

Connections: A Comprehensive Community Screening and Referral System For Children Birth to Four and Their Families

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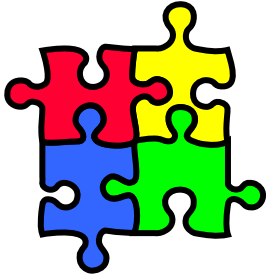
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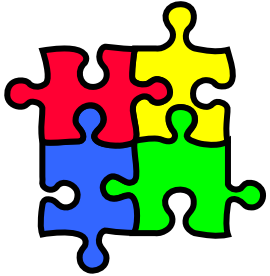
**With Assistance of Project Staff: Stacy Viveros, BA; Jenny Hamilton, MA;
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Project EAGLE Community Programs



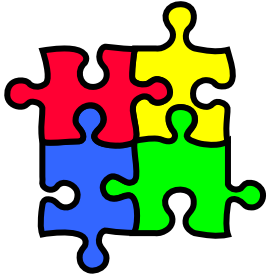
CONNECTIONS Program Purpose:

- To serve as an entry point into the Wyandotte County, KS comprehensive early education system
- To support enrollment of eligible children in early intervention program services by linking families to community support services



CONNECTIONS Program Goals:

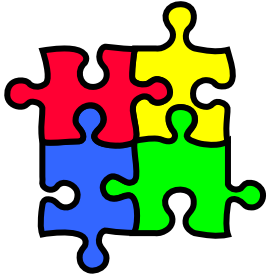
- Identify immediate family needs through
 - Collaborative relationship
 - Discussion of family wish list
 - Multiple risks screening
- Provide appropriate referrals and problem-solving support to improve parents' access to services
- Improve utilization of community resources



CONNECTIONS Program Operation:

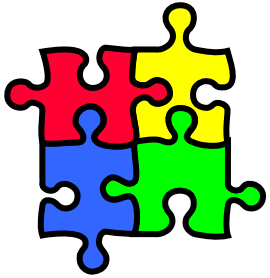
- Two hour home or office visit for multiple risks screening and referral
 - Follow-up call if needed

- Twenty minute final visit to gather information about service access and parent satisfaction



Multiple Risks Screening:

- Family Wish List
- Intake Interview
- Screening Measures



Wish List of Services

Unfortunately, we are often unable to receive services in areas where we have a need because we do not meet the qualifications for services or there is limited money available. Imagine that you could get services and not have to worry about money or eligibility. After imagining that to be possible, look below and check the areas for which you would like or need services.

Parent Self-Sufficiency

- Employment/Income
- Stable Housing
- Utilities/Rent
- Home Safety
- Food/Nutrition
- Transportation
- Education/Job Skills
- Child Care

Parent Health

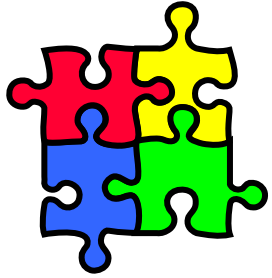
- Health Insurance
- Family Planning/Birth Control
- Prenatal Care
- Individual Counseling
- Marital Counseling
- Family Counseling
- Medication to help with depression or worries
- Help for taking care of my feelings without using alcohol/drugs
- Domestic Violence Counseling
- Domestic Violence Shelter
- Developmental Disability
- Dentist

Parenting

- Parenting education
- Child development education
- Parent-child activity group
- Help for managing my child's behavior (How to calm my child, play with them, discipline, etc)

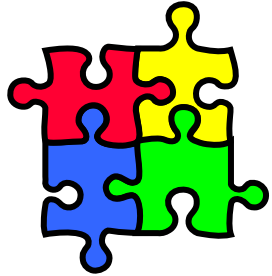
Child Health/Development

- Health Insurance
- Health Concern
- Immunizations/Well Child
- Developmental Concern/Delay
- Dentist



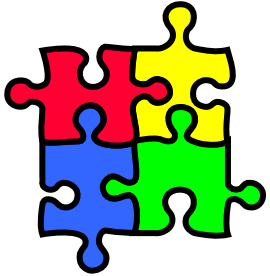
Intake Interview:

- Demographics
- Education/Occupation
- Income
- Housing
- Food
- Child Care
- Transportation
- Health (Maternal & Child)



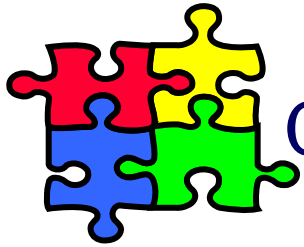
Screening Measures:

<u>Risk Domain</u>	<u>Measure</u>
Parent Self-Sufficiency	Interview (30 min)
Domestic Violence	March of Dimes-adapted (3 min)
Depression Risk	CES-D (5 min)
Substance Abuse	CAGE-AID or CRAFFT (10 min.)
High Risk Parenting Beliefs	AAPI-2 (15 min)
Developmental Delay	ASQ/ASQ-SE (15 min)
Hearing/Vision	OAE



Referrals, Support, & Resources:

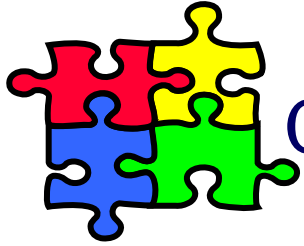
- Review self-assessments and screening results with parents
- Provide referrals based on discussion of above results
- Discuss potential barriers and challenges
- Provide problem-solving support to access referrals
- Provide educational Resources
 - What to Do When Your Child Gets Sick
 - Bright Futures Nutrition Family Fact Sheets
 - Bright Futures Activity Book
 - Bright Futures What to Expect & When to Seek Help
 - Child Development Handouts
 - Children's Books



CONNECTIONS Program Evaluation

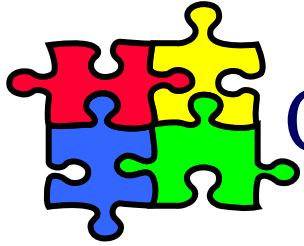
Evaluation Goals:

- Assess parent satisfaction with the program
- Assess pre-post parent perceptions of and satisfaction with community services in relationship to family needs
- Analyze trends with regard to:
 - Community risk
 - Family satisfaction with program
 - Family perceptions of access to and helpfulness of community services
- Apply an iterative process:
 - Analysis is presented to the Connections team, board, and community for feedback to continually refine program features:
 - Efficiency, acceptability



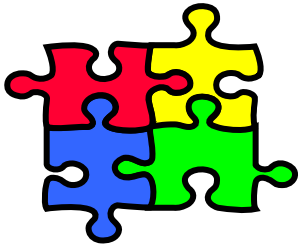
CONNECTIONS Evaluation Program Tools

- Program Satisfaction Questionnaire
- Pre-Post Family Needs and Services Assessment
- Screening Measures
 - Community risk analysis
 - Prediction of triage responses to screening outcomes



CONNECTIONS Evaluation Results

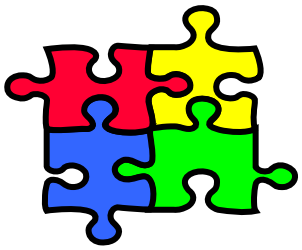
- 1922 parents were referred to the CONNECTIONS program (March, 2003 - April 30, 2008)
- 1330 parents (66%) participated in CONNECTIONS program
- 1239 (93%) provided consent for research participation
- Assessment and referrals were completed through home visits in 88% of cases
- Remaining 12% of assessment and referrals completed through office visits



CONNECTIONS Evaluation Results

Child Demographics & Risks

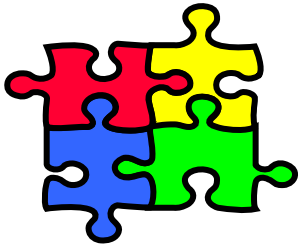
Age	M= 13.72 months
Gender	
Female	389 (48.0%)
Male	421 (51.9%)
Birth weight	M = 3093.54 grams
Ethnicity	
Latino	48.1%
Non-Latino	51.9%
Race	
American Indian/Alaska Nat.	<1%
Asian	<1%
Black/African American	43%
White	55.2%



CONNECTIONS Evaluation Results

Child Demographics & Risks

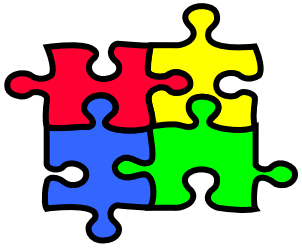
Birth complication	36.5%
Spent time in NICU	14.8%
No Health Insurance	23.4%
No Primary Care Physician	11.7%
Previously Identified Special Need	5.1%
Developmental Concern (ASQ)	11.4%
Social-Emotional Concern (ASQ-SE)	9.7%
Traumatic Experience (parent report)	9.0%



