

A group of people's hands are shown holding a small green plant growing out of a mound of soil. The hands are stacked, with the fingers of the top hands resting on the soil. The background is blurred, showing other people in a group setting.

Minnesota State Drug Court Conference
June 2015

Implementing Best Practice:

A Look at Family Drug Court Guidelines

Part I & II

Jane Pfeifer, Children and Family Futures

A group of people's hands are shown holding a small green plant growing out of a mound of soil. The hands are cupped together, supporting the soil and the plant. The background is blurred, showing other people in a group setting.

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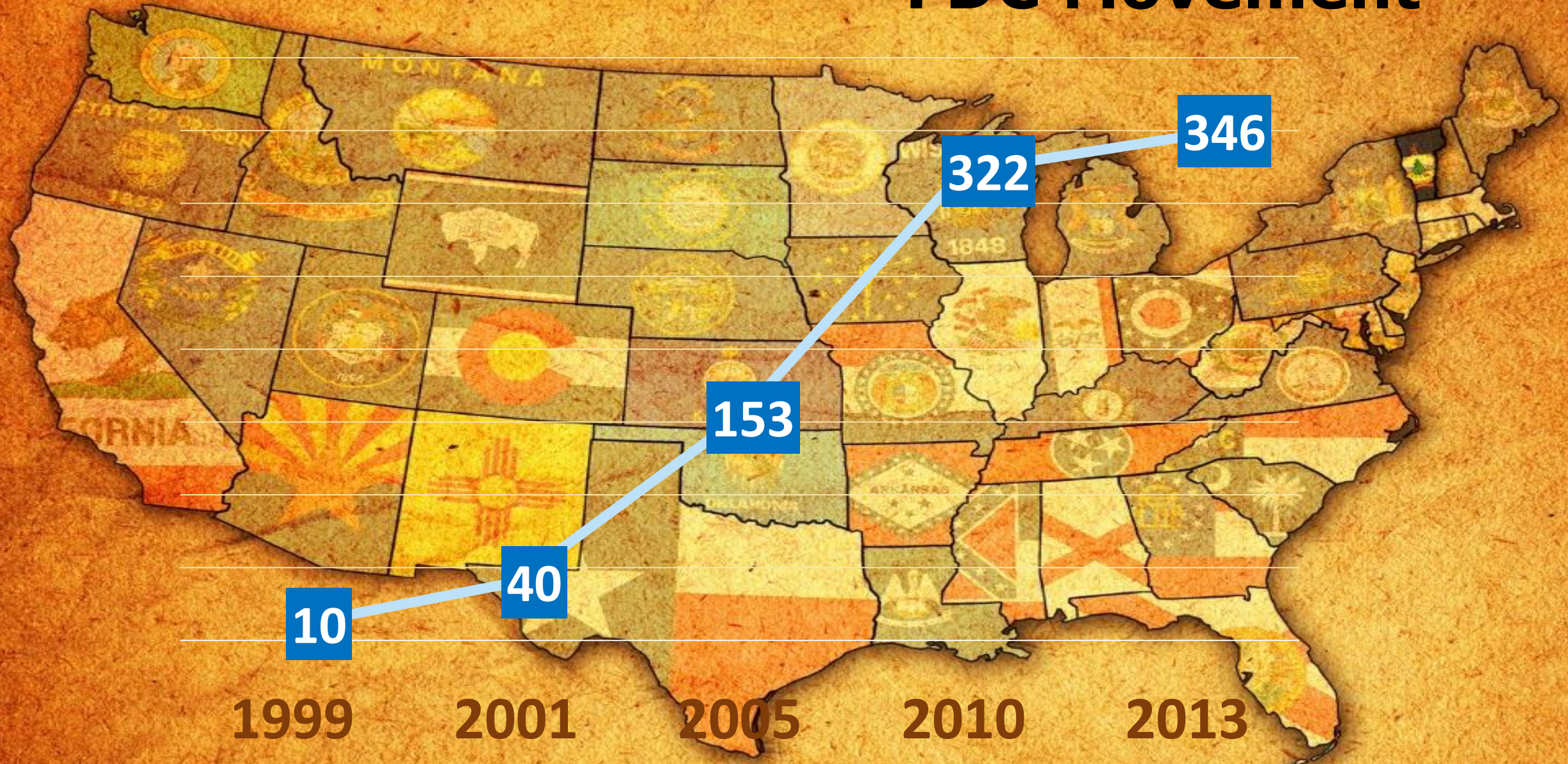
Breakout Session: Part 1

Implementing Best Practice:

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Jane Pfeifer, Children and Family Futures

