

Log of Q&A Chat Session

## **Challenges to Building and Sustaining Effective Home Visitation Programs: Lessons Learned from the States**

May 3, 2006

Web conference co-sponsored by Chapin Hall Center for Children at the University of Chicago and the National Conference of State Legislatures.

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Carol McNally - 10:17 am

Q: What assessment tools are used to assess depression, stress and parental confidence?

Deborah Daro - 10:19 am

A: CES-D to assess depression, Perceived Stress Scale for perceived stress, and parental sense of competence scale for competence.

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Lindsay Warner - 10:18 am

Q: Why did you focus on reports instead of substantiated cases? Please discuss.

Deborah Daro - 10:20 am

A: Recent research (LONGSCAN) has found that reports are a stronger predictor of child well-being than substantiated cases.

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Joanna Reynolds - 10:19 am

Q: What were the referral sources for Welcome Home & Early Start?

Deborah Daro - 10:22 am

A: Welcome Home services were offered in the hospital when the mom gave birth. If she said yes, she got a visit within a week or so. Parents could be referred to Early Start via the Welcome Home nurse, welfare worker, CBO or self.

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Mary Anne Snyder - 10:21 am

Q: What Ohio state agency/department was the public funding partner?

Deborah Daro - 10:22 am

A: Department of Health and Human Services

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Caitlyn Brazill - 10:20 am

Q: Among those families with substantiated reported cases, was there any analysis of what percent were called in by the home visiting agency themselves?

Deborah Daro - 10:23 am

A: We looked at this question. In fact, most folks in both the visited and non-visited groups were referred by family members/neighbors.

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Steven Cohen - 10:22 am

Q: (1) Do you have any data on how the 24% reporting rate compares to the rate for other high-risk families not involved in the program? (2) Were the home visiting programs a significant source of reporting? Steve Cohen Annie E. Casey Fdtn. Baltimore MD

Deborah Daro - 10:26 am

A: 1. When we looked at the rate of report for ES referrals who got a visit vs. those who did not, there was no difference in the proportion reported. However, those not involved in the program were reported at an earlier age (12.3 months versus 9.2 months).

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Sue Renfrow - 10:25 am

Q: Could you tell us again how many home visits in a six month period is the norm?

Deborah Daro - 10:27 am

A: 18 visits -- weekly for first 3 months/bi-weekly for the next 6 months.

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Caitlyn Brazill - 10:30 am

Q: For the Early Start program, were the visits made by nurses or social workers?

Deborah Daro - 10:34 am

A: A little of both -- some of the CBOs used social workers while other ES providers based in medical programs used nurses. In a few cases, family would have the same visitor for both programs.

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Beth Mack - 10:35 am

Q: Did you find a correlation between Home Visitor turn over and exits of program?

Deborah Daro - 10:35 am

A: Not really. For the most part, providers did a good job of transitioning families from one worker to another.

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Aaron Velez - 10:35 am

Q: What is the MELD Program mentioned by Susan Stepleton?

Sue Stepleton - 10:35 am

A: There's more info on our web site. It's a family support program that uses peer facilitated groups.

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Lindsay Warner - 10:35 am

Q: Where can I get the 2006 PAT study?

Sue Stepleton - 10:36 am

A: It will be on the web site shortly. E-mail us and we'll send a brief summary

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Sharon Budka - 10:40 am

Q: For families, were fathers were present, how were they incorporated in the IFSP? What percentage of fathers who were present/involved initially remain involved or present in the life of the child after 1 year? Sharon Budka- NJ Task Force on CAN

Eboni Howard - 10:40 am

A: About half of the mothers had regular involvement with the biological father of the child at two years. About 25% were living with male partner at time of child's birth. There was little inclusion of fathers in the IFSP.

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Carol McNally - 10:41 am

Q: Were the social workers professional or paraprofessional in the Early Start? Was the Welcome Home one visit by a Nurse?

Deborah Daro - 10:42 am

A: Almost all the ES providers used MSWs or similar level staff. A few sites used training folks from the community. All WH visitors were nurses.

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Nennette Medina - 10:54 am

Q: Lisa Schreiber, what organizations currently use the program of Prevent Child Abuse America?

Lisa Schreiber - 10:55 am

A: We currently exist in 37 states in a variety of organizations. You can email me at [lschreiber@preventchildabuse.org](mailto:lschreiber@preventchildabuse.org) for more information.

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Sue Renfrow - 10:41 am

Q: Parents Anonymous, IOWA. Do any of these agencies involve parents in the planning, development of curriculum, research gathering, advocacy, etc.?

Grace Harris - 10:43 am

Q: California Parenting Institute has a Father Mentoring program which has extensive outreach to both new fathers and fathers with multiple risk factors. You can get more information from Bill Haigwood at [billh@calparents.org](mailto:billh@calparents.org).