
  
**The Wraparound Fidelity Index as a Framework for Service Delivery**  
 Joshua Berry, B.S., Research Assistant  
 Brian Oliveira, Ph.D., Consultant  
 Eleanor Castillo, Ph.D., Director of Outcomes and Quality Assurance  
19th Annual Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health Conference,  
 Tampa, Florida  
 February 24, 2006


## Purpose of the Study

To examine the relationship between fidelity to Wraparound principles and the clinical outcomes of the youth EMQ serves through its Wraparound program in one county.




## Participants

- Respondents
  - 19 Caregivers
  - 50 Resource Facilitators
- Average youth age was 15
- 58% of youth were male
- 59% of youth were Caucasian
- ODD & PTSD were the two most common primary diagnoses



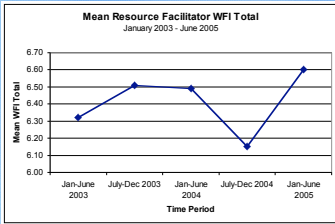
## Outcome Measures


- **Wraparound Fidelity Index (WFI)**
  - Measures fidelity to Wraparound principles
  - Administered to youth, caregiver, and resource facilitator through interview every 6 months
  - Higher Score = Greater Fidelity
- **Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS)**
  - Measures youth's level of functioning
  - Completed by resource facilitator at program entry, every 6 months, and at program exit
  - Lower Score = Greater Functioning
- **Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL)**
  - Measures youth's level of behavior problems
  - Administered to caregiver at program entry, every 6 months, and at program exit
  - Lower Score = Lower Behavior Problems



## Analysis

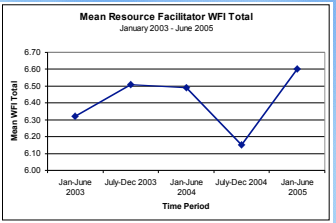
**An inspection of resource facilitator WFI scores during five 6-month periods revealed that WFI scores were lower during one period when compared to the other four 6-month periods.**






## Pearson Correlations

- **Time 1**
  - (Jul-Dec 2004)
- **Time 2**
  - (Jan-Jun 2005)





## Resource Facilitator Findings

<u>Like Informant</u>		
WFI Time 1	CAFAS Time 1 (n = 49)	CAFAS Time 2 (n = 22)
Total	-.31*	-.55**
Community-Based	-.46**	
Strength-Based	-.29*	

\*p < .05; \*\*p < .01

<u>Cross Informant</u>			
WFI Time 1	CBCL Time 1 (n = 31)		CBCL Time 2 (n = 20)
	Internalizing	Total	
Total			
Community-Based	-.40*		
Strength-Based		-.39*	

\*p < .05

## Caregiver Findings

<u>Like Informant</u>		
WFI Time 1	CBCL Time 1 (n = 15)	CBCL Time 2 (n = 10)
Total	-.43	

<u>Cross Informant</u>		
WFI Time 1	CAFAS-Thinking Time 1 (n = 19)	CAFAS-Total Time 2 (n = 9)
Total	-.40	-.40
Community-Based	-.59*	-.49
Strength-Based		-.58

\*p < .01

## How about Wraparound fidelity and service delivery...

## Satisfaction Measures

- **Family Centered Behavior Scale (FCBS)**
  - Measures level of family centeredness
  - Administered to caregiver every 6 months
  - Higher Score = Greater Family Centeredness
- **Youth Services Survey for Families (YSS-F)**
  - Measures caregiver satisfaction
  - Administered to caregiver at program exit
  - Higher Score = Greater Satisfaction
- **Youth Services Survey (YSS)**
  - Measures youth satisfaction
  - Administered to youth (13+) at program exit
  - Higher Score = Greater Satisfaction

## Pearson Correlations for Satisfaction

WFI	FCBS (n = 79)	YSS-F (n = 34)	YSS (n = 42)
Caregiver	.56***	.72***	--
Youth	--	--	.62***

\*\*\*p < .001

## Central Findings

- There is a moderate relationship between fidelity to Wraparound principles and clinical outcomes
- Fidelity is more consistently correlated with clinical outcomes for the community-based and strength-based elements
- The WFI is strongly correlated with satisfaction outcomes

## Comparison Study

Resource Facilitator WFI	CAFAS	Satisfaction
Published Study	-.35* (N = 18)	.44** (N = 18)
EMQ	-.34** (N = 49)	.72*** (N = 34)

\*p < .1; \*\*p < .05; \*\*\*p < .001

Note: "Published Study" is Bruns, E.J., Burchard, J.D., Sater, J., Force, M.D., Dakin, E. (2003). Fidelity to the Wraparound Process and its Association with Outcomes. In C. Newman, C. Liberton, K. Kutash, & R.M. Friedman (Eds.), *The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Conference Proceedings: A System of Care for Children's Mental Health*. Tampa: University of South Florida, Florida Mental Health Institute Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health.

## Limitations

- Relatively small sample size, especially when looking across time points
- Limited youth data
- No analysis of evidence-based practices, which may be the "missing link" between fidelity and clinical outcomes

## Definition of Wraparound

"Wraparound is not a service and not a program, but a *process for providing care* for children and families."

Kendziora, K., Bruns, E., Osher, D., Pacchiano, D., & Mejia, B., *Systems of Care: Promising Practices in Children's Mental Health, 2001 Series, Volume 1*. Washington, D.C.: Center for Effective Collaboration and Practice, American Institutes for Research.

## Discussion

- Contributes to the growing body of evidence that there is a moderate relationship between Wraparound fidelity and clinical outcomes
- Suggests WFI is strongly related to measures of service delivery (i.e., satisfaction measures)
- Indicates that future studies should examine the relationship between evidence-based practices and clinical outcomes

### Contact Information:

**Joshua Berry, B.S.**  
**EMQ Children & Family Services**  
**Research Assistant**  
**Email: [jberry@emq.org](mailto:jberry@emq.org)**