A Framework

3Ns
NUMBERS
NEEDS
NETWORK

Addressing Children and Family Members in Drug Courts—Action Steps
Addressing Children and Family Members in Drug Courts: The Conceptual Shift

Family-Based Services Continuum for Parents with Substance Use Disorders

- Participant in Treatment Alone
  - Exclusive focus on Adult
- Treatment with Family Involvement
  - Parent is focus, but some activities for other family members are offered
- Treatment with Children Present
  - Parent is the focus, children & other family involved
- Parent & Children's Services
  - Parent & child each have case plans & receive services
- Family Services
  - Services offered include other family members
- Family-Focused Treatment
  - Services delivered to family as a unit with a comprehensive family case plan

An Applied Example: The Montana Experience

- Process of enumerating family members and obtaining basic information about their strengths and needs fostered rapport and contributed to building a relationship between the survey administrator and participant

- The process expanded administrators’ view of a participant to include her/his family issues and dynamics and enhanced understanding of the factors affecting parent recovery

Setting the Stage: Evaluation Prerequisites

- Three prerequisites to evaluate any program:
  - Goals that are ambitious but realistic must be clearly described, and measurable program objectives must be specified.
  - A linkage must be specified between program activities and program objectives. This linkage is referred to as “program logic” or “theory of change.”
  - Quantifiable performance measures must be developed at the outset of the program that will demonstrate the extent to which a program is meeting its objectives.
Setting the Stage: A Hierarchy of Evaluation Intensity

- Fiscal and Programmatic Monitoring
- Process Evaluation
  - Good program description
  - Program coverage
  - Program implementation
  - Progress toward achieving outcomes
- Summative or Impact Evaluation

Enter the Evaluator: Logic Model Development

“A systematic and visual way to present and share your understanding of the relationships among the resources you have to operate your program, the activities you plan to do, and the changes or results you hope to achieve”

-WK Kellogg Foundation, 2001

Logic Model: A Universal Example

Problem
- Headache

Activities
- Take aspirin

Outputs
- N of aspirin provided
- Headache reduced

Short/Intermediate Term Outcomes
- More productive, less grouchy

Long Term Outcomes
- Feedback
- Aspirin helps with a headache
Logic Model Component Definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inputs</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New and/or existing conditions and resources available to conduct specific activities. Can refer to people, funds, physical plant, and less tangible commodities such as reputation or networking skills.</td>
<td>Actions, duties, or treatments performed to achieve outcomes.</td>
<td>Direct products of program activity: number of participants attending a training, sign-in sheets, MOUs, meeting agendas, etc.</td>
<td>Changes in the lives or circumstances of persons, or area served by a project or system. May be defined in terms of the child, parent, family, agency/organization, or system.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Community Asset Mapping

- Check existing community resources
  - Local Family Resource Center
  - Nonprofit coalitions
  - United Way
  - 211 One-stop call centers
- Note eligibility requirements, fees or co-pays, comments, e.g. “Ask for Maryann,” “Has a two-week wait list.”

Addressing Children and Family Members: Specific Logic Model Additions

- At Intake
- In Program
  - Treatment and Services
  - Court Process
- Post-program and follow-up
Addressing Children and Family Members in Drug Courts—Action Steps

Early Intake, Step One: The Numbers

Understanding Participants’ Family Composition and Structure

<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1. Political will to recognize children and family members (Shared Mission and Vision)</td>
<td>Participant interview to enumerate &amp; obtain basic information about children and (participant-defined) family members</td>
<td>Basic family data record</td>
<td>Court personnel expand view of participant as isolated individual (How is this measured?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Staff resources</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Instrument(s)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Data infrastructure</td>
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Example Process Evaluation Questions:

Understanding Participants’ Family Composition and Structure

1. Does the length of time between drug court enrollment and family data capture affect the completion and quality of responses?
2. Are participants’ families traditional? Extended? Elected?
3. What is the range in the number of persons considered by participants to be family members?
4. How many adult participants live with children? How many minor children do they have?
5. How many participants have lost parental rights?
6. How many are involved in child welfare cases? ★
Example Outcome Evaluation Questions:

Understanding Participants’ Family Composition and Structure

1. To what extent are attributes of family composition and structure (Single parent, co-occurring, lower income, health problems??) associated with participant outcomes during drug court? At follow-up intervals?

