Improving Outcomes for Families Affected by Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders

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Getting off the Merry-Go-Round
Drugs of the Decades

1960s

1980s

1990s

2010s
Federal Initiatives Since the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA)

- Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA)
- National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare
- Regional Partnership Grants
- RPG2
- RPG3
- Children Affected by Methamphetamine Grants
- Prevention and Family Recovery
- Blending Perspectives and Building Common Ground Congressional Report
- Substance Exposed Newborn Grants
- Family Drug Court Grants
- In Depth Technical Assistance Substance Exposed Infants
- Fostering Connections Grants
- FDC Statewide System Reform Program

Source: Children and Family Futures
How do we get there?

We Now Know What Works
Seven strategies to improve outcomes for families affected by substance use disorders

- System of identifying families
- Earlier access to assessment and treatment services
- Improved family-centered and parent-child services
- Improved management of recovery services
- Systematic responses to participant behavior
- Increased judicial and administrative oversight
- Collaborative approach across systems
Purpose: Support the efforts of states, tribes and local communities in addressing needs of pregnant women with opioid use disorders and their infants and families.

Audience:
- Child Welfare
- Substance Use Treatment
- Medication Assisted Treatment Providers
- OB/GYN
- Pediatricians
- Neonatologists

National Workgroup:
- 40 professionals across disciplines
- Provided promising and best practices, input, and feedback over 24 months

Policy and Practice Framework: 5 Points of Intervention

Pre-Pregnancy
Awareness of substance use effects

Prenatal
Screening and Assessment

Child
Identification at Birth

Parent
Initiate enhanced prenatal services

Post-Partum
Ensure infant’s safety and respond to infant’s needs

Infancy & Beyond
Identify and respond to the needs of the infant, toddler, preschooler, child and adolescent

Respond to parents’ needs

Identify and respond to parents’ needs
Tools and Resources

- Facilitator’s Guide
- Comprehensive Framework for a Coordinated, Multi-System Approach
- Guide to Building and Sustaining a Collaborative Team
- Strategies to Measure Progress Over Time
- Tools to Develop a Collaborative Action Plan
CHARM Collaborative Case Study

Empaneled Child Protection Team, Title 33, 4917
- Designated by the DCF Commissioner
- Team members able to share client information for the protection of child safety

Child Welfare Assessment During Pregnancy, 33 VSA, Chapter 51
- 30 days prior to the birth of the infant
- Defined as:
  - Positive toxicology screen for illegal or non-prescribed substance
  - Physician certifies use of illegal or non-prescribed substance
  - Diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome or
  - Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Resource Directory

- Web-based
- Includes up to date research, training materials, videos, site examples and other resources
- Webinar Series: 8 recorded webinars
- CAPTA Plan of Safe Care Discussion Guide

Where are we trying to go?
Collaborative Policy and Practice: Key Outcomes

- Recovery
- Remain at home
- Reunification
- Re-occurrence
- Re-entry