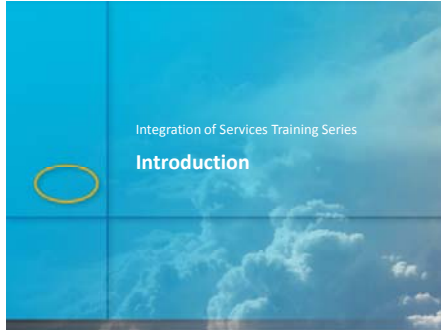


The Integration of Services Training Series

Introduction and Overview

SLIDE 1-1: INTRODUCTION



Materials:
Flipchart



FLIPCHART

ACTIVITY 1-1: Introductions

PURPOSE: To introduce each other and confirm the good work that we do.

TIME: 10 MINUTES

DIRECTIONS:

1. Introduce yourself and welcome participants.
2. Ask each participant to introduce themselves, say what they do, and tell the first name of one child or parent/grandparent whose life they have improved through their involvement with the child's family.

Process:

1. **Say**, "Let's remember what we do to make a difference in families' lives."
2. Ask the participants to volunteer one or two things they did for the child and family they mentioned. Write the responses on the flipchart.

Responses will probably include things like:

- Made a good connection with the child
- Listened to the parent
- Engaged with the family
- Advocated for the family
- Helped the parent to change
- Identified someone who could care for the child

Compliment the participants on their good work.

Introduction

Say:

- This Integration of Services Training Series was requested by the department to help child welfare protective investigators and case managers address the needs of children and families coming into the service system.

- *Generally, the families that have contact with Family Safety have multiple needs and create risk factors for all family members. The family needs exceed the capacity of any one program and require the collaboration of integration of multiple services from multiple programs.*
- *Also, the natural support systems and generic services in the community must be maximized to help families take care of their children.*
- *Therefore, it is imperative that Family Safety and other programs work closely together to provide the necessary supports and services to help families provide safe, and homes for children in their care.*
- *Also child welfare practitioners can help families connect with their extended family or natural supports and be “lifted” up above the waterline.*

SLIDE 1-2

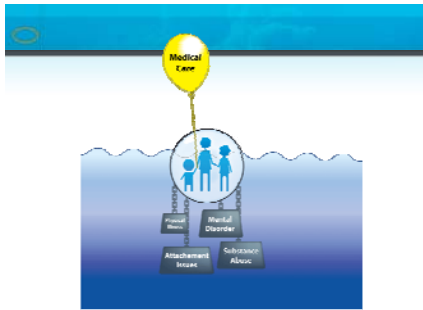


Say:

- *Also, children’s wellbeing is dependent upon the interplay between the child and her environment. The parent’s ability to meet the children’s needs may be compromised by serious or chronic health issues, mental health disorders, domestic violence, substance abuse and other environmental factors.*
- *As you can see, the family is sinking because of the weight of all of these issues. collaborative team can help the family and the child welfare worker to address the key issues facing their families rather than just look narrowly at the allegations.*
- *Examining the broader issues and developing sustainable long-term plans may help families avoid additional allegations of child abuse and neglect.*
- *The child welfare practitioner must work on a regular basis with these other programs to help families build on their strengths and develop comprehensive plans to address their needs. Additional knowledge in conducting screenings, referring for assessments, ensuring that appropriate services are provided and working in collaboration with the family, natural supports and other service systems will help child practitioner engage with this broader “team” to support the family.*

- Often child maltreatment co-exists with other serious family problems and parental issues such as poor health status, unattended mental disorders, substance use/abuse and interpersonal family violence. These conditions can have a devastating impact on children’s development and long-term well-being.

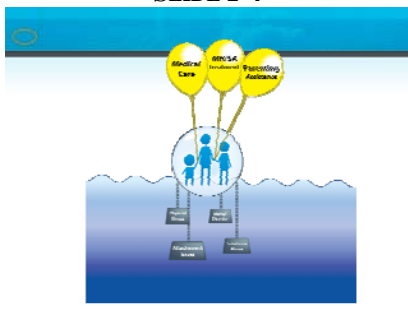
SLIDE 1-3



Say:

- For example, when the child welfare practitioner is able to work with the medical community to address medical issues that family is better able to manage and the “weight” is reduced.

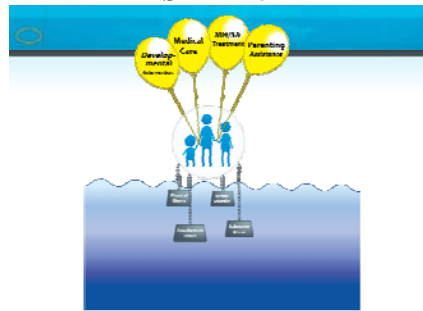
SLIDE 1-4



Say:

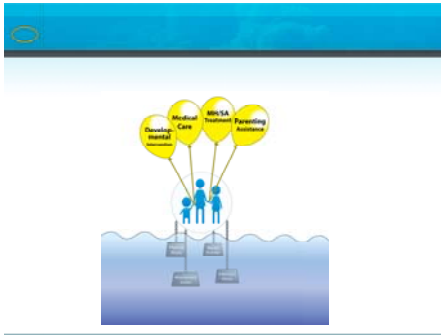
- The medical staff or child welfare practitioner may identify that the child or parent has a mental health or substance abuse issue that needs to be addressed. If so the child welfare practitioner will be more successful if they can help the family to engage with these services. Often there are parenting issues as well. If parenting services can be integrated with the treatment program, the parent may be able to develop improved parenting abilities and better coping skills to support their recovery.

SLIDE 1-5



- This assistance can help the family “raise themselves above the waterline” and avoid sinking. Also notice that the bubble no longer is isolating the family. It is now gently holding them together as a unit but not separating them from others.

SLIDE 1-6



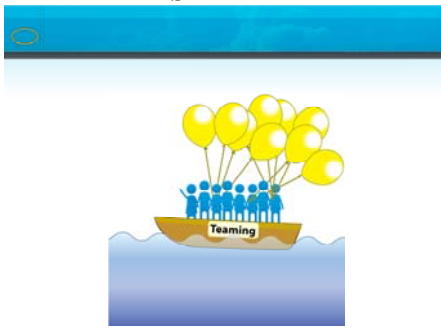
Say:

- *And here is the team that is joining the family. The team consists of the professionals that we have discussed but also family, friends, and others who are part of the general community and will be there with the family long after the child welfare case is closed.*

Say:

- *This training series is designed to help child protection investigators and case managers to be better equipped to complete these functions.*

SLIDE 1-7



- *Each of the modules addresses:*
 - *background in the specific subject content,*
 - *suggestions for screening and interviewing,*
 - *information on assessments and working with the professionals in completing assessments*
 - *information on analyzing the information to form an understanding of the situation, strengths and needs,*
 - *formulating a broad plan that addresses the key needs of the family, and*
- *Integrating multiple service systems to form a workable plan for the child and family to address sustainable safety, permanence, and well-being.*
- *Children and families often have multiple risks and need help strengthening their abilities to provide for their children. To address multiple risks, a multi-faceted approach is required. This training will help the child welfare practitioner create and implement this type of response.*