2. Do attributes of family composition and structure moderate the relationship between participant treatment and drug court outcomes?

Addressing Children and Family Members in Drug Courts—Action Steps

Follow-up Intake, Step Two: Needs

Basic Screening

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Participant out of crisis mode</td>
<td>Interview to identify participant’s view of children and family members’ immediate needs</td>
<td>Record of Family Needs and potential referrals to service or for further screening/assessment</td>
<td>Rapport between Participant &amp; Court personnel; Understanding of family as recovery resource or liability; Identification of service gaps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Example Process Evaluation
Questions: System Level

Basic Screening
1. What services are participants' family members currently receiving?
2. What are the service gaps in terms of Providers? In terms of resources for in-depth assessment?
3. Does documentation of families' needs drive the development of collaborative relationships with external service providers?

Example Process Evaluation
Questions: Participant and Family

Basic Screening
1. What is the range of family need among drug court participants?
2. Can a composite indicator of “family need” be computed?
3. Association between family need and perceptions of family support during recovery?

Example Outcome Evaluation Question:

Basic Screening
1. To what extent do family needs at intake predict participant engagement and court performance (e.g. attendance, UA results, compliance with SATx, phase advancement, graduation)?
1. **Addiction Severity Index or ASI Drug Evaluation Network System (DENS)**

   **Domains:** Demographics, medical, employment, alcohol/drug, legal, family/social and psychiatric issues
   - E18: How many people depend on you for the majority of their food, shelter, etc.?
   - F4: Usual living arrangements (past 3 years)? Response options include: With sexual partner and children; With children. F16: Would you say you’ve had a close reciprocal relationship with…Children (among other response options)?
   - F22: Have you had significant periods in which you have experienced serious problems getting along with…Children (among other response options)?

2. **CSAT GPRA Client Outcome Measures**

   **Domains:** Planned services, demographics, military family and deployment, drug and alcohol use, family and living conditions; education, employment and income; crime and criminal justice status; mental and physical health problems and treatment/recovery; social connectedness

   1. Do you have children?
   2. How many children do you have?
   3. Are any of your children living with someone else due to a child protection court order?
   4. How many of your children are living with someone else due to a child protection court order?
   5. For how many of your children have you lost parental rights?

3. **BJA Adult Discretionary Drug Court Program Performance Measures**

   **Participant-Level Domains:** Screening and Program Intake, Individual Demographics (Race) by eligibility and enrollment, Risk Assessment, Number Receiving Services, Program Completion and Judicial Interaction, Alcohol and Substance Involvement, Court and Criminal Involvement (recidivism), Narrative Responses

   (Narrative sections excluded, all of these data are reported as counts)
What’s Used Now to Count and Assess?

4. BJA Recommended Data Elements for Drug Court Programs
   Domain: Personal Data at or near Intake includes “Family Factors”
   1. Marital Status
   2. Children
      a. Custody
   3. Welfare Status
   4. Family Drug and Alcohol Use History
      a. Current Use in Immediate Family
   5. Homelessness
   6. English as a Second Language

Limitations of these Assessments with Regard to Children and Family Members

- Children and family often considered only in terms of their relationships to the participant
- “How many of your children” vs. “Which of your children”

An Alternative Approach

- Family Strengths and Needs Survey (FSNS) Family Data Capture Sheet
- Variety of Family Case Management Assessment Instruments
- Short Form FSNS
**Addressing Children and Family Members in Drug Courts – Action Steps**

1. Count
2. Screen
3. Assess
4. Refer
5. Monitor

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**In Program: Referral to In-depth Assessment or Directly to Services**