FDC Movement





**Common Vision-
Extraordinary Effort**

Court

Drug Treatment

Child Welfare

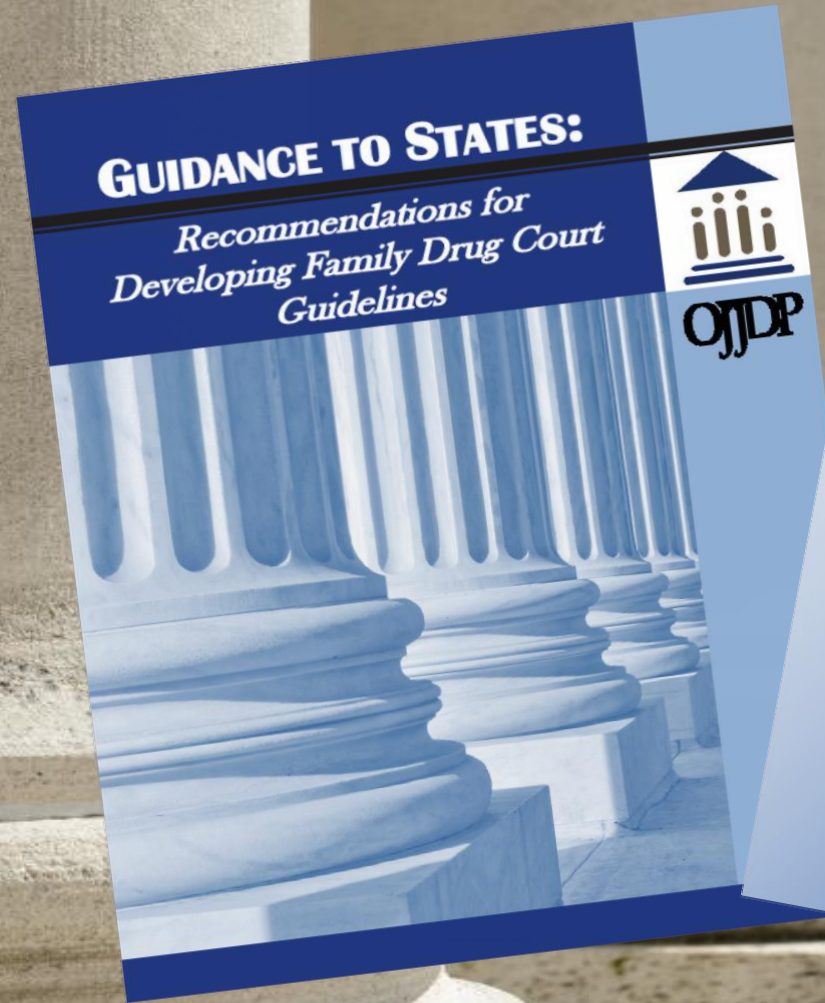
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Systems with multiple:




- Mandates
- Training
- Values
- Timing
- Methods

FDC Guidelines



2013



Why?

The Need for **Guidelines** for family
drug courts

A Systems Perspective

- CFF with support from OJJDP, in partnership with Federal and State stakeholders
- Crafted guidance document to States for developing FDC guidelines
- Based on research, previous publications, practice-based evidence, expert advisers and existing State standards
- Resource tool for States to clarify FDC principles and develop State guidelines reflecting local and unique needs



Guidance to States: The Need for National FDC Guidelines

- States first created FDCs in 1995; more than 300 FDCs are in operation today.
- Significant training and technical assistance over the past 18 years
- Most states have not created Guidelines or Standards specifically for FDCs
- Opportunity to address the needs and strengths of the entire family

TEN RECOMMENDATIONS



- Description
- Research findings
- **Effective strategies**



Research – 3 Categories

- Supported by evidence from research conducted in an FDC setting
- Supported by evidence from research conducted in non-FDC settings (CWS, AOD, Adult Drug Courts)
- Common in FDCs but are supported by little or no evidence; research and evaluation is needed to determine effectiveness



Guidance to States: The Process of Developing Recommendations

- A collaboration by a diverse group of subject matter experts from across the country
- Expertise in the same disciplines as FDC teams:
 - Substance abuse treatment and other services
 - Child welfare
 - Courts
- Quantitative and qualitative review by CFF of:
 - 13 source documents that included state standards and guidelines
 - 32 individual FDC research articles and evaluations
- Review by a broader group of stakeholders, including State Drug Court Coordinators

Practice Guidelines vs. Key Components vs. Best Practice Standards

Guidelines and Components

- Provide specific recommendations or benchmarks
- Parameters for developing effective drug court programs in different and unique jurisdictions and contexts
- Offered when field is still developing and evolving
- Guidelines are designed to first be a tool for states to develop standards
- Guidelines speaks to what the research says (and doesn't say)

