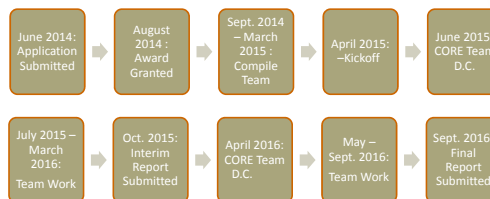


Defending Childhood State Policy Initiative

Sponsored by the
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)
Coordinated by the
National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice (NCMHJJ)

Timeline



Background

Initiated by Attorney General Eric Holder to address poor outcomes experienced by children who suffer trauma as a result of witnessing or experiencing violence.

- When not treated as a serious public health problem, exposure to violence becomes a serious (and more costly) public safety problem.
- 60% of American children are exposed to violence, crime, or abuse in their homes, schools, and communities.
- Without intervention, children exposed to violence are more likely to:
 - Fail in school and jobs
 - Suffer from mental health or serious medical problems
 - Become future victims of violence
 - Become involved in the juvenile and criminal justice systems

3 states selected to help address this problem (CA, MA, MI)



Key Players

- Gov's Office
- MDHHS (Children's Services Agency, Juvenile Justice, Medicaid)
- MI Dept. Education
- Courts
- Law Enforcement
- Private Providers



Objectives & Expected Outcomes

- Develop strategic plan for *identifying, screening, assessing,* and *treating* children who suffer from trauma
- Implement *cross-systems, trauma-informed* approach that provides *evidence-based* services.
- Identify mechanisms to *collaboratively blend funding sources* to support screening, assessment, and treatment services
- Strategic plan to result in increased coordination of trauma-informed service provision, and *better outcomes for children and youth.*

GOAL STATEMENT:

Utilizing the Governor's "River of Opportunity" frame a plan for screening, assessing, and treating kids, in a culturally competent way, who are directly affected by or exposed to trauma to ensure they are provided opportunities to build resiliency, be positively impacted, and thrive in their environments.

Five Priority Areas

PRIORITY 1 (FUNDING): Analyze and map state, commercial, Medicaid, and other private funding to determine who currently pays for trauma screenings, assessments, and related mental health treatment for kids. Identify areas where gaps in funding exist.

Five Priority Areas (con't)

PRIORITY 4 (TRAINING): Research and build on existing trauma trainings to reach a broader audience. Work with universities to explore partnerships for training opportunities.

Five Priority Areas (con't)

PRIORITY 2 (SCREENING, ASSESSMENT, TREATMENT, BEST PRACTICES): Develop trauma informed child services in all systems, including screening, assessment and trauma specific treatment of children and their families; Address secondary traumatic stress in staff; Create opportunities for parents/caregivers to learn about/understand trauma and its impact; Develop and distribute best practice field guides and strategies to promote and incentivize the development of a trauma-informed organization across systems.

Five Priority Areas (con't)

PRIORITY 5 (JJ DATA ANALYSIS & PILOT): Analyze data pertaining to reasons for disrupted JJ placements, child welfare placements, and schools suspensions and determine if an assessment is available or used for these populations. Use the data to determine a focus population(s) where the introduction /improvement of trauma-informed interventions may be most impactful. Develop a draft proposal for serving the identified population(s).


Five Priority Areas (con't)

PRIORITY 3 (SERVICES): Identify ways that communities can work to ensure that children who are touched by trauma and toxic stress are able to thrive in their environments. Community efforts should address the needs of all children and include a wide range of entities, including schools, health care providers, early childhood providers, Domestic Violence programs, violence prevention programs, Pathways to Potential, etc.

Accomplishments

Development of a Comprehensive Trauma Website (which will include):

- Medicaid Funding Document
- Community Based Trauma Initiatives Survey & Report
- Training Resources Document
- Juvenile Justice Medicaid Brochure
- Trauma Policy Template
- Secondary Trauma Training for Child Welfare Staff
- Trauma Training Curriculum for Educators and other Providers



Sustainability & Next Steps

- Trauma Website Maintenance and Updates
- Juvenile Justice Pilot
- Trauma Training Pilot
- Secondary Trauma Training for Child Welfare Staff
- Policy Guidance
- Promotion of Best Practices
- CONTINUED COLLABORATION!!!



Defending Childhood

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