**Parent Engagement and Family Peer Support Services in Wraparound**

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**Introduction**

- Family peer support (FPS) is provided by a family member with lived experience caring for a child with mental health needs.
- Several families (4) never received services. Reasons expressed:

**Methodology**

- From June 2016 through August 2016, participants from the Maryland Children’s 1st Five for Early Education initiative were enrolled.
- Case managers were asked to identify a family when they had a child with a mental health diagnosis.
- Research staff scheduled interviews with caregivers and conducted extensive consent; allowing research staff to identify a child with a mental health diagnosis and determine whether they were interested in participating in the study.
- Caregivers responded to a demographic survey, which asked for information about their family, their child, and their experiences with Wraparound services.
- Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and frequency analysis to identify patterns and trends.

**Results**

- The current study explores caregiver perceptions of FPS offered as part of Wraparound services.
- The majority of participants (80%; 28) no longer received Wraparound services, 9% (3) were still in the process of receiving services, and 11% (3) had completed Wraparound services.
- The impact of working with FPS varied by families.
- Table 8 depicts information on services provided by FPS to families.

**Discussion**

- The impact of working with FPS varied by families.
- The most helpful aspects of FPS were Feelings of connectedness, feeling hopeful, and feeling there are others with same experiences.
- Providing information about Wraparound process was most helpful to caregivers.
- Overall, FPS services were seen as helpful to families, but a few challenges were noted.

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**References**