CONNECTIONS Evaluation Results

Parent Demographics & Risks

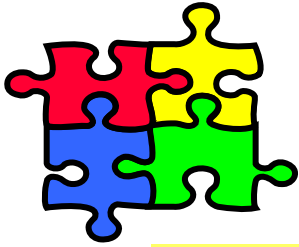
Age	24.27 years (R = 12 – 56)
Gender	
Female	93.6%
Male	6.4%
Currently Pregnant	42.3%
Ethnicity	
Latino	41.7%
Non-Latino	58.3%
Race	
American Indian/Alaska Nat.	<1%
Black or African American	40.3%
White	57.2%
Other	<1%



CONNECTIONS Evaluation Results

Parent Demographics & Risks

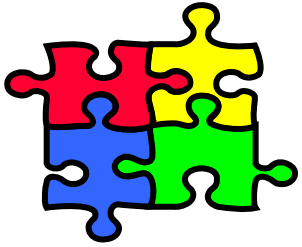
Education Level	
< 6 th grade	7.7%
<12 th grade	47.7%
Completed high school/GED	35.8%
Graduated from college/graduate training	8.8%
Single Parent	65.2%
Homeless	12.7%
Unemployed	43%
Lacks transportation	40.0%
Insufficient food	29.2%
Child protection service involvement	10.9%



CONNECTIONS Evaluation Results

Parent Demographics & Risks

Lacks home safety	9.3%
Lacks health insurance	42.6%
Lacks primary care physician	52.1%
Lacks birth control	24.0%
Lacks driver's license	47.0%
Domestic Partner Abuse (March of Dimes)	11.7%
Depression Risk (CESD)	40.1%
Substance Abuse (CAGE; CRAFT)	9.3%
High Risk Parenting Attitudes & Beliefs (AAPI-2)	77.6% screened positive (in at least 1 domain for non-optimal parenting beliefs)
Unrealistic Expectations	35.8% (concern range)
Low Empathy	28.3% (concern range)
Values Corporal Punishment	38.5% (concern range)
Role Reversal	37.6% (concern range)
Threatened by Autonomy	38.9% (concern range)

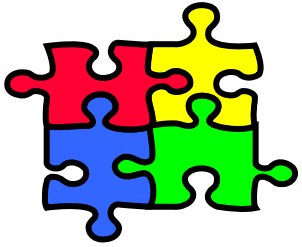


CONNECTIONS Evaluation Results

Parent Demographics & Risks

Adult Adolescent Parenting Inventory Concern Scores across Domains

<u>Number of Domains with Positive Screen</u>	<u>Percentage of Families</u>
0	23.4%
1	24.3%
2	16.5%
3	13.9%
4	12.9%
5	9.7%



CONNECTIONS Evaluation Results

Program Satisfaction

<u>Questionnaire Item</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>SD</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Mode</u>
(1)	4.47	.19	0-5	5
(2)	4.23	1.23	0-5	5
(3)	4.65	.66	0-5	5
(4)	4.61	.66	0-5	5
(5)	4.65	.64	0-5	5
(6)	4.54	.75	0-5	5

Family Quotes from Parent Satisfaction Questionnaire

What if anything did you find most helpful?

“(Staff person) always listened to my needs and tried to help me find the best solution for my problems.”

“The referrals that I got was real helpful for me and family.”

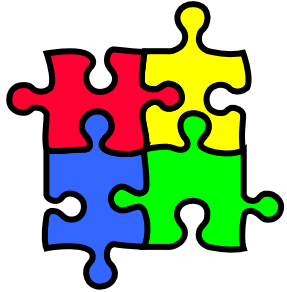
“ When they are really concerned about you and your kids.”

“Being able to talk to someone who was able to understand me and help me.”

“That they came to my home not me having to get my child out and go to them. The info was excellent.”

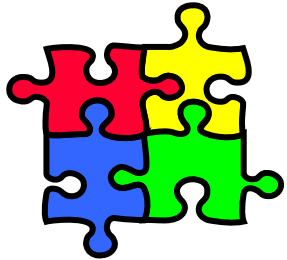
“Most helpful to me was the training and professionalism of our social worker. She gave us a lot of information which allowed me to explore what Wyandotte County has to offer.”

“Talking about where I stand as far as my views as a parent and depression. Also receiving books for baby and charts showing how baby should develop.”



CONNECTIONS Program: Future Directions

- Expand input on service accessibility and acceptability by families and community service providers
- Develop an efficient, empirically-driven triage system while maintaining high levels of family satisfaction
- Expand breadth of the CONNECTIONS program to range from self-directed electronic access to in-depth, comprehensive home visiting assessment



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