Responding to Two-Generational Approaches for Children Diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and their Families in Rural Settings

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Background

- Maternal substance use during pregnancy including smoking and, most recently, opioids, have led to a higher than national average rate of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) in WV
- WV has established a strong hybrid service delivery model based on home visitation and supported by contractual partners
- Unfortunately, rising poverty, a changing health service landscape, and new substances used during pregnancy have created an epidemic that requires a re-evaluation of the existing resources and ongoing services that will effectively address these different, yet related issues.

Objectives

- To review activities from the first year of the Rural Health Integration Models for Parents and Children to Thrive in WV (IMPACT)
- Identify steps taken to strengthen infrastructure for children and their families using home visitation and medical provider programming
- Discuss two-generational approach

What is IMPACTP

- Two-generational approach Create opportunities for, and
- addressing needs of:
- Vulnerable children children diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)/ Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome (NOWS) AND
- Parent(s) or Caregiver
- Prioritize and facilitate coordination of programs needed to address effects of poverty and geographic isolation on early childhood & development

IMPACT Procedures

- Children who are diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) or are exposed to substances during pregnancy (and their families) are eligible
- Process from eligibility service utilization referral

Initial Assessment & Eligibility

NAS Dx or

- Maternal Substance Use/ Exposure
- Living in target area

HVP/Demonstration Site Referral

JACKSO

KANAWHA

WYOMING

MCDOWFL

LINCOLN

 New or recurring enrollment

Screening

- Developmental
- Maternal Depression Substance Abuse
- Relationships
- Social Service Needs
- Family Characteristics
- Demographics
- Families will complete measures at baseline and every 3 months with outcomes including: maternal depression, education and employment needs, child development, family strengthening, among others
- Learning Portal provides tools and resources for families, healthcare providers and home visiting teams on-line, self-paced training courses
 - Child development
 - Employment & Education
 - Substance Use
 - Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome
 - Addressing Challenging Behaviors
- Mental Health
- Social Services
- Family Strengthening
- Stigma
- Housing

IMPACT ACTIVITIES

- Implement evidence-based, two-generational strategies for children (birth - age 3)
- Create economic opportunities for their
 - Ensure rural children and families have access to critical health, development, education, and family support services
- Improve early identification of, and intervention for, high-risk families
- Develop, implement, and expand strategies that encourage: a) children's healthy development and help families overcome barriers to achieving economic security and self-sufficiency.

Navigate to:

- Primary care services
- Mental health services
- Developmental screening
- Complementary services

Referral to:

- Assessment and treatment for maternal depression
- Assessment and treatment for substance use

Mentoring for:

- Education
- Job opportunities

Services

- Provider training
- HVP Expansion
 Telehealth Options
- Resource Access for Whole Family



Referrals

- Maternal education
- Parental or Kinship
- Employment Mental Health
- Specialty Medical Services
- Social service navigation



Next Steps

- Establish additional training mechanisms for team and family capacity building – e.g., communities of practice, listserv
- Finalize operating manual; IRB
- Begin to enroll families
- Establish ongoing training and feedback processes

Intended IMPACT Products

- Heightened communication between health providers and home visitation teams; best practices for others in rural settings
- Training products useful to address needs of substance use among families and subsequent consequences
- General public/families
- Providers
- Research on subsequent outcome differences, if any for children exposed to substances during pregnancy in first three years

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