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<th>Inputs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Screening results</td>
<td>Interpret screening results to identify participant, child and family members’ needs; Discuss family needs with drug court team; Make referrals to services; Track contact and utilization; Access pre- and post-service measures</td>
<td>Record of Service and Assessment Referrals; MOUs with service providers; Record of service “dose” and intensity</td>
<td>Parent gains knowledge of resources available to address future needs; Family’s basic needs (food, shelter, medical coverage) are met; Participant better able to engage in drug court and comply with Tx &amp; in child well-being.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Staff resources</td>
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<td>3. Service resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Referral mechanism</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Data sharing agreements</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Service data infrastructure</td>
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</tbody>
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**Example Process Evaluation Questions: Participant and Family**

**Referral to In-depth Assessment or Directly to Services**

1. What is the post-referral “show-up” rate for participants? For children? For other family members?
   a. What are the obstacles to engagement with services?
2. What is the rate of service or treatment completion among participants? Among children? Other family members?
   a. What are the obstacles to service or treatment completion?
3. Does addressing family needs increase participant engagement in drug court? Compliance with her or his own treatment and activity regimen?
**Example Process Evaluation Questions: System Level**

**Referral to In-depth Assessment or Directly to Services**

1. To what extent is the necessary spectrum of services for participants, children and family members available?
2. What additional services are needed?

**Example Outcome Evaluation Questions:**

**Referral to In-depth Assessment or Directly to Services**

1. To what extent do services received by children and other family members moderate participant performance in drug court?
2. Do measures of family function or well-being improve as a result of services?
3. Does the extent to which family members function as informal agents of control increase as needs for service are addressed?

**Additional Example Outcome Evaluation Questions:**

**Referral to In-depth Assessment or Directly to Services**

1. How does treating their children and family members affect participants’ long-term recovery and recidivism?
2. What long term cost savings are associated with treating drug court participants’ children and family members?
**Evaluation Support: Referral to In-depth Assessment or Directly to Services**

- Assistance with Community Asset Identification and Computer-based Resource Guide
- TRI Computer-Assisted System for Patient Assessment and Referral (CASPAR)
- Development of Service Referral, Engagement and Completion Tracking System

**Evaluation Support: Referral to In-depth Assessment or Directly to Services**

**Measures of Family Well-being**

- An adequate timeframe is required to measure change
- Baseline self-report assessments may not accurately reflect the severity of a parent's or family's situation.
- Technical assistance and appropriately trained and qualified staff are needed

**Evaluation Support: Referral to In-depth Assessment or Directly to Services**

**Measures of Family Well-being**

- North Carolina Family Assessment Scale (NCFAS)
- Parent Stress Index (PSI)
- Protective Factors Survey (PFS)
In Program: Child Welfare Involvement

Adult Drug Court Links to Family Drug Court

- Rural—Same Team may staff the adult drug court and the FDC
  - Parent stays in the adult drug court track but has access to the resources of the FDC
- Mid-level Jurisdiction—Discovery by the adult drug court team of an open child welfare case leads to a transfer to FDC
  - Completion of FDC is equivalent to graduation from adult drug court
- Large Jurisdictions—Adult drug court team routinely meets with their family drug court colleagues to coordinate cases and to share service resources
  - Parent may stay in the adult drug court but receives FDC services, e.g. parenting training

Evaluation Support: Child Welfare Involvement

Outcome Measures

- Recurrence of child maltreatment
- Length of stay in out-of-home care
- Timeliness of reunification
- Increased visitation
- Prevention of substance-exposed newborns
  (In program)

Putting it All Together: Considerations for Basic Evaluation Designs

Basic Evaluation

- Develop measurable process and outcome objectives
- Set up database to meet funder’s reporting requirements AND count participant’s children and family members
- Basic process evaluation
  - Compare program in operation to program plan
  - Document challenges and successes
  - Determine whether program is reaching intended participants
  - Conduct drop analysis (identify points of participant attrition)
- Timely and accurate reporting
Putting it All Together: Considerations for Intermediate Evaluation Designs

