

Center for Children and Family Futures

2016 Family Drug Court

Training, Technical Assistance, and Evaluation Brief



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

The mission of the Center for Children and Family Futures is to improve safety, permanency, well-being, and recovery outcomes for children, parents, and families affected by trauma, substance use, and mental health disorders.

Approach

The Center for Children and Family Futures (CCFF) is a leader in the Family Drug Court (FDC) field and has been providing training, technical assistance, and evaluation to FDCs across the nation for the past 15 years. Currently, CCFF is working as both a hands-on and web-based technical assistance provider and program evaluator for more than 60 FDC courts and engaging in FDC statewide reform across 5 states.

CCFF is staffed by experts with specialized knowledge on improving collaborative practice and policy among the substance abuse, child welfare, Tribal and family judicial systems. CCFF staff and its network of consultants are available to develop, design and present workshop and plenary sessions built on its extensive, award-winning experience to improve outcomes for children and families.

- Since 2009, the program has responded to over 3,500 training and technical assistance (TTA) requests from over 300 FDCs nationwide
- Major TA themes: collaboration, system reform, sustainability, trauma-informed services, implementing children and family centered services in all collaborative courts, medicated assisted treatment, effective drug treatment, evaluation and data information systems, outcomes and performance measures
- TTA is delivered in varying intensities—from brief interventions in response to specific information requests to expert consultation over the course of several months—and in many venues including onsite visits and off-site work conducted via phone, internet, web-based meetings, and video conferences

Outcomes

- Emerging evidence comparing outcomes for parents in FDCs to services as usual consistently find that FDCs achieve a positive impact on child welfare and court outcomes. The following FDC statistics are drawn by the performance monitoring system for 12 FDCs funded by HHS across 6 States*

5 R's of FDCs	FDC	Context
Remain at home – Children at home at the time of intervention who remain in parent's custody	90.4% (n=1508)	64%**
Reunify – The length of time children spend in out-of-home care, and overall percent who reunify	8.4 months; 68.2% (n=1139)	11.3 months+ 64.2%+
Recidivism – Repeat maltreatment within 6 months of enrollment	2.4% (n=99)	6.0%+
Re-entry – The percentage of children who re-entered out-of-home care within 12 months	2.3% (n=26)	13.2%+
Recovery – Treatment enrollment rates and completion rates	85.7%; 48% (n=858)	Not available, 57.6%+

* Rodi, M., Killian, C., Breitenbucher, P., Young, N.K., Amatetti, S., Bermejo, R., Hall, E. *New Approaches for Working with Children and Families Involved in Family Treatment Drug Court*. In Press. *Child Welfare* ** Rodi, M., McIntire, D., DeCerchio, K., & Gardner, S. (2015). *Stay Home or Go Home: The Critical Importance of Family Well-being in Child Welfare Systems*. Unpublished manuscript. * In the absence of a controlled trial, the average statistic for each indicator is included for the states in which the programs were implemented.

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FDC Learning Academy Webinars



- The FDC Learning Academy, launched in 2010, offers web-based training events to enhance, expand, and sustain FDC programs
- Seven “Learning Communities” have been implemented: Planning, Early Implementation, Enhanced Practice, Advanced Implementation, Knowledge Sharing, Leading Change, and Virtual Classroom Discussion
- The Learning Academy has hosted 40 plus webinars with over 70 hours of content and reached over 3,000 attendees from 49 states, Washington, DC and Puerto Rico



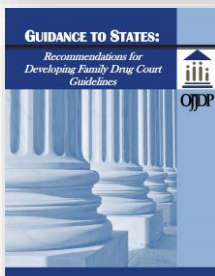
Family Drug Court Online Tutorial – **Coming Soon!**

- FDC 101 – will cover basic knowledge of the FDC model and operations
- Five modules will include links to resources, case studies, interactive questions, and information boxes to enhance the learning experience.



Peer Learning Court Program

- OJJDP and CCFF selected nine FDC Peer Learning Courts (PLC) that demonstrate their use of evidence-supported practice and policies based on strong collaboration among courts, child welfare, and substance abuse treatment agencies
- PLCs have delivered over 90 TTAs by hosting visiting FDC professionals to view their FDC in action, share policies, practice protocols, and lessons learned



FDC Guidelines – 2015 Research Update!

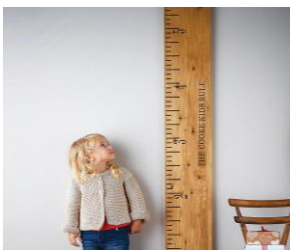
- CCFF engaged a team of expert FDC consultants and Federal and State stakeholders to develop *Guidance to States: Recommendations for Developing Family Drug Court Guidelines*
- The *Guidelines* publication offers a review of FDC best practices and guidelines to help states and programs create systems change
- Since its release in 2013, the *Guidelines* publication has had over 110,000 online views and downloads

Statewide System Reform Program



- In 2014, OJJDP and CCFF launched in-depth technical assistance to five Statewide System Reform Program (SSRP) Awardees: Alabama, Colorado, Iowa, Ohio, and New York
- The states are implementing systems reform to expand FDCs’ scale and scope—increasing FDCs reach into child welfare and substance abuse treatment systems and ensuring the delivery of a full range of comprehensive services for families
- CFF has facilitated 17 site visits, 3 virtual trainings, and 1 awardee kick-off in-person training. CCFF has responded to 80 TTAs involving over 237 activities

Research and Evaluation



- CFF collaborates with agencies and organizations to design evaluations that are carefully crafted to meet stakeholders’ information needs. CCFF works with clients to design and implement an appropriate array of quantitative and qualitative evaluation methods to document changes in the lives of children and families
- Since 2001, CCFF has conducted local, national, and cross-site evaluations of over 80 collaborative courts and substance use treatment programs of varying