


AREAS FOR CONTINUED RESEARCH


19th Annual RTC Conference
Presented in Tampa, February 2006



Literature Review Sustainability of Family Organizations

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PURPOSE

- Review the history of SOC family involvement in NC
- Highlight the literature on sustainability
- Suggest areas for further study


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DEFINITIONS

- Family Organizations
 - Networks, advocacy organizations, support organizations, community-based organizations
 - Key component – designed and implemented by family members/consumers
 - Goal – to give voice and redistribute power to people who have to live the decisions


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SOURCES

- Scholarly Journals, Books
- Technical Assistance Documents and Reports
 - produced by university-based research centers and national organizations, including foundations
- Technical Assistance Providers


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BACKGROUND IN A NUTSHELL

- 2 Statewide Family Networks
- 15 family organizations started in response to System of Care

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Sustainability Issues

- Sufficient Staffing
Paid staff sufficient to carry out the work
(Delpeche, H., et al, 2003; Langton, 1978, Weber, 2004)
- Stable Funding/Ability to Raise Funds
Sufficient and ongoing funding. The funds must cover the costs of staffing, infrastructure, expenses, training and stipends.
(Gittell, 1989; Delpeche, H., et al 2003; Federation of Families, 2004; Langton, 1978; Philbin, & Mikush, (nd); Weber, 2004;)

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SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

- Partner Organization Commitment
 - Having strong partnerships with community and state agencies.
(Briggs, 1996; Conlon, 2006; Federation of Families, 2004; Joseph, et al, 2001; Langton, 1978; Mico, 1981; Philbin & Mikush, (nd); Weber, 2004)
- Fiscal Sponsor Relationships
 - (Briggs, H. E. & Koroloff, 1995, Weber, 2004)

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SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

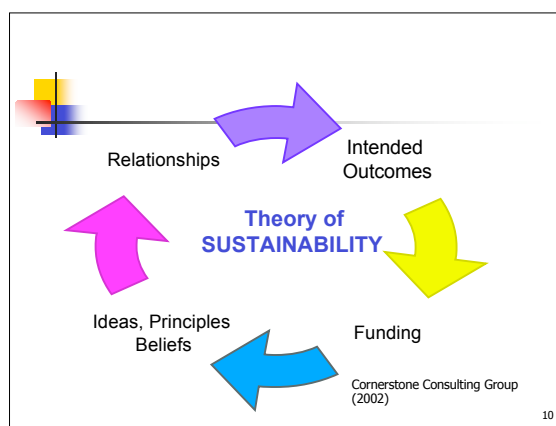
- Leadership
 - Leadership and leadership development are mentioned frequently.
(Conlan, 2005; Delpeche, H., et al, 2003; Gittell,1980; Gutierrez, et al., 2000; McNeely, J, Aieytoro, S., & Bowher, P, 1999; Briggs, H. (1996); Mico, 1981; Weber, 2004).

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SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

- Technical Assistance and Training
 - Particularly in the start up stage, family groups need technical assistance and training as they learn the many functions of running a family group.
(Conlan, 2005; Langton, 1978; Weber, 2004)

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AREAS FOR CONTINUED RESEARCH

- Family Experience
 - Studies of family organizations, those who have tried to start groups and succeed, and those who have not succeeded.
 - Researchers partnering with families to describe and detail, from the family perspective, the necessary conditions for sustainability.

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AREAS FOR CONTINUED RESEARCH

- Original Design -
 - How does the design, the target population, the issues and age ranges addressed affect the ability to sustain the work?
 - What was the original purpose and funding for the group?
 - From what source was the group initiated?

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AREAS FOR CONTINUED RESEARCH

- Funding -
 - How much money is enough?
 - Source of funds
 - Control of the funds
 - Role of federal grant funds
 - Requirements attached to the funds


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AREAS FOR CONTINUED RESEARCH

- Leadership -
 - How are family leaders chosen and by whom?
 - What are the qualities of leadership?
 - What does leadership development look like?
 - How should it be implemented?


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AREAS FOR CONTINUED RESEARCH

- Technical Assistance and Training -
 - Who should provide it?
 - What is the nature and duration?
 - What are the topics and modalities of instruction?


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AREAS FOR CONTINUED RESEARCH

- Organizational Models -
 - To be or not to be a nonprofit
 - Role of fiscal sponsorship
 - Top down (citizen involvement)
 - Bottom up (citizen initiated) (Langton, S. 1978)


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CONCLUSION

- More research and information is necessary regarding sustaining family organizations/networks
- Family Voices Study - University of South Florida
 - (Lazear, K., Evans, M., Anderson, R., McNeish, R., Beckstead, J., & Boterf, E. 2004).

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