Effectiveness in Child Welfare: Our Collective Investment in Improving the Lives of Children and Families

Child Welfare Virtual Expo

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Maryland Program Improvement Plan Pilot

Finding new and better ways to build partnerships across systems

Developing outcome strategies: Inclusion of youth and family voice, townhalls, and toolkit

Bringing key stakeholders to the table, including families and youth
Instilling Family Voice

Family voice impacts outcomes at the program, state, and federal levels.

Family voice gives meaning to data.
Examples of Family Voice in Programs

- Florida: Community prevention programs
- Nevada: Visitation centers for birth and foster families
- Washington State: Birth parent peer advocacy program
Evidence From an American Indian Perspective

From an indigenous perspective, stories of healing are evidence.

Evidence-based practices can be seen as a form of assimilation.

Evidence-based practice in Indian country needs to involve Indian people.
Evidence Has a Continuum of Definitions

- Evidence-based practice shows a causal link between intervention and outcome.
- Be familiar with the data in your jurisdiction.
- Be familiar with the continuum of evidence of effectiveness.
- Know where to find clearinghouses on evidence-based programs.
Research and Implementation

- Who did the program work for?
- Do the outcomes match your intended outcomes?
- How rigorous are the studies?
- Is the program in any of the clearinghouses?
- Do I need to connect with university researchers?
- Have I talked to participants from successful programs?
Thank you for your participation today!

Please explore the on-demand videos of individual perspectives on effectiveness in child welfare, visit the Virtual Gallery, and chat with speakers in the Networking Lounge.

The next session will begin at 12:00 p.m. EDT.