

Discussion Session on Developing Family Drug Court State Guidelines

October 10, 2011

Presented by
Nancy K. Young, Ph.D.
Phil Breitenbucher, MSW
Children and Family Futures



OJJDP

This project is supported by Award No. 2009-DC-BX-K069
awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
Prevention, Office of Justice Programs



Introductions

Phil Breitenbucher, M.S.W.

Family Drug Court Program Director
Children and Family Futures
Irvine, California

Nancy K. Young, Ph.D.

Executive Director
Children and Family Futures
Irvine, California



For more information,
please visit our website:
www.cffutures.org



Today's Goals

1. Review and discuss the need and purpose of the Guidance document
2. Review and discuss how the Guidance document is being developed
3. Discuss what needs to be included and what should be excluded

Remember: This is a facilitated **discussion**, NOT a presentation!



Definition of Standard

- something established by authority, custom, or general consent as a model or example



m-w.com

Source: <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/standard>



Another Definition of Standard

- a conspicuous object (as a banner) formerly carried at the top of a pole and used to mark a rallying point especially in battle or to serve as an emblem



Source: <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/standard>



How is the Guidance Document Being Developed?

- The Center for Children and Family Futures (CCFF) supported by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is partnering with Federal and State stakeholders to craft a guidance document.



What is the Guidance Document?

- The information is intended as a **resource tool**. It is not a dictate of any Federal funding agency.
- It provides concrete recommendations to reduce the burden on States in developing standards.

Purpose of the Guidance Document?



- To assist States in developing Family Drug Court standards that build on the capabilities and strengths of **their own** State systems, legal mandates and resources.



Why Separate Standards for FDCs

- FDC is not the same as Adult Drug Court:
 - Priority of child's best interest
 - ASFA time frames
 - Ultimate sanction is TPR not incarceration
- Goal of FDC is Safety and Permanency of the Child
- FDC is unique due to multiple and complex needs of families



Need for State Flexibility

- Differing Legal Mandates/Structures
- Funding Differences
- Multiple FDC Models
- Variability of Child Welfare processes, procedures and structure



Family Drug Court Models

- Dependency matters
- Recovery management
- Same court, same judicial officer

INTEGRATED

- Dependency matters
- Recovery management
- Same court, same judicial officer during initial phase
- Non-compliant case transferred to specialized judicial officer

DUAL TRACK

- Dependency matters
- Specialized court services offered before noncompliance occurs
- Compliance reviews and recovery management heard by specialized court officer

PARALLEL

- Dependency matters
- Recovery management
- Same court, same judicial officer
- Non-compliant case transferred to Presiding Judge or another court

HOME COURT INTENSIVE



What if FDCs Came First?

- **Words we would be hearing**
 - Safety, permanency and well-being
 - Case planning
 - Reasonable efforts
 - Permanency hearing
 - Motivating behavior change and client engagement
 - Ameliorating the conditions that brought the family before the court
 - ASFA time line



What if FDCs Came First?

- **Words we might not be hearing**
 - Sanctions and incentives
 - Defendant
 - Incarceration



Process for Developing the Document

- Expert input from YOU in the field!
- So far we have accumulated research, previous publications, standards that have been adopted by various States.



Previous Publications - Sources

- 10 Key Components
- 12 Common Characteristics
- 11 Key Elements
- 10 Collaborative Practice Elements
- Maryland Standards (28)
- Minnesota Standards (13)
- New Jersey- Essex County Standards (10)
- Virginia Standards (12)

Others To be Added



- North Carolina
- New York
- OJJDP 2011 RFA – 8 Elements
- Iowa (in process of development)
- Others?

