It Takes a Community...

Presented by:
Kindle Wallace, MFT
May-Ci Xiong ASW
Agenda

- What is Katie A and how it has impacted our county to provide services to minors and TAYs
- Merced County’s practices in Children System of Care (CSOC)
- Where services are heading
- Importance of community and family involvement in mental health services
- Importance of team work
- Self care
Importance of Community

History of Katie A

- Lawsuit filed in 2002 against CDSS, DHCS and LA County.

- The lawsuit involved 5 minor plaintiffs:
  - Katie: 37 placements, 19 psych hospitalizations (10 years in care)
  - Mary: 28 placements 16 psych hospitalizations (3 years in care)
  - Janet: 25 placements, 12 psych hospitalizations (2 ½ years in care)
  - Henry: 12 placements, 6 psych hospitalizations (14 months in care)
  - Gary: 3 placements (6 months in care)

- LA settled its portion of the lawsuit in 2003, and CDSS and CDHCS settled in 2011.
Why The Changes

- Counties are mandated by the legal settlement and have been incorporated by the California Department of Social Services.
- To improve service delivery to families by working as a team with Child Welfare, Mental Health and the family.
- To give families a voice and choice in mental health services provided to their children.
What Has Changed

- The way we identify youth in need of mental health services.
- The process for initiating mental health assessments.
- The way we involve families in the process.
- The level of collaboration and teaming between Child Welfare and Mental Health.
What is Teaming?

- TEAM WORK!!!!
- Collaboration with community members and families to achieve an identified goal.
- Key element to obtaining successful outcomes.
- Open communication, acceptance of responsibility, active participation and contributions.
- Problem solving vs. complaining.
- Strength based approach.
Practices Surrounding Katie A

- Bimonthly meetings with County Mental Health, Child Welfare, Probation, and Contract Providers
- Address practices, procedures, protocol, and direct implementation of services.
- Ongoing feedback loop
Specialty Services

- Outpatient
- Wraparound (DoWith)
- Crisis Stabilization Program (CSP)
- Full Partnerships Program (WeCan)
- Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS)
- Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)
Best Practice Model

- Regular Child Family Team Meetings
- Strengths and goals identified by client and family
- Development of natural and community support
- Continued contact with all team players including but not limited to consumer, family, legal guardian (CW/Probation), service providers, caretakers (foster family/group home), school liaison, and supports (friends/pastor/other).
Young Minds Matter

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2016/02/17/childrens-mental-health-problems_n_9208208.html
Self Care

- Accountability in maintaining Professional and Personal Care
- Advocating for self care overall and for all
Reflections