

Connecticut Collaborative on Effective Practices for Trauma (CONCEPT)

Creating a More Trauma-Informed System of Care

Overview: The Connecticut Collaboration on Effective Practices for Trauma (CONCEPT) is a five year 3.2 million dollar grant awarded to the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF) by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) in October 2011. The CONCEPT Coordinating Center is located in the Connecticut Center for Effective Practice (CCEP), of the Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut. The specific focus of the grant is to enhance DCF's capacity to identify and respond to children who have experienced trauma and to enhance access to evidence-based and best practice interventions in the community. The planning phase of the grant is nearing completion, and implementation of the grant will begin in October 2012. Primary implementation phase activities that will begin in 2012 include: initiation of trauma screening in 2 DCF regions, training of DCF staff to prepare them for trauma screening, and training new community providers to implement trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy using a Learning Collaborative approach.

PRIMARY ACTIVITIES:

- **Support Workforce Development of Child Welfare Staff:** CONCEPT will provide training to build on DCF's use of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network's Child Welfare Trauma Training Toolkit. This will include an emphasis on the nature of trauma treatment, screening and assessment of trauma, and how to support a child in trauma treatment. DCF facility staff will also be trained to deliver trauma treatment.
- **System-wide Screening:** CONCEPT will develop and institute a system-wide DCF protocol and quality assurance mechanisms for screening, identifying, and referring children in need of trauma-focused treatment and services.
- **Further Dissemination of Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT):** Between 2012-2014, the Learning Collaborative model will be used to disseminate TF-CBT (an evidence-based treatment) to 6 community-based providers across Connecticut and 2 DCF facilities. This will expand the current network of 16 clinics previously trained in TF-CBT to provide full coverage statewide.
- **Dissemination of the Child and Family Traumatic Stress Intervention (CFTSI):** CONCEPT will disseminate CFTSI to 10 clinics from 2014-2016. CFTSI is an evidence-based intervention developed at the Yale Child Study Center. This brief intervention is delivered acutely following trauma exposure and has been shown to reduce traumatic stress responses and limit the onset of PTSD.
- **Evaluation of Child and System Outcomes:** The required evaluation across the 5-year grant period is being completed by The Consultation Center at Yale University Medical School.

Partners: Department of Children and Families (DCF)
Yale Child Study Center
Steven Marans, Ph.D. (CFTSI Developer)
Community Provider Agencies
National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN)

Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut
The Consultation Center at Yale
Judith Cohen, MD (TF-CBT Developer)
Family Partners

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jason Lang, Ph.D.
Connecticut Center for Effective Practice
Child Health & Development Institute of CT
jalang@uchc.edu

Kim Campbell, MSW (Project Coordinator)
Connecticut Center for Effective Practice
Child Health & Development Institute of CT
kcampbell2@uchc.edu

Marilyn Cloud, LCSW
Connecticut Department of Children & Families
marilyn.cloud@ct.gov
860-723-7260

860-679-1550

860-679-2907

Funded through the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau, Grant # 0169