

MAY 22 1991

THE
NATIONAL
RESOURCE
CENTER
ON
FAMILY
BASED
SERVICES

STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA

DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

O VERVIEW

Mission and Objectives

The NRC/FBS provides technical assistance, staff training, research and information on family based programs and issues. The primary objective of the center's work is the development of high-quality family based services across the United States.

Audience

Public and private human services agencies at the state, county and community levels.

The Family Based Perspective

- Children need permanence in their family relationships in order to develop into healthy, productive individuals
- Families should be the primary caretakers of their children whenever possible
- Social service programs should make every effort to support families in this function
- Effective program models include:
 - behaviorally-oriented crisis intervention services
 - longer-term home-based services
 - systemic family treatment programs

The center's focus is systemic and inclusive. Entire family and community systems are recognized as of central importance in maintaining healthy families and children. The NRC/FBS recognizes each agency's mandate to be responsive to local community needs and resources.

Funding

The NRC/FBS is supported by a combination of funding sources including:

- National Resource Center grants since 1981 (U.S. DHHS Children's Bureau)
- Federally-funded research projects of national significance
- Public and private agency contracts
- Foundation grants for work in local communities
- Trade association grants for curriculum development, training and certification programs

R E S E A R C H

The NRC/FBS conducts evaluative research on child welfare services and consults on in-agency research and evaluation. Major projects underway or recently completed include:

- Factors contributing to success and failure in eleven family based service programs in six states (completed 4-88)—OHDS funding
- A study of chronically neglecting families in a large metropolitan county—OHDS and Vira I. Heinz Endowment funding
- Length of service and cost-effectiveness in four family based placement prevention programs—OHDS funding
- Demonstration and evaluation of a family-based treatment program for chronically neglecting families—OHDS funding

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The center's team of consultants helps agencies evaluate their service delivery systems and develop family-centered services in terms of:

- Systems assessment
- Program planning
- Policy and procedures
- Organization and staff development
- Implementation
- Evaluation

TRAINING

The NRC/FBS provides individualized on-site family-based training to direct service workers, supervisors, trainers, and paraprofessionals in human service programs including child welfare, mental health, community action, county extension, and Head Start programs. Topics include:

- Family systems theory
- Family and community assessment
- Interventions with multi-need families
- Working with chemical dependency, abuse and neglect
- Strategies for family and community empowerment
- Family-centered case management
- Family-centered supervision

Regional and on-campus programs are offered regularly for individuals and staff from smaller agencies.

INFORMATION SERVICES

The information team collects, reviews, and disseminates information on family-based services on a nation-wide basis. Among the wide variety of materials distributed or published by the center are:

- Materials on policy development, program implementation, family-centered practices and NRC/FBS research projects
- An annual *Directory of Family-Based Programs*
- *Prevention Report*, a quarterly newsletter distributed to over 10,000 professionals and organizations
- Extensive bibliographic materials from the center's database
- Aunt Fabs, an electronic bulletin board accessible through a personal computer with a modem. Listings include a job line and conference news.

For more information please check below:

- _____ Family Based Services
- _____ Training and Technical Assistance
- _____ Research
- _____ Information Catalog
- _____ *Prevention Report*

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Please return to: NRC/FBS
University of Iowa
North Hall
Iowa City, Iowa 52242



For more information contact:
National Resource Center
on Family-Based Services
School of Social Work
The University of Iowa
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Iowa City, Iowa 52242
319/335-4123 or 319/335-3500

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