Best Practice Standards

- Provide a certification or regulatory checklist
- Codify policies, procedures, and operations
- Based on established research
- Offered when field has matured



Resources

10 Key Components (1997)

<http://www.ndci.org/sites/default/files/ndci/KeyComponents.pdf>

Adult Drug Court Best Practice Standards – Volume I (2013)

<http://www.nadcp.org/sites/default/files/nadcp/AdultDrugCourtBestPracticeStandards.pdf>

Family Drug Court Practice Guidelines (2013)

<http://www.cffutures.org/files/publications/FDC-Guidelines.pdf>

10 Key Components for Drug Courts

1. Integrate treatment services with justice system case processing
2. Using a non-adversarial approach
3. Early identification and immediate placement
4. Access to a continuum of treatment services
5. Drug testing
6. Responses to behavior
7. Judicial interaction
8. Monitoring and evaluation
9. Continuing interdisciplinary education
10. Forging partnerships

10 Family Drug Court Recommendations	10 Key Components for Drug Courts
1. Create a shared mission and vision	KC 1, KC 2, KC 6
2. Develop interagency partnerships	KC 1, KC 2, KC 10
3. Create effective communication protocols for sharing information	KC 2, KC 6, KC 4, KC 7
4. Ensure cross-system knowledge	KC 9
5. Develop a process for early identification	KC 3
6. Address needs of parents	KC 2, KC 4, KC 5
7. Address needs of children	KC 2, KC 4
8. Garner community support	KC 10
9. Implement funding and sustainability	KC 9, KC 10
10. Evaluate shared outcomes and accountability	KC 8



What?

A Collaborative Framework

A FRAMEWORK: BUILT ON A FOUNDATION OF **SHARED MISSION AND VISION**, SUPPORTED BY **CLIENT SERVICES AND AGENCY COLLABORATION**, ACHIEVED BY **SHARED OUTCOMES**

FDC Recommendations

Shared Outcomes

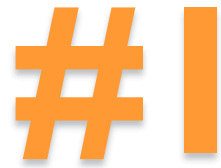
Agency Collaboration

- Interagency Partnerships
- Information Sharing
- Cross System Knowledge
- Funding & Sustainability

Client Services

- Early Identification & Assessment
- Needs of Adults
- Needs of Children
- Community Support

Shared Mission & Vision



Create a Shared Mission and Vision

- Identify core values and develop shared mission and vision
- Objectives – built on consensus on key issues
 - Target population
 - Eligibility criteria
 - FDC model
- Revisit mission and vision; orientation and assimilation processes for new team members
- Develop policies and procedures to cover operation and policy issues



#2

Develop Interagency Partnerships

- Coordinate clinical services to address mental health and trauma issues; comprehensive assessments and case plans
- Process for developing and maintaining partnerships
 - Linkage agreements
 - MOUs
 - FDC Advisory Group
- Policies for sharing information with other providers; coordination of services



#3

Create Effective Communication Protocols for Information Sharing

- **Data management**
 - Track, monitor, use information on both case and systems-level data
 - Compare project data with system-wide data on CWS and AOD outcomes
- **Protocols for sharing information**
 - Identify confidentiality regulations
 - Share information to ensure effective monitoring of progress
 - Conduct staffing prior to court hearings to exchange information



#4

Ensure Cross-Systems Knowledge

- All FDC team members receive training and knowledge on:
 - Responsibilities and mandates of CWS and Court
- Develop ongoing joint training programs that address partner mandates, constraints, and goals
- Joint training in methods to increase parent motivation (ie. Stages of Change, Motivational Interviewing)



#5

Develop an Early Identification and Assessment Process

- AOD providers work with CWS staff to facilitate screening and assessment (ie. co-location)
- Use assessment results to create coordinated case plans
- Ensure timely access to treatment and other services
- Develop legal and clinical eligibility criteria for enrollment



Considerations

Mission and Vision

Agency Partnerships

Communication and Information Sharing

Cross-Systems Knowledge

Early Identification and Assessment

- In which of the recommendations are you excelling? In what ways?
- Which of the recommendations needs the most attention? What are the greatest challenges?



How?

