



Pinellas Safe Start Evaluation

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Pinellas Safe Start Mission

Pinellas Safe Start seeks to prevent and reduce the impact of violence on young children and their families by enhancing and integrating the supports and services offered by community providers, agencies, and institutions and by creating a community culture of keeping children valued, cared for, and safe.

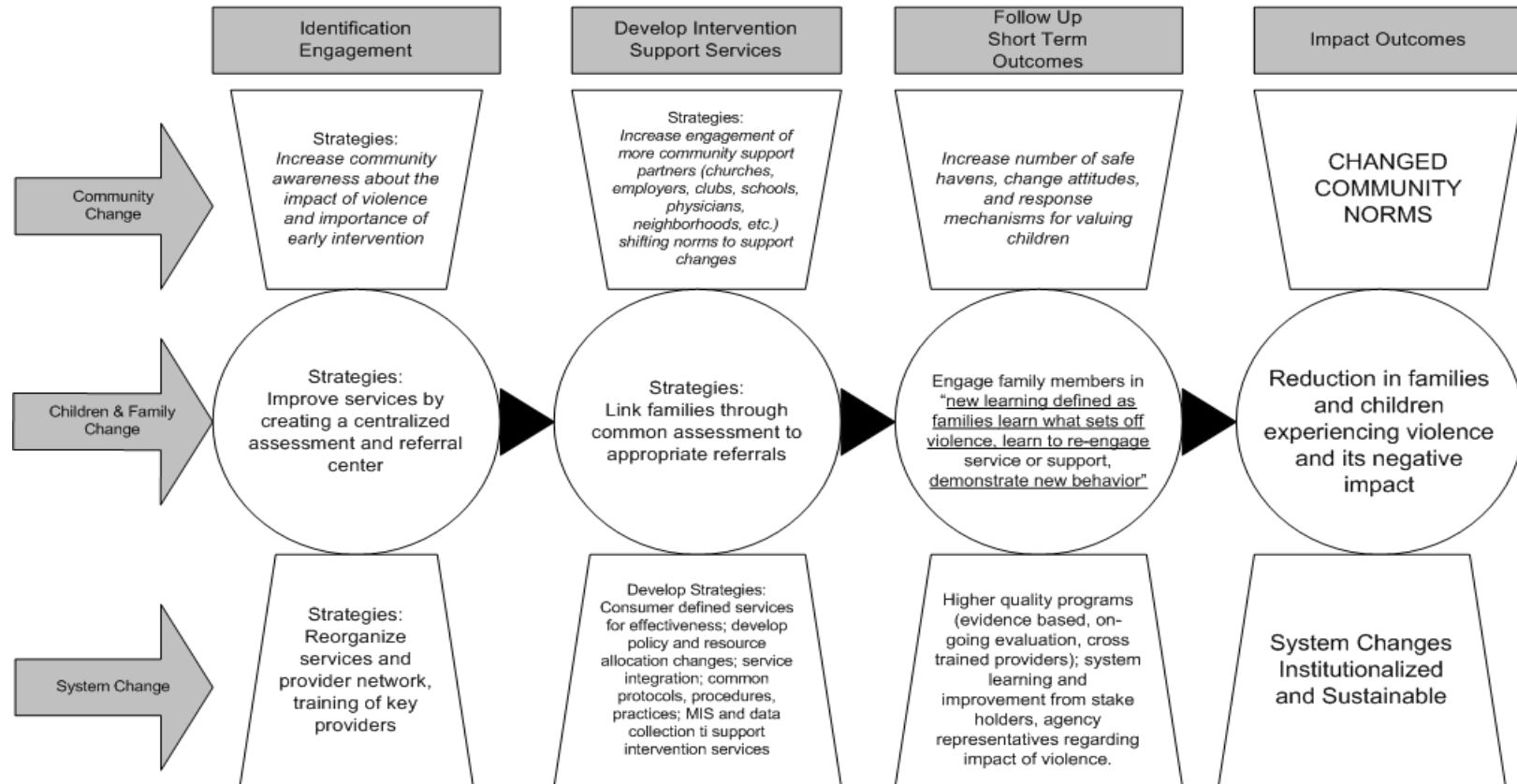
Evaluation Questions

- The evaluators, working with the local project staff and the National Evaluation Team, began work on the outcome evaluation to answer the following research questions:
 - Has the Pinellas Safe Start model changed the community's awareness about the impact of violence on children and the importance of early intervention?
 - Has the Pinellas Safe Start model developed a system that is responsive to children who are exposed to violence and children who are at risk of exposure to violence?
 - Has the intervention made a difference in reducing the consequences of violence on children and their families?

Evaluation Framework

PINELLAS COUNTY SAFE START INITIATIVE MODEL

Goal 1: To increase the Pinellas County community's awareness about the impact of violence on children and the importance of early intervention.
 Goal 2: To develop a system in Pinellas County that is responsive to children who are at risk if violence or have witnessed violence.



Evaluation Framework



- The approach is participatory
- The model is comprehensive & the evaluation is based on the logic model
- Involves data collection on three major components for change
 - System level
 - Community level
 - Individual level

Evaluation Framework

□ Participatory Approach

- Includes close communication & working relationship with the program implementers & project staff
- Includes quick exchange of findings for project improvement
- Has improved the evaluator's ability to get data from the various program staff to determine processes and effectiveness

Evaluation Framework

- **Comprehensive Approach based on Logic Model**
 - **Logic model includes three levels of change regarding children's exposure to violence**
 - **System level change**
 - Raising awareness within systems; police, courts, schools, medical professionals and service providers regarding CEV in young children (birth to 6)
 - Changing the responses and services for children exposed to violence (Increase coordinated responses)
 - **Community level change**
 - Raising CEV awareness and increasing the community's ability to respond to CEV (training of providers & community members)
 - **Individual level change**
 - Reduce the impact of CEV on children and families through prevention and service provision
 - Reduce barriers to services for CEV by early identification and referral

Evaluation Framework

■ System Level Evaluation

- Tools: Key Informant Survey (Sample: All agency directors that have signed MOU's with Safe Start)
- Network Analysis (Sample: Same as KIS, analysis determines proximity/intensity of working relationships)
 - First administration: January 2002
 - Second administration: November 2004

System Level Goal: To develop a system that is responsive to children who are at risk of or witness violence.

Evaluation Framework

□ Community level evaluation

- Public Awareness Campaign
- Training Participant Survey
 - Follow-up with 25% of participants 6 months post-training
- Training Participant Pre and Post tests for knowledge & attitudinal change
- Training participant satisfaction surveys
- Document Review (MOU's, meeting minutes, shared presentations)

Community Level Goal: To increase the Pinellas County community's awareness about the impact of violence and the importance of early intervention.

Evaluation Framework

□ Individual level Evaluation

- Comparison Group Design
- 3 Groups compared at pre, mid and post intervention
- Measurement tools used for comparison
 - Parenting Stress Index (PSI)
 - Temperament and Atypical Behavior Scale (TABS)
- Will also do case reviews to determine risk & protective factors of program & comparison group participants
 - Developing a Resiliency Matrix for data collection that combines several data sources including the NET database, SAMIS (local database), PSI, TABS and data extracted from case files

Individual Level Goal: Reduce CEV and the impact of exposure of violence on children.

For More Information About The Safe Start Initiative

www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org

www.nccev.org/programs/safe-start



www.pinellassafestart.org

