A Collaborative Effort to Disseminate Evidenced-Based Research on Children Who Witness Domestic Violence

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#### Overview

- Implementing Evidenced Based Practice (EBP)
- Train-The-Trainer Approach
- Training Evaluation Strengths & Limitations
- Example: CWWDV Initiative

# Evidence-Based Research/ Practice (EBP)

 Integration of best research evidence with clinical expertise, and individual's values and preferences to facilitate clinical decision making



ett, et al, 2000; Oncology Nursing So

### Evidenced-Based Practice – National Level

 The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) is engaged in an ongoing effort to bridge mental health services research and real-world practice.





#### Evidenced-Based Practice – National Level

• "There is a need to disseminate information about the implementation of EBPs and to identify the gaps in research about implementation"

NIMH 2005

#### 19th Annual RTC Conference Presented in Tampa, February 2006

#### Implementation of Evidenced-Based Practice – Local Level

 Local mental health agencies are striving to implement evidenced-based practices.



#### Implementation of Evidenced-Based Practice – Local Level

#### - Challenges:

- Time ConstraintsLack of funds to
- support staff training
  Lack of funds to pay for technical
- assistanceLack of available staff
- to provide coverage
- Limited resources for evaluation

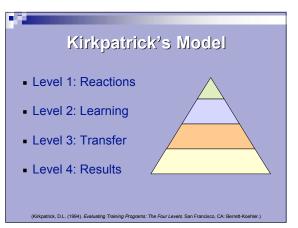




# Evaluation of Train-The-Trainer Program

 Evaluation is essential to determining the impact of EBP on the community





# Training Evaluation - Strengths

- Gain insight into trainers' engagement, biases, the successes & limitations of the train-the-trainer program
- Obtain information that can be used to improve the curriculum
- Training evaluations can provide evidence that change has occurred at individual & agency level – this can motivate trainers to conduct future trainings
- Training evaluations can provide evidence of change at the agency level by demonstrating that participants implemented EBP

(Kirkpatrick, D.L. (1994). Evaluating Training Programs The Four Levels. San Francisco, CA: Berrett-Koehler.)

# Craining Evaluation - Limitations Evaluations usually occur right at the end of the program thus participants may not have had time to reflect on training & use it in the real world. Evaluating whether trainers have mastered the curriculum & are effectively training others can be time consuming. Measuring systems impact can be time consuming & may require significant expertise to implement.

Using Evaluation Data to Demonstrate Change at the Individual and Agency Level: Children Who Witness Domestic Violence Initiative (CWWDV)

# Introduction



- The Hamilton County Family Violence Prevention
  Project (FVPP) is a collaborative effort (of more than
  40 agencies), which convened in 2001, that aims to
  prevent and eliminate family violence in Hamilton
  County.
- The plan addresses the following forms of abuse: People with Disabilities, Child Abuse, Elder Abuse, and Intimate Partner Abuse.

# Introduction

- The FVPP discovered that while Children Who Witness
  Domestic Violence (CWWDV) experts existed
  throughout the community, there were not enough
  qualified trainers to fill the demand for training on
  CWWDV.
- Many professionals and advocates who interact with children on a regular basis were unaware of the scope of the problem of witnessing domestic violence and how it impacts children.
- The FVPP chose a train-the-trainer approach for their CWWDV Initiative.

# **Proposed Outcome**

- Proposed Outcome:
  - Community-based trainers can effectively disseminate information across the county; become model for other states to address children who witness domestic violence in their communities.

#### Method

- 35 Trainers representing 16 mental health, school-based, or social service agencies were trained in March 2004.
- Trainers completed applications reviewed by CWWDV board.

#### Method

- Participants had to meet following criteria:
  - Conducted educational presentations and trainings as part of their job
  - · Sound understanding of domestic violence
  - · Committed to conducting 5 trainings each over the course of 1.5 years

# Method

- Train-the-Trainer curriculum developed by experts in the field of family violence.
- Curriculum focused on 3 main areas:
  - Understanding the impact of witnessing domestic violence on children
  - Recognizing signs of witnessing domestic violence & identify children who have witnessed domestic violence
  - Creating supportive environment for children who witness domestic violence – decrease risk of them engaging in future acts of violence

#### **Evaluation Designed to Answer** the Following Questions:

- Were trainers effective?
- Did they use the curriculum?
- Did participants change?
- Did participants use information?
- Formative inform next steps in implementation

# Evaluation Plan for CWWDV

Goal: evaluate program outcomes using multiple measurements from multiple perspectives

- Report of Progress (Trainer Feedback Forms) - Trainer Success (Workshop Evaluation)
- Knowledge, Skills & Attitudes (Pre/Post Test)
- Intent to Use Knowledge (Workshop Evaluation)
  How Used Knowledge (Follow-up Survey)
  Demographics (Workshop Evaluations)

- Agency Representation (Attendance Forms)
- Trainer Observation Form

# Results

- Data analyzed independently by a team of psychologists and staff members using SPSS 12.0 (Norusis, 2004)
- Trainer effectiveness evaluated utilizing a workshop evaluation
- Participant knowledge, attitudes, skills were assessed utilizing a pre-post test evaluation

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# **Proposed Outcomes**

- Proposed Outcome #1
  - 1000 total target audience members reached by October 2005

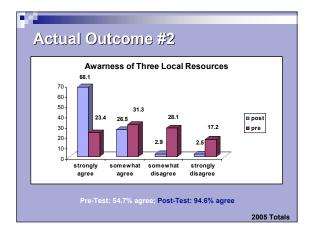
(evaluated using sign-in sheets)

