Coming Together to Improve Outcomes for Vulnerable Children and Youth

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USICH INTERVENTION MODEL

1. SYSTEM-AND-ORGANIZATION-LEVEL CONSIDERATIONS
   - likelihood of risk
   - risk and protection groups

2. SYSTEM-AND-ORGANIZATION-LEVEL PLANNING
   - establish screening, treatment, and prevention needs

3. PLAN SYSTEM STRATEGIES
   - planning, implementation, and evaluation

4. IMPROVE CORE OUTCOMES
   - stable housing
   - permanent well-being
   - education or employment

5. ENSURE ORCHESTRATED SYSTEMS
   - service array considering youth risk factors
   - improve core outcomes

6. IMPLEMENT INTERVENTION STRATEGIES
   - trauma-informed
   - positive youth development
   - school and community programs

7. PRACTICE FRAMEWORKS
   - family and community supports
   - trauma-informed

8. RISK FACTORS
   - protective factors
   - risk factors

9. TARGETING PLANS TO FACTORS
   - family, friends, and neighbors
   - problems, symptoms, behaviors
   - substance abuse

10. PROTECTIVE FACTORS
    - health
    - self-esteem and self-efficacy
    - decision-making skills
    - social connections
    - positive attributes

7/22/2013
Core Outcomes

- Wellbeing
- Education/Employment
- Permanent Connections
- Stable Housing

- [Images of people engaging in activities related to wellbeing, education, employment, and stable housing]
SUPPORTIVE HOUSING AND CHILD WELFARE

- 5 grantees, 5 years, $4.5 million (from HHS)
- Public-private partnership between HHS and 4 foundations, providing a total of $35 million
- Over the course of the 5 years, grantees will:
  - Develop triage procedures for a subset of families who come to the attention of the child welfare system due to severe housing issues and high service needs
  - Implement supportive housing services that integrate community services for housing and other critical services
  - Customize case management services for children and their parents, as well as trauma-informed interventions and mental health services through partnerships to access additional services through community-based service provider

GRANTEE SITES
- South Florida
- San Francisco, CA
- Connecticut
- Memphis, TN
- Cedar Rapids, IA

FOUNDATION PARTNERS
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Annie E. Casey Foundation
- Casey Family Programs
- Edna McConnell Clark Foundation
IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR YOUTH TRANSITIONING FROM FOSTER CARE

The purpose of these planning grants is to make system and practice-level improvements to benefit youth who have experiences with foster care by integrating the core elements of the USICH preliminary intervention framework. Projects will identify the target population, propose plans for reaching the target population, and designed or enhanced a service array that includes interventions for improving outcomes in the four areas.

PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION

• Identifying youth most at risk
• Analyzing current service array, e.g. Chafee funding
• Reconfiguring service array to get better outcomes
  • Screening & Assessment
  • Evidence-based Interventions

18 planning grants will be awarded in FY 2013; in FY 2015, CB is planning to release a funding announcement for 5-year demonstration projects.
RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH

• President’s FY 2014 Budget Proposal for Runaway and Homeless Youth Act reauthorization:
  – Request for $3 million in new funds for a Prevalence, Needs, and Characteristics of Homeless Youth study
  – Request for programmatic changes including revising the area of demonstration for the next 5-year period to test interventions including services to LGBTQ Youth

• Continued focus on improving program performance
  – ACF has joined with other federal partners that serve homeless populations to discuss moving toward a shared language, shared data elements and data collection instruments.
  – For the past year, ACF has worked to review and identify improved performance measures and program indicators to help assess long term outcomes experienced by youth who use our shelter programs.
RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH

• Examples of how performance can be related to the four core outcomes:

  – Social and Emotional Well-being
    • Youth receive counseling services, with attention paid to whether youth receive individual, family and/or group counseling, the participation rate based on a youth’s service plan or treatment plan, and the completion rate based on a youth’s service plan or treatment plan.

  – Permanent Connections
    • Contact made with parent(s), legal guardian or other relatives of the youth entering a program to inform them that the youth is safe.

  – Education or Employment
    • Youth engaged in educational advancement, job attainment skills or work activities while in the program.

  – Stable Housing
    • Youth transitioning to safe and appropriate settings when exiting the program.