	Mission, Vision and Values	Early Identification and Assessment	Engagement, Accountability and Behavioral Change	Addressing the Needs Children	Developing Inter-Agency Partnerships	Garnering Community Support for Families	Effective Communication for Sharing Information	Ensuring Interdisciplinary knowledge	Funding Services and Sustaining the FDC	Ongoing Evaluation for Shared Outcomes and Accountability
10 Key Components	X (3)	X (1)	X (3)		X (1)	X(1)	X(3)	X (1)	X(1)	X (1)
12 Common Characteristics	X (6)	X (1)	X (2)				X (1)		X (1)	X (1)
11 Key Elements	X (3)	X (1)	X (3)		X (2)		X (1)	X (1)		
10 Elements	X(1)	X(1)	X(1)	X(1)	X(1)	X(1)	X(1)	X(1)	X(1)	X(1)
Maryland Standards (28)	X (7)	X (3)	X (10)		X (2)	X (3)	X (1)		X (1)	X (1)
Minnesota Standards (13)	X (3)	X (3)	X (5)					X (1)		X (1)
New Jersey- Essex County Standards (10)	X (3)	X (1)	X (3)		X (1)			X (1)		X (1)
Virginia Standards (12)	X (5)	X (1)	X (3)		X (1)			X (1)		X (1)
TOTAL (96)	8 rows (31)	8 rows (12)	8 rows (30)	1 row (1)	6 rows (8)	3row (5)	5 rows (7)	6 rows (6)	4 rows (4)	7rows (7)



Mission, Vision and Values

FDC partners must create effective relationships with one another. The discussion of values and agreement on common principles is essential to collaborative relationships.



Early Identification and Assessment

FDCs must be aware of screening and assessment issues in determining the nature of the parent/caregiver's substance use disorder, the most effective treatment and services, and what information should be communicated to partner agencies.



Engagement, Accountability and Behavior Change

FDC partner agencies can encourage parents in the recovery process and assist them in meeting their requirements. Judges can respond in a way that supports continued engagement in recovery.



Addressing the Needs Of Children

Without effective intervention, the children of substance abusers may repeat the parent's pattern. The special needs of children of substance abusers must be addressed in prevention and intervention programs.



Developing Inter-Agency Partnerships

Parents with SUDs often require an array of services to address the complex issues affecting their families. FDCs must form relationships with mental health, domestic violence, primary health, housing, legal, and employment-related services.



Effective Communication for Sharing Information

Effective, timely and efficient communication and information sharing is critical to protecting child safety, engaging and retaining parents in recovery, and measuring program effectiveness.



Ensuring Interdisciplinary Knowledge

Cross and joint training of FDC partners (courts, child welfare and treatment) and at all levels (administrative, management, and line-level staff) is essential to ensuring cooperation and consistent practice.



Garnering Community Support for Families

FDCs connect with community-based organizations to support the ancillary needs of families and to provide on-going support after formal services have ended.



Funding and Sustaining the FDC

The FDC must tap the full range of funding, staffing and community resources to develop stability over time for its innovative approaches.



Ongoing Evaluation For Shared Outcomes and Accountability

FDC partners must agree upon goals and establish joint accountability. FDCs must develop and measure outcomes that will guide the work of the collaborative and demonstrate that the FDC has achieved desired results across partner agencies.

Questions & Discussion



*National Family Drug Court
Technical Assistance and Training
Program presents:*



Family Drug Court Learning Academy Webinar Series

- Launched in June 2011
- Web-based training events to enhance, expand, and sustain Family Drug Court Programs
- 15 webinar presentations; or 30 hours of content
- Presented by national leaders in the FDC field
- Based on award-winning experience and expertise drawn from direct work with more than 60 FDCs across the nation

For more information,
including playback of prior
presentations and
registration for upcoming
presentations please visit:
www.cffutures.org

OJJDP



Contact Information



Phil Breitenbucher, M.S.W.

Program Director

Children and Family Futures

(714) 505-3525

pbreitenbucher@cffutures.org

Nancy K. Young, Ph.D.

Executive Director

Children and Family Futures

(714) 505-3525

nkyoung@cffutures.org

FOR GENERAL INQUIRES:

fdc@cffutures.org

FOR RESOURCES

Please visit our website:

<http://www.cffutures.org/projects/family-drug-courts>