**Montgomery County**

- Montgomery County, located just north of Washington, DC and southwest of Baltimore, Maryland, is considered to be a part of both the Baltimore and Washington DC Metropolitan areas.
- With an estimated population of 956,000 in FY 2007, Montgomery County continues to be the most populous jurisdiction in Maryland.
- Montgomery County is a widely diverse jurisdiction with a growing international immigrant population.
- International migration is a second only to births as a component of Montgomery County's population growth.
- Over 80,000 people born outside the United States moved to Montgomery County between 2000 and 2006.
- Forty percent of Maryland's foreign born population lives in Montgomery County.

**Collaboration Council**

- The Collaboration Council (510 c 3) is a state mandated Local Management Board (LMB) for Montgomery County, supported by the Governor's Office for Children.
- Our mission is to improve the well-being of children, youth and families in Montgomery County through collaborative partnerships.
- The Collaboration Council plans, coordinates, funds and monitors specific interagency services to improve child well-being in Montgomery County.

**"No Wrong Door"**

- Montgomery County began developing a System of Care for children and adolescents in the early 1990s using state funds to return or divert RTC level youth from a higher level of care. This funding was focused on assisting youth at the top 15% of the needs triangle.
- 1999 Montgomery County received a SAMSHA funding for SSI that laid the foundation for a strong system of care including wraparound and an independent family support organization.
- 2005 Collaboration Council and Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services released an RFP for wraparound. Choices Inc. was awarded the contract to begin Maryland Choices.
- Served two populations of youth.
  - Recipient from Residential Placement
  - Seriously Developmentally Disabled youth (Autism Spectrum)

**Developing a CME**

- 2006 Maryland Choices became the Care Management Entity for both Montgomery County and Baltimore City through a joint RFP process.
- Joined Fiscal and Clinical responsibility in accordance with system of care principles and wraparound values.
- Development of a Provider Network.
- 2006 Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services secured funding to allow youth in the top 15% of the needs triangle to receive services through wraparound. Thereby creating – "No Wrong Door" for families to access services and care.
- Expanded referral sources by allowing school personnel, community providers and parents refer youth.
- Expanded eligibility offered wraparound to youth who were truant, having behavioral problems, gang involved, undocumented, and/or have one or more psychiatric hospitalizations.
Strategies for Outreach and Education about SOC and Wraparound

- **Consistent Outreach**: Although the community has been introduced to SOC concepts and Wraparound Values through the CANS model, ongoing work was done in partnership between the Collaboration Council and Maryland Choices to reach system partners and bring awareness to what was available for children and youth. Outreach efforts were made to:
  - Child Welfare/DSS
  - Department of Juvenile Services (DJS)
  - Juvenile Court Judges
  - Public Defenders
  - School Based Workers
  - Foster Parents/Preadoptive Parents
  - Residential Treatment Centers
  - Mental Health Providers
  - Community Centers

**“Lunch and Learn”**: This is a forum where system partners are invited to learn about and discuss their experiences on child and family teams. Since our agency and community partners are essential to successfully learn, we work hard to ensure they know what to expect as they participate in a high fidelity wraparound process and that they begin to understand that this is a needs driven not service driven process.

Demographics of Youth Served

- **Referring Agency**
  - 67.5% Montgomery County Public Schools
  - 65.6% Dept. of Juvenile Services/DJS
  - 10.3% Child Welfare/DSS
  - 16.6% Community Agency
  - 41.8% Community Professional
  - 4.9% Core Service Agency
  - 2% Family
  - 1% Local Coordinating Council

- **Diagnoses (Top 5)**
  - 44.5% Mood Disorder
  - 19.8% ADHD
  - 12.4% Conduct/Oppositional/Anxiety
  - 8.1% Co-Occurring Disorder
  - 2 or more AHA (Diagnosis 58.9%)

Demographics of Youth Served in Montgomery County

- **Started FY 2006**
  - 4 youth returning from RTC
  - 24 youth with Developmental Disabilities
  - 2 service providers for RTC level youth
    - 1 Mentoring Provider
    - 1 Tutoring Provider

- **Ended FY 2007**
  - 350 youth served in 2 years
  - 72 providers in an organized provider network
  - Diverse network designed to meet the needs of youth and families as identified by the Child and Family Teams

Outcomes for FY 2007

- **350** youth served of which **257** were new kids enrolled in FY07
- **88%** of youth remained at or reduced level of restrictiveness of placement
- **86%** of youth attended school at least 80% of the days school was available
- **72** Providers are contracted with Maryland Choices to provide services for families and children with mental health needs

CANS & WFI

- Maryland Choices has imbedded the CANS into their treatment planning process with families. All families receive CANS assessments at intake with follow-up assessments at 90 day intervals.
- University of Maryland’s Innovations Institute monitors Maryland Choices for fidelity using the WFI.
- These two instruments together may provide Maryland Choices with greater information on ways to improve youth outcomes through improved fidelity.
II: Findings from the Wraparound Fidelity Index (WFI) and the Child & Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment (CANS)

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Supports (WFI)

Purpose of WFI

- The Wraparound Fidelity Index (WFI) is a set of interviews conducted with key informants who are involved in wraparound implementation.
- Taken together, these interviews measure the quality or “fidelity” of wraparound implementation in a community, program, or site.
- The WFI-4 measures how well both the principles and core activities are implemented.
- It is organized by the 4 phases of wraparound.

WFI Total & Element Scores

Data Collected Sept 2006 – December 2007 (N=102 Youth Teams)

Changes In WFI Total & Element Scores Overtime

2007 Apr 2007 Jul 2008 Jan

Changes In WFI Total & Element Scores Over Time

2007 Apr 2007 Jul 2008 Jan

* p<.05
**Summary**

- **Overall “good” fidelity to Wraparound was obtained**
  - Higher fidelity ratings for key elements of Wraparound: Family Voice and Choice, Collaborative, Cultural Competence, Strength Based
  - Lower ratings for Natural Supports
  - Different levels of agreement among respondents

- **Improvement in most dimensions of child needs and strengths over course of wraparound treatment**

- **Relation between levels of child and family functioning and fidelity may be complex and may vary by respondent.**

**Resources**

- **CANS**
  - www.BuddinPraed.org


- **WFI**
  - http://depts.washington.edu/wrapeval
