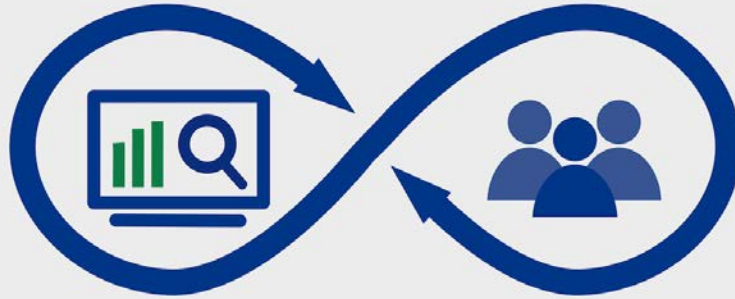


**NAWRS**

National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics



# Barriers and Strategies for Achieving Effective Interagency Family Strengthening Collaboration Initiatives

Roundtable: Session 4

Monday, July 31, 3:30p - 4:45 pm



**RUTGERS**



# Roundtable Aim

This roundtable discussion will focus on identifying and describing the barriers encountered by collaborative partners and their strategies for achieving integrative systems of social support. Collaborative partners and participants will share perspectives on how best to meet the needs of families through interagency family strengthening collaboration.

# Roundtable Format

Following the NAWRS roundtable workshop guidelines, 10 minutes will be dedicated to introductory remarks and 65 minutes will be dedicated to active discussion.

# Roundtable Participants

- James Morgante, Ph.D.
  - Senator Walter Rand Institute for Public Affairs, Rutgers University – Camden
- Jorge Carvalho Pereira
  - Senator Walter Rand Institute for Public Affairs, Rutgers University – Camden

# Roundtable Participants

- Kim Ayres
  - Millville Neighborhood Alliance, Connecting Families to Communities
- Bernadette Blackstock
  - People for People Foundation, Heart of South Jersey
- Melissa Helmbrecht
  - United Advocacy Group, First Star & Stronger Families
- Rich Nichols
  - United Advocacy Group, Family Strengthening Network
- Heather Santoro
  - Holly City Development Corporation, Connecting Families to Communities

# Interagency Collaboration: Social Supports

- Families commonly cultivate unique relationships
- Agencies and organizations do not take an integrative approach to case management
- Fragmentation affects both agencies and families
  - Function within silos
    - Duplicative and/or contradictory support to families
- Interagency collaboration is a means of addressing fragmentation
  - Integrative case management

# Interagency Collaboration: Collective Impact Initiatives

- Kania and Kramer (2011)
  - Effective organizational mechanisms in affecting social change
    - Reciprocal relationships driven by common purpose
    - Unite agencies or organizations in pursuance of resolving a specified social issue
      - Long-term commitment revolving around shared agenda

# Interagency Collaboration: Collective Impact Initiatives

- Kania and Kramer (2011)
  - Success is directed by satisfaction of five conditions
    - Common agenda
    - Continuous communication
    - Mutualism
    - Shared measurement system
    - Strong organizational lead



# Interagency Collaboration: Significance for Families and Communities

- Effects
  - Better service delivery
  - Greater resource efficiency
  - Improved outcomes for individuals served
- Multi-sector improvement
  - Education
  - Healthcare
  - Housing and Urban Development
  - Social Services

# Interagency Collaboration Model

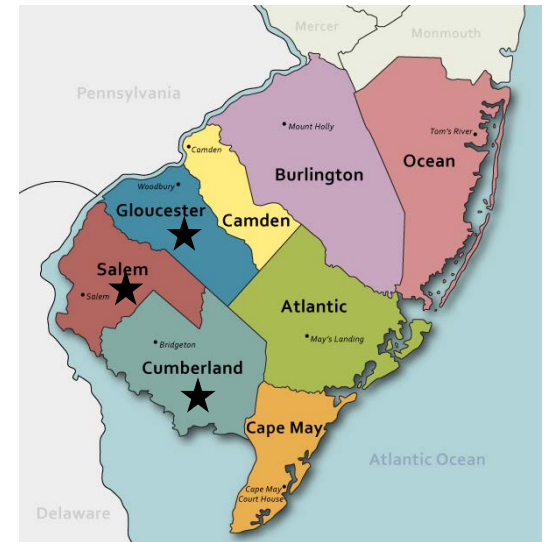
- Working Together for Working Families
  - Achieving self-sufficiency
    - Financial stability
    - Healthy family relationships
    - Child well-being
- Partners collect, evaluate, and share data and resources to strengthen served families

# Interagency Collaboration Model

- Families have two adult caregivers who nurture at least one child
- Prevention through long-term behavioral goals for each individual
  - Families in crisis and those with short-term needs are referred out
- Long-range individual and family action plans
  - Support achievement of family-driven, S.M.A.R.T. behavior objectives

# Service Delivery Area

- Serve families residing in Southern New Jersey
  - Cumberland and Salem are among the State's poorest counties and maintain the highest unemployment rates in the State
  - Gloucester has a middling unemployment rate, but is also among the State's poorest counties



# Roundtable Discussion

- Encourage active exchanges of perspectives on how best to meet the needs of families through interagency collaboration
  - Individual tables
    - Collaborative partner will facilitate the discussion
    - All attendees are welcome to share their knowledge and experiences

# Roundtable Discussion Questions

- What motivated your agency/organization to “join-up” services with an interagency collaboration?
- What barriers has your agency/organization encountered with interagency collaboration and how have you overcome them?
- How has interagency collaboration affected your ability to address service fragmentation within your community?
- How has interagency collaboration enhanced your ability to meet the needs of the families within your service area?
- In what ways has interagency collaboration enabled your agency/organization to have a greater community impact than it would have on its own?