



LIFE Evaluation Update: June 2016



Portland State University
Child Welfare Partnership

LIFE Evaluation Team


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"The Team" visiting the redwoods in Grants Pass.

Goals for Today

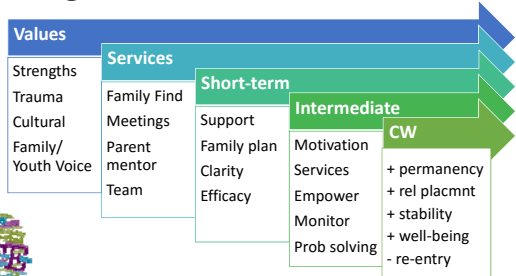
1. Review general evaluation plan
2. Build on Continuous Quality Improvement efforts
3. Update on the LIFE Program
 - Business Protocols
 - Eligibility
 - Parent Mentor service navigation
 - Family Finding
 - What do meetings accomplish?



Evaluation Phases & Components

	Phase 1: Development	Phase 2: Formative	Phase 3: Fidelity & Model Testing	Phase 4: Wrap Up
Component	July 2015 – June 2016	July 2016 – June 2017	July 2017 – June 2019	July – December 2019
Process				
Outcomes				
Cost				

LIFE Logic



- Values**
- Services**
 - Strengths
 - Trauma
 - Cultural
 - Family/ Youth Voice
 - Family Find
 - Meetings
 - Parent mentor
 - Team
- Short-term**
 - Support
 - Family plan
 - Clarity
 - Efficacy
- Intermediate**
 - Motivation
 - Services
 - Empower
 - Monitor
 - Prob solving
- CW**
 - + permanency
 - + rel placmnt
 - + stability
 - + well-being
 - re-entry

Continuous Quality Improvement

WHAT?

- Identifying, describing, and analyzing strengths and problems.
- Testing, implementing, learning from, and revising solutions.

HOW?

Active inclusion and participation of:

- staff at all levels of the agency
- children, youth, and families
- other key stakeholders

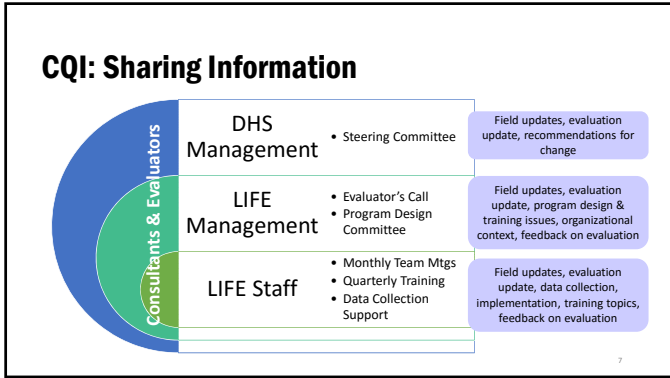
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HOW?

Creating an organizational culture that is:

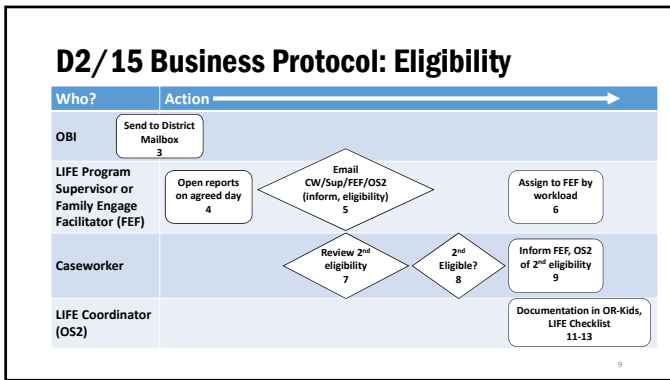
- proactive
- supports continuous learning
- grounded in common mission & values

Using Continuous Quality Improvement to Improve Child Welfare Practice – A Framework for Implementation, Casey Family Programs and the National Child Welfare Resource Center for Organizational Improvement, May 2005.



Business Protocol Mapping

- **Business Protocol:** Step-by-step
- **Goals:**
 - ✓ Discover how things work
 - ✓ Adaptations
 - ✓ Blockages in the workflow
- **Data collection strategy:** case process mapping
- **Product:** branch-specific map



Eligibility Business Protocol Considerations

- Fit with existing protocols
- Who has the information?
- Power (Supervisor vs. OS2)
- Workload
- Need for relationship building
- Potential blocks in the workflow
 - ✓ Caseworker (busy, doesn't know about LIFE)

LIFE Eligibility

As of May 26, 2016

		Total	Low/High by Branch	Data Source
Initial Eligibility (score: 12+)	# Cases Identified	109	7 – 28	Waiver Table
	# Children Identified	117	5 – 30	
Secondary Eligibility (30+ days)	# Cases	81	3 – 18	LIFE Checklist
	# Children	110	3 – 28	
Closed	# Cases	12	0 – 4	

