services and programs in the dependency court.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

22) Judges have a responsibility to be involved with planning community-wide responses to the problems associated with alcohol and other drug use.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

23) Children of substance abusers who are also in children's services should be a high priority group for targeted substance abuse prevention services.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

24) Substance abuse treatment outcome measures should include indicators regarding the safety, permanency and well being of the children of parents who are in their treatment programs.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

25) Child welfare service outcome measures should include indicators regarding the substance abuse recovery status of parents of the children they seek to protect.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

26) Child welfare service outcome measures should include indicators regarding the parents' ability to be effective parents.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

27) Persons who are in recovery and have successfully transitioned out of the child welfare system should play a significant role in supporting and advocating for parents in the child welfare and family court systems.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

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

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

29) Services would be improved if agencies were more responsive to the cultural differences between client groups.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

30) The problems of Indian children and families are significant in our community.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

31) Our agencies and courts do a good job in responding to the needs of Indian children and families in the child welfare and treatment systems.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

32) Services would be improved if all clients, regardless of income, who receive services made some kind of payment for the services with donated time, services, or cash.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

33) In our community, the judges and attorneys in the dependency court and the agencies delivering services to children and families often are ineffective because they don't work together well enough when they are serving the same families.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

34) The dependency courts should provide increased monitoring of parents' recovery as they go through substance abuse treatment, and should use the power of the court to sanction parents if they don't comply with treatment requirements.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

35) 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.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

36) Judges should be the leaders of collaboratives seeking to solve problems associated with substance abuse and child welfare.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

37) Our judges and attorneys' response to parents with problems of addiction is generally appropriate and effective.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

38) 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.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

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

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

40) 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.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

41) 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.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

42) I believe that the significant barriers to interagency cooperation would be resolved if children's services, substance abuse and dependency court staff were involved in a comprehensive training program for child welfare staff.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

43) I believe that confidentiality of client records is a significant barrier to allowing greater cooperation among alcohol and drug treatment, children's services agencies, and the courts.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

44) I believe that publicly-funded alcohol and drug treatment providers should give higher priority in allocating treatment slots than they do at present to women referred from child protective services.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

45) Judicial ethics should be interpreted that judges not participate in collaborative efforts that involve attorneys who may appear in their courts.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

46) Attorneys who represent parents in dependency court proceedings have an ethical conflict if they advise parents to admit that they have a substance abuse problem or to seek treatment prior to the court taking jurisdiction in a case because the substance abuse admission could be negatively interpreted during the investigation of the child abuse and neglect allegations.

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

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

Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

48) 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%

49) The proportion of parents in substantiated CPS cases 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%

50) 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 | The level of violence tolerated by the community |
| A loss of family values | Lack of skills needed to keep a good job |
| Racism | The harm done by government programs |
| Drug abuse | Too few law enforcement personnel |
| Mental illness | Fragmented systems of service delivery |
| Domestic violence | Deteriorating public schools |
| Alcoholism | The way the welfare program works |
| Poverty | Children born and raised in single-parent homes |
| Child abuse | A lack of business involvement in solutions |
| Low intelligence | Too few jails and prisons |
| Illiteracy | Inadequate support for low-income families who work |
| The drug business | Economic changes that have eliminated good jobs |
| Incompetent parenting | An over-emphasis upon consumer values |
| Illegal immigration | Media concentration on negatives |
| Other _____ | |