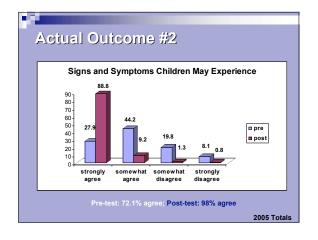
2004 Totals		2005 Totals	
Female	160 (61.3%)	Female	288 (76.2%)
Male	57 (21.8%)	Male	44 (11.6%)
Missing	44 (16.9%)	Missing	46 (12.2)
Caucasian	150 (57.5%)	Caucasian	243 (64.3%)
Native American/ Eskimo	4 (1.5%)	Native American/ Eskimo	1 (0.3%)
Biracial	1 (0.4%)	Biracial	1 (.3%)
African-American	55 (21.1%)	African-American	75 (19.8%)
Asian-American	1 (0.4%)	Asian-American	4 (1.1%)
Hispanic-American	2 (0.8%)	Hispanic-American	4 (1.1%)
Other	3 (1.1%)	Other	3 (0.8%)
Missing	45 (17.2%)	Missing	47 (12.4%)

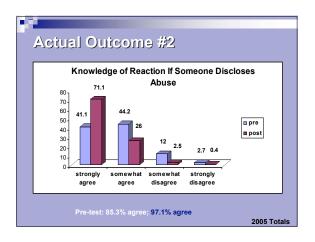
# **Proposed Outcomes**

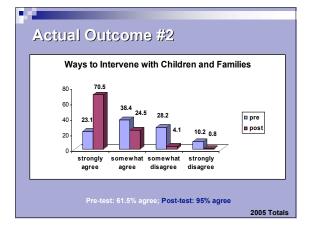
- Proposed Outcome #2
  - 85% of target audience members experience increased change in awareness and understanding of signs and symptoms, best practices in responding to witnessing DV, and protective factors (e.g. resources)

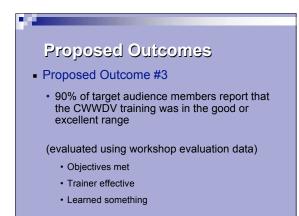
(evaluated using pre and post test data)

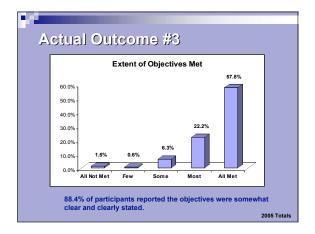


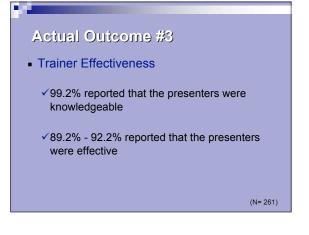


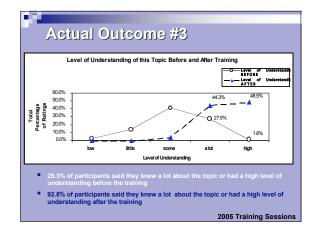


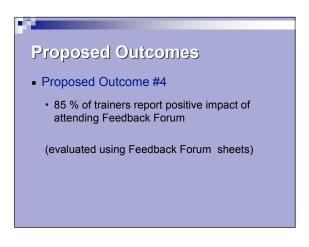


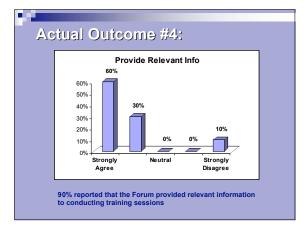


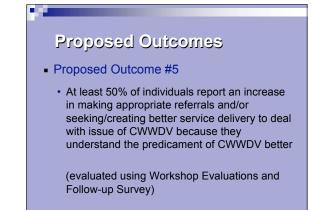


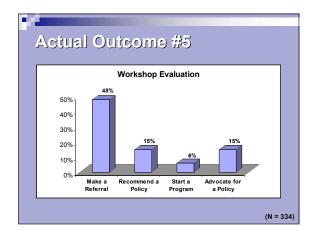


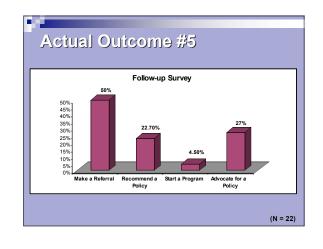












#### Outcomes For 2004-2005

- Proposed Outcome #6
  - At least one organization reports creating an enhanced or "spin-off" CWWDV program

(evaluated using Workshop Evaluations and Follow-up Survey)

# Actual Outcome # 6

- Two agencies have instituted a policy that all new employees receive training in CWWDV
  - **Prokids** nonprofit organization that operates Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
  - Hamilton County Job and Family Services
     Child Protective Services

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# Limitations to Evaluation

- Varying lengths of workshop sessions
- Incomplete workshop evaluations
- Inconsistent use of workshop evaluation forms (old vs. new)
- Inability to always match pre and post test evaluations

#### Summary & Public Policy Implications

- CWWDV data indicate trainers are effectively disseminating the information.
- Participants gained knowledge & skills to help them identify & refer children who witness domestic violence.
- Change has been assessed at the individual & agency levels, and program has raised community awareness.
- Increased access to resources within the community & promoted community engagement around this issue.

#### Summary & Public Policy Implications

- Data from this project can be used to raise public awareness, and help local government & public agencies develop a vision of how the problem of DV & children can be addressed in community.
- Train-the-trainer approach maybe implemented collaboratively across agencies to disseminate EBP.

#### Next Steps

- CWWDV plans to establish network for providers, trainers, and participants
- Public awareness campaign
- Subset of trainers to begin training home visitors for Every Child Succeeds Program
- Subset also includes Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY)
- Website: www.embracehope.org