Intermediate Evaluation (Additive)
- Implement a comprehensive process evaluation
- Add family attributes and screening and assessment results for participants’ children and family members to performance measurement database
- Compare participants’ and family members’ needs to court partnerships with service providers to identify gaps
  - Begin expansion from project to system orientation
- Analyze relationship between family size, structure and needs to participant performance outcomes
- Disseminate information to engage diverse stakeholders and promote sustainability

Putting it All Together: Considerations for Intensive Evaluation Designs

Intensive Evaluation (Additive)
- Strategic and sustainability planning
- Implementing complex, multi-method experimental or quasi-experimental evaluation designs
- Family well-being is a focus
- Outcome measurement extends to follow-up (participants and family members)
- Conducting cost and other econometric studies

Resources
Miami Child Well-Being Court Model

For more information, visit:
http://www.lindaraycenter.miami.edu/home.html

National Institute on Drug Abuse

To download, visit:

National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare

Resources
- Conference presentations
- Workshop trainings
- Online tutorials
- Toolkits
- Publications
- Video

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www.samhsa.gov/MilitaryFamilies/tacenter
www.zerotothree.org/about-us/funded-projects/military-families
www.justiceforvets.org
www.oehif.va.gov
www.iava.org

**Veteran Family - Resources**


*When Someone You Love Suffers from Posttraumatic Stress: What to Expect and What You Can Do* by Claudia Zayfert and Jason Deviva (2011)

**Resources - Parenting In Military Families**

- Age-based parenting tool kits for OEF/OIF veterans and their partners:
  - [www.ouhsc.edu/VetParenting](http://www.ouhsc.edu/VetParenting)
  - [http://stayingstrong.org](http://stayingstrong.org)
- Free online parenting course for veterans: [www.veteranparenting.org](http://www.veteranparenting.org)
- Operation Enduring Families - [www.ouhsc.edu/OEF/](http://www.ouhsc.edu/OEF/)
  A 5-session family education and support program for veterans who recently returned from combat and their family members.
  - [www.startmovingforward.org](http://www.startmovingforward.org)

**Children In Military Families - Resources**

- [www.va.gov/kids](http://www.va.gov/kids)
- [www.militarykidsconnect.org/](http://www.militarykidsconnect.org/)
- [www.facebook.com/SesameStreetForMilitaryFamilies](http://www.facebook.com/SesameStreetForMilitaryFamilies)
- [archive.sesameworkshop.org/tlc](http://archive.sesameworkshop.org/tlc)
- [www.militarychild.org](http://www.militarychild.org)
- [www.operationmilitarykids.org/public/home.aspx](http://www.operationmilitarykids.org/public/home.aspx)

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April 10th: Our Grant is Over – Now What? Re-financing and Re-Directing as Real Sustainability Planning for Your FDC

June 19th: Closed Doors or Welcome Mat? Opening the Way for Medical Assisted Treatment in FDC

July 10th: So How Do You Know They Are Really Ready? Key Considerations for Assessing Families in Recovery for Reunification


Sept. 18th: Matching Service to Need – Exploring What “High-Risk, High-Need” Means for FDCs

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Online Tutorial: Understanding Substance Use Disorders, Treatment and Family Recovery: A Guide for Legal Professionals

- Roles of Child Welfare and Substance Abuse Treatment Professionals
- Engaging and Retaining Families
- Impact of alcohol and drug addiction on children and families
- Principles of addiction and recovery
- Child Welfare Timetables – AFSA Guidelines
- Cross-system communication and collaboration

Visit: www.ncsacw.samhsa.gov/training/default.aspx

NCSACW Online Tutorials

Please visit: www.ncsacw.samhsa.gov

3. Understanding Substance Use Disorders, Treatment and Family Recovery: A Guide for Legal Professionals

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