Using a Community of Practice to Define the Role of Family Partners in Wraparound

22nd Annual Research Conference, A System of Care for Children's Mental Health: *Expanding the*

Research Base

March 2, 2009

Marlene Penn Trina Osher, M.A. April Sather, MPH

Introduction and Background

- Defining the role of Family Partner within context of the wraparound approach
- National Wraparound Initiative and Family Partner Task Force
 - partnership to create a family driven participatory strategy for developing tools to support standards
- Application of NWI tools and techniques to the role of family partner
 - Ten Principles of Wraparound

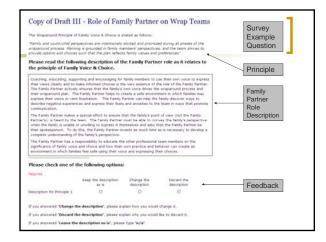
Methodology

- Delphi approach
 - o 3 separate rounds of feedback collection
 - Web-based survey
- Rounds 1 & 2
 - Limited to Family Partner Task Force
- Round 3
 - All advisors invited to give feedback

Methodology

- Round 1 (Dec-Jan 06-07)
 - N = 12, Respondents asked:
 - Like the description? Agree with description?
 - Feedback as to how to change or improve.
- Round 2 (March April 2007)
 - N = 11, Respondents asked:
 - Keep the description as is? Change the description? Discard the description?
 - the description?

 If 'change' or 'discard', required to explain reasoning
- Round 3 (June August 2007)
- N = 42, Respondents asked:
 - Keep the description as is? Change the description? Discard the description?
 - If 'change' or 'discard', required to explain reasoning



Example Feedback (Round 3) Principle 1 – Voice and Choice

- effort to ensure that the family's point of view (not the Family Partner's), is heard by the team. I don't agree with what is written above. I suggest the family partner spend as much time as is necessary to connect the family to the team members individually to connect family so that the relationships are developed so that family can speak and that team members individually will listen and hear.
- As a group: n = 40

Answer	Frequency	Percentage
Keep as is	32	80%
Change	8	20%
Discard	0	0%

Findings

- The community-based evidence approach has been useful in defining and clarifying the role of family partners in the wraparound process
- The inclusiveness of the approach has facilitated acceptance and use of the model
- The approach is a practical tool for developing additional tools and materials to support implementation

Conclusions

- The Application of the Ten Principles of the Wraparound Process to the Role of Family Partners on Wraparound Teams is gaining wide acceptance as a model for practice in communities around the country
- The model can be used or adapted across a wide spectrum of system of care communities while establishing a base line for fidelity

Implications

- The model establishes the foundation for systematic study of the role of family partners – such as
 - How family partners function in different contexts
 - What impact family partners have on a variety of factors associated with planning and service delivery for children, youth, and families

Next Steps

- The Family Partner Task Force is continuing to use this approach to develop additional tools
 - How Family Partners Contribute to the Phases and Activities of the Wraparound Process
 - A framework for developing salary schedules and other conditions of employment
 - Tools to assess and support high quality performance of family partners