

Engagement and Early Recovery

Putting Knowledge into Practice:
Simulated Family Treatment Court Staffing and
Status Review Hearing

Alexis Balkey, MPA, RAS
Russ Bermejo, MSW
Tessa Richter, LCSW

Children and Family Futures
Ohio Specialty Courts Conference | October 11, 2018

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

OJJDP

working for youth justice and safety

Acknowledgement

This presentation is supported by:
Grant #2016-DC-BX-K003 awarded by the
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S.
Department of Justice.



This project was supported by Grant #2016-DC-BX-K003 awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of Justice.

ojjdp.gov

Our Mission

To improve safety, permanency, well-being and recovery outcomes for children, parents and families affected by trauma, substance use and mental health disorders.



Center for Children and Family Futures
Strengthening Partnerships. Improving Family Outcomes

Key Takeaways

Our beliefs about substance use disorders influence how we respond.

Active engagement in early recovery is critical

Systematic approach vs. perceptions of readiness



Our Beliefs

Why won't they just stop?

They must love their drug more than their kids.

They need to really want get sober.

They need to hit rock bottom.

Our Response

*Here's a referral-
let me know when
you get into
treatment.*

*They'll get into treatment if
they really want it.*

Call me on Tuesday.

*Don't work harder than
the client*

Rethinking Treatment Readiness



Re-thinking "Rock Bottom"

- "Tough love"- in the hopes that they will hit rock bottom and wanting to change their life
- Collective knowledge in the community is to "cut them off, kick them out, or stop talking to them"
- Addiction as a disease of isolation



"Raising the bottom"

- Getting off on an earlier floor
- Has realistic expectations and understands both the neuro-chemical effects on people with substance related and addiction disorders and difficulties and challenges of early recovery
- Readiness
- Recovery occurring in the context of relationships

What Do We Mean by Systematic Approach?

Objective & Systematic

- Clearly defined protocols and procedures, with timelines and communication pathways (who needs to know what and when)
- Eligibility criteria based on clinical and legal assessments
- Match appropriate services to identified needs

Subjective & Informal

- *I refer all my clients to FDC because I know the people there*
- *I only refer clients who really want to participate*
- *Let me know when you get in the program*
- *I prefer to refer clients who are doing well on their CWS case plan*
- *I refer all my clients with a drug history to the FDC*

If your referral process is systematic and objective --

The team can focus on how to engage families in the FTC/treatment -

instead of whether or not they should be allowed into the FTC.

Active Engagement

Let's call the treatment agency together now.

Let's talk about how you are going to get to your intake appointment and what that appointment will be like.

Let me introduce you to your counselor.

I will call you in the morning and check how things are going.

Time To & Time In Treatment Matters

In a longitudinal study of mothers (N=1,911)

Entered substance use disorder treatment faster after their children were placed in substitute care



Stayed in treatment longer

Completed at least one course of treatment



Significantly more likely to be reunified with their children

Source: Green, Rockhill & Furrer (2007)

Peer Support

- Peer Mentor
- Peer Specialist
- Peer Providers
- Parent Partner



Titles and Models

- Recovery Support Specialist
- Substance Abuse Specialist
- Recovery Coach
- Recovery Specialist
- Parent Recovery Specialist

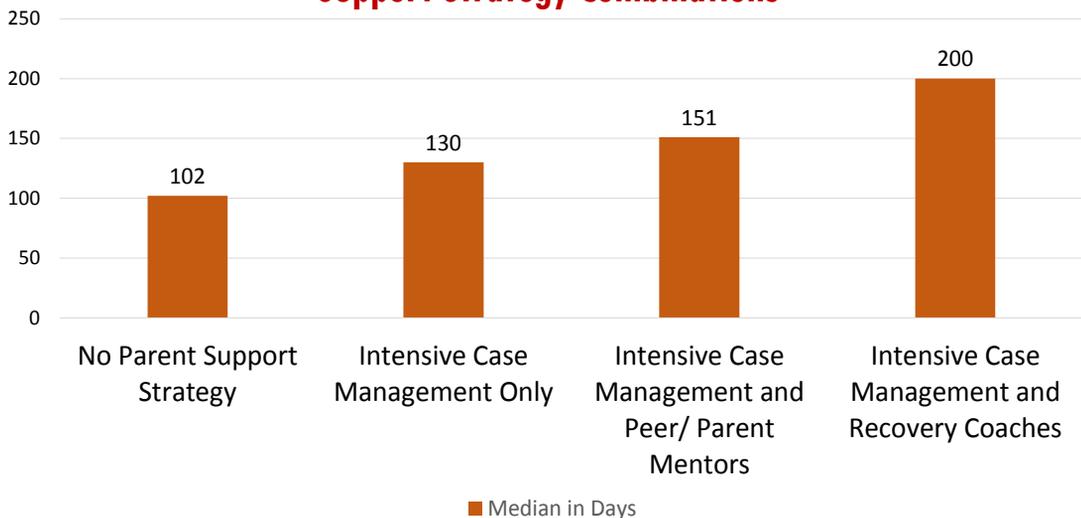


YOU NEED TO ASK:

What does our program and community need?



Median Length of Stay in Most Recent Episode of Substance Use Disorder Treatment After RPG Entry by Grantee Parent Support Strategy Combinations





Substance Use Disorder Treatment Completion Rate by Parent Support Strategies