**IMPLEMENTING BEST PRACTICE
STANDARDS AND FDC GUIDELINES**

FAMILY DRUG COURT GUIDELINES SELF-ASSESSMENT



- Designed to assist FDC Practitioners in assessing their own policies, procedures and operations based on the FDC Guidelines
- Please contact us: fdc@cffutures.org



Q&A and Discussion



RESOURCES

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* **New & Exciting Ahead!**



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*Improving outcomes for children
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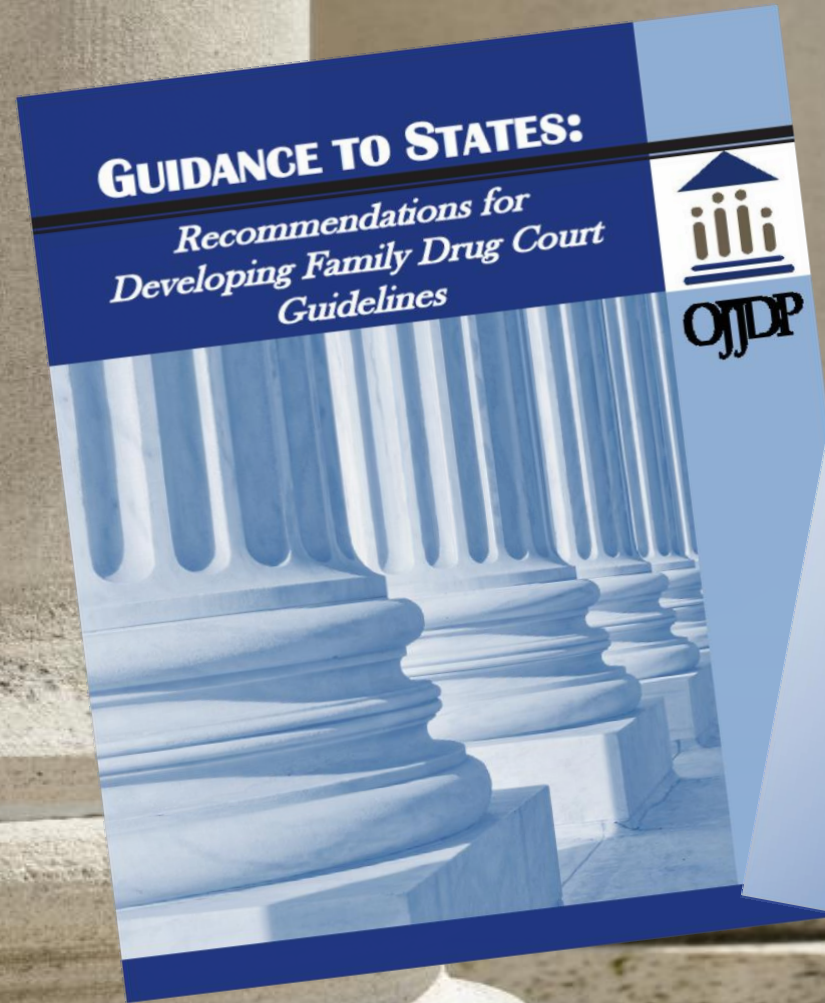
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#6

Address Needs of Parents

- Use phase system with benchmarks for accomplishments that define progress
- Implement integrated or coordinated case plans
- Use engagement strategies to encourage early entry
- Deliver responses to behavior
- Utilize drug testing effectively
- Utilize recovery coaches



#7

Address Needs of Children

- Access to interventions across developmental stages
- Provide comprehensive health assessments, neuro-developmental screenings; assessments that address physical, social-emotional, behavioral and psychological needs
- Develop linkages to high-quality developmental programs (ie. school readiness and educational support)
- Access to continuum of services; address service gaps



#8

Garner Community Support

- Provide consumers opportunity to have active role in planning and developing FDC program, and provide ongoing feedback
- Identify and provide referrals for support services; formal agreement with providers for these services
- Link parents to continuing care services, including family income support
- Plan to conduct community outreach and education regarding FDC



#9

Implement Funding and Sustainability Strategies

- FDC budget includes funds for:
 - FDC infrastructure
 - Services for adults
 - Services for children
 - Services for families
 - Training
 - Evaluation
- Share budget information with partners
- Joint funding strategies to maximize support opportunities
- Community outreach and education plan



#10

Evaluate Shared Outcomes to Ensure Accountability

- Identify shared outcomes and use outcome evaluation results to ensure accountability and success
- Use outcome data and evaluation results to modify policies, procedures, and operations
- Agree how to share evaluation results with policy makers and community and to use these results to leverage resources for sustainability
- Identify comparison groups to make its evaluation results credible



Considerations

Parents' Needs

Children's Needs

Community Support

Sustainability

Shared Outcomes

- In which of the recommendations are you excelling? In what ways?
- Which of the recommendations needs the most attention? What are the greatest challenges?

Which of the 10 Recommendations?

- All recommendations are interrelated
- Several themes apply across recommendations
- Considerations:
 - Resources available
 - Target Population
 - Strengths of providers





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