

NH Perinatal Substance Exposure Collaborative Meeting Notes

7/31/2024 | 2:30-4:30

<p>Connected Families NH Presentation</p>	<p>Alesha Lane, Julie Johnston and Meghan Herschel presented on the Connected Families NH program.</p> <p>What is Wraparound?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● A highly structured, evidence-based program designed for families.● Most referrals come from DCYF (Division for Children, Youth, and Families). Participation is optional for all families. <p>4 Phases of the Program:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Hello:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Initial meeting with the family and peer support.○ Information gathering to form a support team.2. Help:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Monthly team meetings to assess and provide support.3. Healing:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Filling in service gaps for the family and finding necessary resources.4. Hope:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Ideally, a two-month planning phase for the family's future. <p>Outcomes (The "Why"):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Identifies underlying family needs.● Improves engagement with services.● Prepares families for long-term success. <p>How is Wraparound Different?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● It's a process, not a specific service.● Each program may look different depending on the family's needs.
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- The goal is to meet underlying needs to achieve better outcomes.
- It brings together various services in a coordinated way.

What Wraparound is Not:

- It is **not** case management, crisis intervention, or a specific set of services.

Who is Eligible?

- **Children from birth to age 5.**
- Children with emotional disturbances or mental health diagnoses (formal diagnosis is not always required).
- All families are eligible, including those not on Medicaid.
- Services are available **prenatally**, especially close to the due date.

Referral Process:

- Referrals can be submitted through the website or email.
- The **Bureau for Children's Behavioral Health** handles intake coordination.
- Nearly all referred families receive services, although official data is not yet available.

Additional Information:

- The program is funded by SAMHSA and will become Medicaid billable after the grant expires.
- Website: [Connected Families NH](#).
- Contact:
 - Alesa Lane, Early Childhood Wraparound Supervisor: alane@co.cheshire.nh.us
 - General inquiries:
 - earlychildhoodbh@dhhs.nh.gov

NH Home Visiting Presentation

Kristi Hart & Virginia Jones presented on the NH Home Visiting Program.

What is Home Visiting?

- Focuses on supporting young children and their families.
- Helps parents set goals, solve problems, and receive necessary support.
- "Family" is broadly defined and can include single parents, caregivers, etc.

Home Visiting in New Hampshire:

- Uses an evidence-based model available nationwide.
- Covers families from **prenatal stages through age 3**.
- Families enrolled through DCYF can receive services up to **age 5**.
- Focuses on **caregiver-child interaction**.
- The program is **voluntary** and **free**.
- Insurance information is requested only to help uninsured families get connected to coverage.

Outcomes:

- **Healthy Families America (HFA)** has shown benefits such as improved maternal health and a reduction in child maltreatment.
- Programs are available in **every county** in the state.

Comprehensive Family Support Services (Home Visiting)

- Community-based, voluntary services for families with children from **birth to age 18**.
- Works with the **Family Resource Center** to provide resource navigation.
- Engaged **1,158 families** last year, and discharged **646 families**.

Contact Information:

- Kristi Hart: kristi.hart@dhhs.nh.gov
- Virginia Jones: virginia.jones@dhhs.nh.gov

Families are connected with the Family Resource Center, which helps

	<p>direct them to the services they need. Families also have access to a nurse home visitor for health-related questions.</p>
<p>DCYF Policy Discussion</p>	<p>Reporting to DCYF – Spring Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Last spring, hospitals began receiving varying advice on what should be reported to DCYF ● No changes have been made to state legislation, and there is no federal mandate for new reporting standards. ● Reports to DCYF are only necessary when neglect or abuse is identified, along with other risk factors within the family. ● The rules around reporting remain unclear, and unnecessary DCYF involvement can be disruptive. ● There is a concern that families who fear being reported may be overlooked for necessary services. ● Comments and questions were shared by participants around reporting inconsistencies and concerns and the unintended consequences including families not seeking care due to fears of being reported to DCYF. <p>Action Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maintaining regular contact with DCYF leadership is crucial to address these concerns. ● Involving families in the reporting process is essential to improve transparency and trust. ● There is a need for participants and sponsors for ongoing efforts.
<p>Participant Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Perinatal Mood Disorders: Components of Care - September 16-18 in Manchester, NH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Perinatal Mood Disorders: Components of Care, In-Person 2-Day Training, September 16 - 17, 2024 ○ Advanced Perinatal Mental Health Psychotherapy Training, In-Person 1-Day Training, September 18, 2024 ● Ways to help the New Hampshire Chapter of Postpartum Support International: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Donate to provide scholarships for training workforce caring for pregnant and parenting families. ○ Share the flyer with colleagues and agencies in the perinatal space ○ Attend as an individual or a clinical team! Scholarship

[Application](#)