

Hearing Voices
Describing Child Maltreatment Social Work

Determining Outcomes in Child Protective Services - the Need for Omaha System

- ▶ Federal Child Family Services Reviews (CFSR)
- ▶ California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare
- ▶ Direct Practice Evaluation methods
- ▶ Court Involvement

Interviews with Social Workers about their evaluation methods and evidence-based practices

- ▶ 30 CPS social workers, MN & WI, urban, suburban and rural counties
- ▶ How do you evaluate your practice?
 - ▶ Personal Observation - actual = 60%
 - ▶ Personal Observation - intuition = 100%
 - ▶ Staffing with coworkers/supervisor = 30%
 - ▶ Reports from other professionals = 10%
 - ▶ SDM tools = 30%

Interviews with Social Workers about their evaluation methods

- ▶ How would you rate yourself regarding your knowledge of practice evaluation? (1-5)
 - ▶ Average rating = 3.1
 - ▶ "I don't think our agency talks about it a whole lot - it's the first time I've been asked that question"
 - ▶ "I just feel like you can feel when things are going better"
- ▶ How would you rate yourself regarding the frequency of your evaluation of your interventions? (1-5)
 - ▶ 3.5
 - ▶ "I'm thinking we don't have a great way of evaluating our practice so we do the best we can by engaging and knowing what's going on."
 - ▶ "I'd like to say all the time but of course we always might be missing something"

Current Case Level Evaluation Process

- ▶ Structured Decision Making tool developed by Children's Research Center
 - ▶ Risk Assessment
 - ▶ Risk Reassessment
 - ▶ Strength & Needs
- ▶ Actuarially based
- ▶ Needs list easily tied to Omaha System problem list
- ▶ Applied 30 case scenarios to grid - environment not included but received intervention

SOM Needs	Omaha System Problem	Teaching, Guidance, Counseling	Treatment and Procedures	Case Management	Surveillance
SN1 Household relationship/Domestic Violence	Interpersonal Relationship	Activities designed to provide information and materials, encourage action and responsibility for self-care and coping, and assist the individual/family/community to make decisions and solve problems. Anger Management Behavior Modification Bonding/Attachment Communication Coping Skills Exercises Medical/Dental Care Interaction Relaxation/Breathing Techniques Respite Safety Stress management Support Group Support System Other	Technical activities such as counseling, that are directly provided by the agency and designed to prevent, decrease, or alleviate signs and symptoms of the individual/family/community. Counseling Day Care/Respite Other	Activities such as coordination, advocacy, and referral that facilitate service delivery, improve communication among health and human service providers, promote cooperation, and guide the individual/family/community toward use of appropriate resources. Counseling Environment Anger Management Legal System Other Community Resources Safety Support Group Support System Other	Activities such as detection, measurement, critical analysis, and monitoring intended to identify the individual/family/community's status in relation to a given condition or phenomenon. Anger Management Interaction Stress management Other
SN2 Resource Management /Basic Needs	Income	Behavior modification Communication Community resources Education Employment Finance Legal system Other	Counseling Day care/respite Finance Support group Other	Behavior Modification Community Resources Counseling Day care/respite Education Support Group Support System Transportation Other	Behavior Modification Counseling Legal System Other

SN3 Alcohol and other Drug Use	Substance Use	Behavior Modification Coping Skills Dietary Management Genetics Laboratory Findings Legal System Medication Action/Side Effects Relaxation/Breathing techniques Signs/Symptoms – Physical Substance use Cessation Other	Specimen Collection Other	Counseling Finances Legal System Medical/Dental Care Medication Coordination/Ordering Nursing Care Other Community Resources Support Group Support System Other	Laboratory Findings Medical/Dental Care Medication Action/Side effects Nursing Care Screening Procedures Signs/Symptoms – Mental/Emotional Signs/Symptoms – Physical Counseling Care Substance Use/Exposure Other
SN4 Mental health and Coping Skills	Mental Health	Anger Management Communication Coping Skills Dietary management Laboratory Findings Medication Action/Side Effects Other Community Resources Relaxation/Breathing Techniques Rest/Sleep Signs/Symptoms – Mental/Emotional Support Group Support System Other	Counseling care Specimen Collection Other	Continuity of Care Day care/respite Legal System Medical/Dental Care Interaction Medication Coordination/Ordering Nursing Care Other Community resources Recreational therapy care Support group Support System Other	Anger Management Continuity of Care Coping Skills Interaction Laboratory Findings Medication Action/Side Effect Rest/Sleep Signs/Symptoms – Mental/Emotional Other
SN5 Social Support System	Social Contact	Interaction Other Community Resources Other	Other	Day Care/respite Support Group Support System Other	Interaction Support group Support System Other

SN6 Physical health	Health Care Supervision	Continuity of care End of Life Care Medical/Dental Care Nursing Care Screening Procedures Wellness Other	Other	Continuity of Care Support Group Genetics Medical/Dental Care Medication Coordination/Ordering Nursing Care Transportation Other	Medical/Dental Care Nursing Care Signs/Symptoms – Mental/Emotional Signs/Symptoms – Physical Other
SN7 Parenting Skills	Caretaking/Parenting	Bonding/Attachment Caretaking/Parenting Skills Communication Coping Skills Day care/respite Dietary management Discipline Environment Feeding Procedures Growth/Development Care Infection Precautions Medical/Dental Care Other Community resources Personal Hygiene Positioning Rest/Sleep Safety Sickness/Injury care Stimulation/Nurturance Support group Other	Other	Caretaking/Parenting Skills Continuity of Care Day Care/respite Nursing Care Other Community resources Support Group Support System Transportation Other	Bonding/Attachment Caretaking/Parenting Skills Communication Continuity of Care Coping Skills Dietary management Discipline Feeding Procedures Growth/Development Care Medical/Dental Care Nursing care Rest/Sleep Safety Sickness/Injury care Support group Other

PRELIMINARY findings

- ▶ 4.5 identified “problems” per case example
- ▶ Significant number of case closings due to court decisions, not necessarily effectiveness of interventions.
- ▶ Only one County used an actual evidence-based practice, it was an intervention program for victims of domestic abuse.
- ▶ Evidence-based practices are not consistently available if available at all
- ▶ Workers are interested in using evidence based practices but 100% report having inadequate time to keep up with the research.

Further Work

- ▶ Identify Omaha System pathways that include evidence-based practices for the 6 SDM Needs categories
- ▶ Identify problems that are in Omaha System but not SDM (example Environment issues)
- ▶ Identify KBS ratings for Omaha System pathways in child protection
- ▶ Pilot the use of Omaha System documentation system among willing workers
