

Essential Element 7
Your role: Partnering with child-serving agencies & systems

- Child welfare agencies need to establish strong partnerships with other child and family serving systems as trauma-exposed children and their families are often involved with multiple service systems. These include law enforcement, the courts, schools, and mental health.
- Service providers should develop common protocols and frameworks.
- Cross-system collaboration enables all helping professionals to see the child as a whole person, thus preventing potentially competing priorities and messages.
- Collaboration between the child welfare and mental health systems promotes cohesive care and better outcomes

Cross-System Collaboration Strategies to enhance Trauma Informed Child Welfare Practices	Why it works.....
Cross-training on trauma and its impact	Ensures all have the same frame of reference around trauma and evidence based practices to best serve children and families impacted by trauma
Jointly develop protocols regarding child and family trauma and collaborative services that promote resiliency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevents the system from re-traumatizing children and families thus increasing resiliency • Prevents from duplication of assessments and services
Multi-disciplinary teams and family team meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creates safety • Builds trusting relationships • Gives families a role and voice • Creates predictability and accountability
Partner with other service systems to assess trauma	Cohesive services promote positive outcomes for families