Initially Eligible Children's Predictive Scores

Branch	Average Score	Range	Most Common Risk Factors		
D2-East	30	12 - 64	History IV-E	Fam Stress: Heavy childcare	Removal: Behavior Probs
D8-Josephine	28	12 - 70			
D2-Gresham	26	12 - 84			
D15-OR City	23	12 - 48			
D8-Jackson	22	12 - 88			
D15-N.Clack	19	12 - 42			

Data Source: Waiver Table

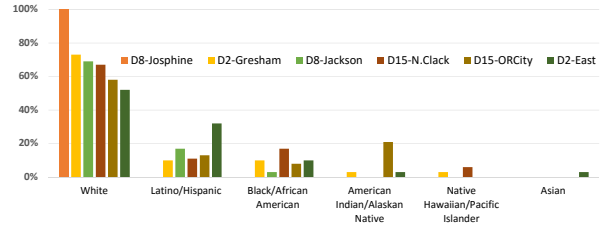
Initially Eligible Children's Age & Gender

Branch	Average Age	% Male
D2-East	11	55%
D2-Gresham	10	70%
D8-Jackson	10	50%
D15-OR City	12	54%
D15-N. Clack	8	39%
D8-Josephine	9	75%

Data Source: Waiver Table

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Initially Eligible Children's Race



Data Source: Waiver Table

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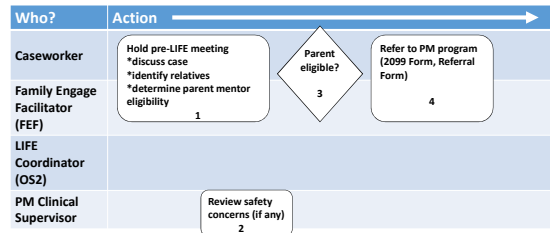
Summary: Eligibility Findings

- Most children meet 2nd eligibility criteria
- Branch variability in predictive scores and risk factors
- Consistency in common risk factors
 - ✓ History of IV-E eligibility
 - ✓ Heavy child care responsibility
 - ✓ Removed due to behavioral problems
- Age 10 y.o., male, white



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D2/15 Business Protocol: PM Referral



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PM Referral Business Protocol Considerations

- Fits with existing referral protocols
- Timing of referral case-specific
- Determining who makes referral
- Consulting on safety concerns with PM program
- Potential blocks in the workflow
 - ✓ Gathering parent eligibility information



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Parent Mentor Referrals

As of May 26, 2016	D2	D15	D8	Data Source
# parents referred	27	21	9	Program Status Summary
# parents accepted services	22	15	6	
% accepted (of referred)	81%	71%	67%	



LIFE Services: Parent Mentor Service Navigation

- 22 LIFE parents received service navigation Feb-April '16
- Top 5 service navigation areas
 1. Child welfare meetings
 2. Child welfare-related court proceedings
 3. Transportation
 4. Visits with children
 5. Basic needs & Immediate housing (tied)




D2/15 Business Protocol: Family Find

Who?	Action
Caseworker	Pre-LIFE meeting
Family Engage Facilitator (FEF)	Exceptions documented & sent to supervisor for approval
	Meet with parents 2
LIFE Coordinator (OS2)	Engage family/support people 6
	Document & track 9
	Review diligent relative search info 3
	Conduct enhanced family find process 4
	Document & track 5
	Send letters 7
	Pass new contacts to FEF (60 days) 8

Enhanced Family Finding Considerations

- Branch procedures & policy around diligent relative search (DRS) letters & exclusions--clarify:
 - ✓ Circumstances & processes for obtaining FF exclusions
 - ✓ Policy on when to send DRS vs. LIFE letters
- Workload & process:
 - ✓ Branch level DRS practice can ↑↓ workload.
 - ✓ Ongoing, but initially require 4-8 hour time blocks.
 - ✓ Inclusion of LIFE Coordinator (OS2) at pre-LIFE meeting saves effort.
 - ✓ Documentation of relative contacts is important!
 - OrKids, LIFE tracking spreadsheet, plus branch specific, if applicable.




LIFE Services: Enhanced Family Finding

As of May 26, 2016	#	%	Range by Branch	Data Source
At least 1 family/support person identified	49	77%	0% - 100%	Relative Search Spreadsheet
Paper case file mine	25	39%	0% - 63%	Family Finding Checklist
Electronic case file mine	30	47%	0% - 58%	
Database search	27	42%	0% - 67%	
At least 1 of the above	39	61%	0% - 81%	

Enhanced Family Finding: Triumphs & Tensions

- Multiple purposes of Family Find—which to privilege?
 - ✓ Locate & engage placement resources (now & down the road)
 - ✓ Identify parent support people to attend meetings or be safety service providers
 - ✓ Obtain information about the family
- Family finding can be trickier than we realized!
 - ✓ Family is so complicated...
 - ✓ Implications for family voice, family engagement
 - ✓ Workload/resource issues
- Family Find is under-studied!



LIFE Services: Case Planning Meetings

- 131 CPMs conducted
- 51% of cases have had at least 1 CPM (n=46)
- Average of 3 CPMs per case (1 – 8)

As of May 26, 2016	Average	Range by Case	Data Source
# Days to first CPM (n=46)	49	15 – 170 days	CPM Notes
# Days passed without first CPM (n=25) *Open for at least 30 days	79	33 – 221 days	