Vision 21: Linking Systems of Care in Montana

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Goals/Objectives

- Improve the responses to child and youth victims and families
- Develop a brief tool to screen for victimization and trauma
- Improve awareness of existing resources
- Develop strategy to address needs identified throughout Montana

Research Methods

- Mixed Methods Approach
  - Focus Groups
    - Summer 2015/Spring 2016
  - Service Provider Survey
    - April-June 2016
  - Family Interviews
    - 21 families (7 from west, central, and east)
      - In progress

Focus Groups

- Focus Groups with service providers in 19 communities across Montana.

- Providers discussed the following key themes:
  - Assets/Key Resources
  - Challenges/Barriers
  - Assessment and Screening Tools
  - Coordination and Collaboration

Service Provider Survey

- Built upon findings from Focus Groups to expand on dialogue
  - Sent to a list of service providers across MT (over 2,000)
    - 59 questions
      - Many with multiple items

- 518 respondents (259 completed all questions)

- Survey consisted of 6 sections
  - 1-Introduction
  - 2-Existing/Needed Resources
  - 3-Challenges/Barriers and Assets/Resources
  - 4-Coordination, Collaboration, and Trauma Readiness
  - 5-Assessment and Screening Tools
  - 6-Conclusion

Existing and Needed Resources

	Strongly Disagree/ Disagree	Neither disagree or agree	Agree/ Strongly Agree
All children and youth should be screened for prior victimization and trauma	20%	24%	56%
Information on children and youth victimization and trauma should be shared, when possible, among service provider agencies	7%	9%	84%
All service providers who work with youth and children should receive trauma-informed care training	5%	5%	90%
All agencies who employ service providers who work with youth and children should develop or follow trauma-informed care guidelines	4%	11%	85%
Providing coordinated and comprehensive care for children and youth should be a top planning and policy priority	4%	7%	89%
Children and youth who have been victimized should receive specialized treatment	4%	5%	92%

Survey Respondents

System Currently Working In	N	%
Chemical Dependency/ Addiction Services	6	1%
Child Welfare	25	5%
Early Childcare	5	1%
Education	52	11%
Juvenile Justice/Legal	68	14%
Law Enforcement	15	3%
Medical	14	3%
Mental Health	129	**27%**
Non-Profit/Advocacy	83	17%
Other	83	17%

Screening Tool

- Montana Prior Victimization and Trauma Screening Instrument (MPVTSI)
  - 2 versions
    - 0-7 years of age- intended to give to parents/caregivers
    - 8-17 years of age- intended to give to children and adolescents
  - Sections
    - Demographics
    - Experiences
    - Expressions
    - Staff
  - Training Manual

Concerns for MPVTSI

- Mandatory reporting
- Leading questions
- How to keep confidential
- How will this information be used
- Can this information be subpoenaed for court purposes
- How are thresholds determined
- Will this flood our services

Experiences

- Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire (JVQ)
  - Main categories of victimization that children experience
    - **Conventional crime** (CC)-robbery, theft, vandalism, assault with or without a weapon
    - **Maltreatment/neglect** (MN)-physical abuse by caregiver, psychological or emotional neglect, family abduction
    - **Peer and sibling victimization** (PSV)-gang or group assault, peer or sibling assault, physical intimidation by peers, peer relational aggression
    - **Sexual victimization** (SV)-unwanted sexual touch
    - **Witnessing and indirect victimization** (WV)-someone they know in community or school being threatened or victimized
    - **Exposure to family violence and abuse** (FV)-parent verbally threatened the other, parent hit/slapped/assaulted another parent or adult
    - **Internet/cell phone victimization** (ICV)-has anyone ever used the internet or a cell phone to share pictures or spread rumors
    - **Bereavement** (B)-questions about loss.

Expressions

- Derived based off of Connecticut Screening Tool (CTS)
  Lang, Cloud, Stover, and Connell (2014)
- PTSD and depression symptoms
- Edited with National Children's Trauma Stress Network
- Informed by focus groups and workgroup

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How you can help!

- Give us your feedback/concerns on the Montana Prior Victimization and Trauma Screening Instrument
  - Additional concerns
  - Potential differences in the 0-7 years tool
- Help with the screening tool revision for 0-7 years
  - Who should we contact?
- Give us suggestions for what types of topics in training manuals you have found helpful
- Pass along our information to service providers who help families and children
- Hang our information in your office or work area

Your Comments:

Questions?

Contact Us

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