

THE INSTITUTE FOR INNOVATION & IMPLEMENTATION

Integrating Systems • Improving Outcomes

Wraparound and the *Family First Prevention Services Act:* Opportunities & Requirements For States

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National
Wraparound
Implementation
Center

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Wraparound Evaluation & Research Team



Overview of the Webinar

1. What is FFPSA and the Prevention Services Clearinghouse?
2. What Was Behind Wraparound's Rating?
3. What Does This Mean for States Aiming to Implement Wraparound in their Child Welfare Systems?
4. How Can NWI and NWIC Help States and Others with "Rigorous Evaluation Plans"?
5. Questions and Answers

Poll Question 1

1. What is the current status of your state with respect to Wraparound in Child Welfare? (Check all that apply)

- a. Implementing Wraparound statewide
- b. Implementing Wraparound in some regions/ localities
- c. Planning to implement Wraparound statewide
- d. Wraparound is in our state Title IV-E plan
- e. Planning to include Wraparound in our state Title IV-E plan
- f. Wraparound is included in our State Medicaid Plan or waiver
- g. We plan to include Wraparound in our State Medicaid Plan or waiver
- h. I don't know

FFPSA

- The *Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)* was signed into law as part of Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018
- A signature reform of FFPSA is a new state option for *federal Title IV-E Family First Prevention Programs*.
- States that take this option can be reimbursed for **evidence-based prevention services**, to help more children remain safely at home with their families and avoid foster care, including:
 - Evidence-based mental health programs
 - Substance abuse prevention and treatment
 - In-home parent skill-based programs
 - Kinship navigator programs



The *Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse*

- Established by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) in accordance with FFPSA
- Provides “an **objective source of information on evidence-based programs**” that may be eligible for funding under Title IV-E of the SSA as amended by FFPSA
- Rates programs and services as **promising, supported, well-supported, and Not Meeting Criteria** for research support
- In addition to evidence ratings, the Clearinghouse provides specific information on the programs, such as model descriptions, training and support options, and implementation requirements.





Rating Wraparound

- NWI, many states, and others nominated Wraparound for review
- To assure clarity, NWI requested that nominations refer to “*Intensive Care Coordination Using a High Fidelity Wraparound Process*”
- Less than 100 programs have been reviewed from over 1,000 nominations

Poll Question 2

2. Based on what you know, what level of research evidence would you say Wraparound has achieved?

- a. Well-supported (highest level of evidence)
- b. Supported (next highest level)
- c. Promising (third highest level)
- d. No evidence (lowest level)
- e. Known risks (for programs that have been found to be iatrogenic or detrimental)
- f. I don't know

And the *Clearinghouse's* Rating Was...

“Promising”



Since 2009, our team has completed three systematic reviews

Effectiveness of the Wraparound Process for Children with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders: A Meta-Analysis

Jesse C. Suter · Eric J. Bruns

J Child Fam Stud
DOI 10.1007/s10826-016-0639-7

ORIGINAL PAPER





A Comprehensive Review of Wraparound Care Coordination Research, 1986–2014

Jennifer Schurer Coldiron¹ · Eric Jerome Bruns¹ · Henrietta Quick¹

META-ANALYSIS

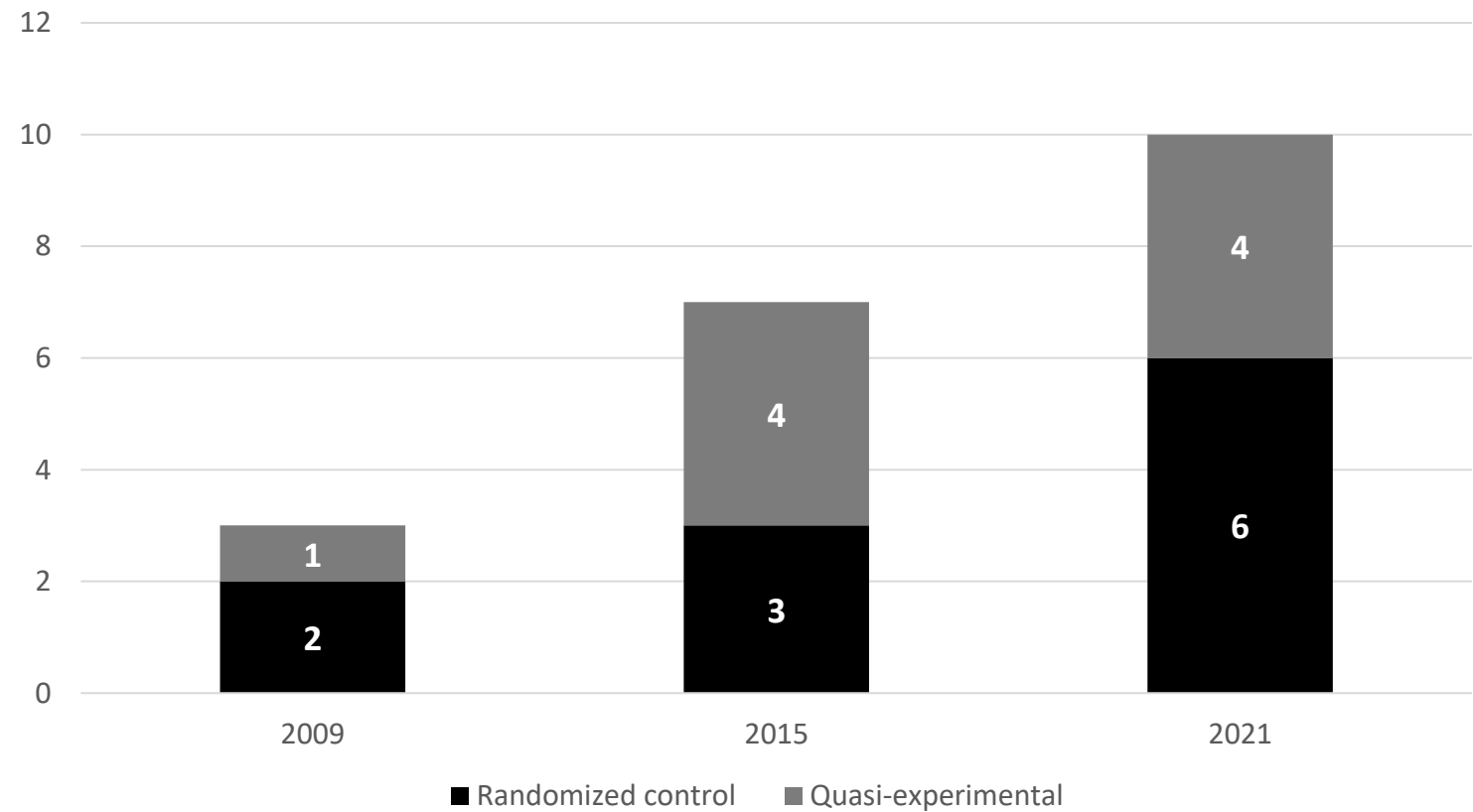
Check for updates

Systematic Review and Meta-analysis: Effectiveness of Wraparound Care Coordination for Children and Adolescents

Jonathan R. Olson, PhD,  Philip H. Benjamin, MA, Alya A. Azman, BS, Marianne A. Kellogg, BA, Michael D. Pullmann, PhD,  Jesse C. Suter, PhD,  Eric J. Bruns, PhD 

Our 2021 review found 16 peer-reviewed Wraparound evaluations

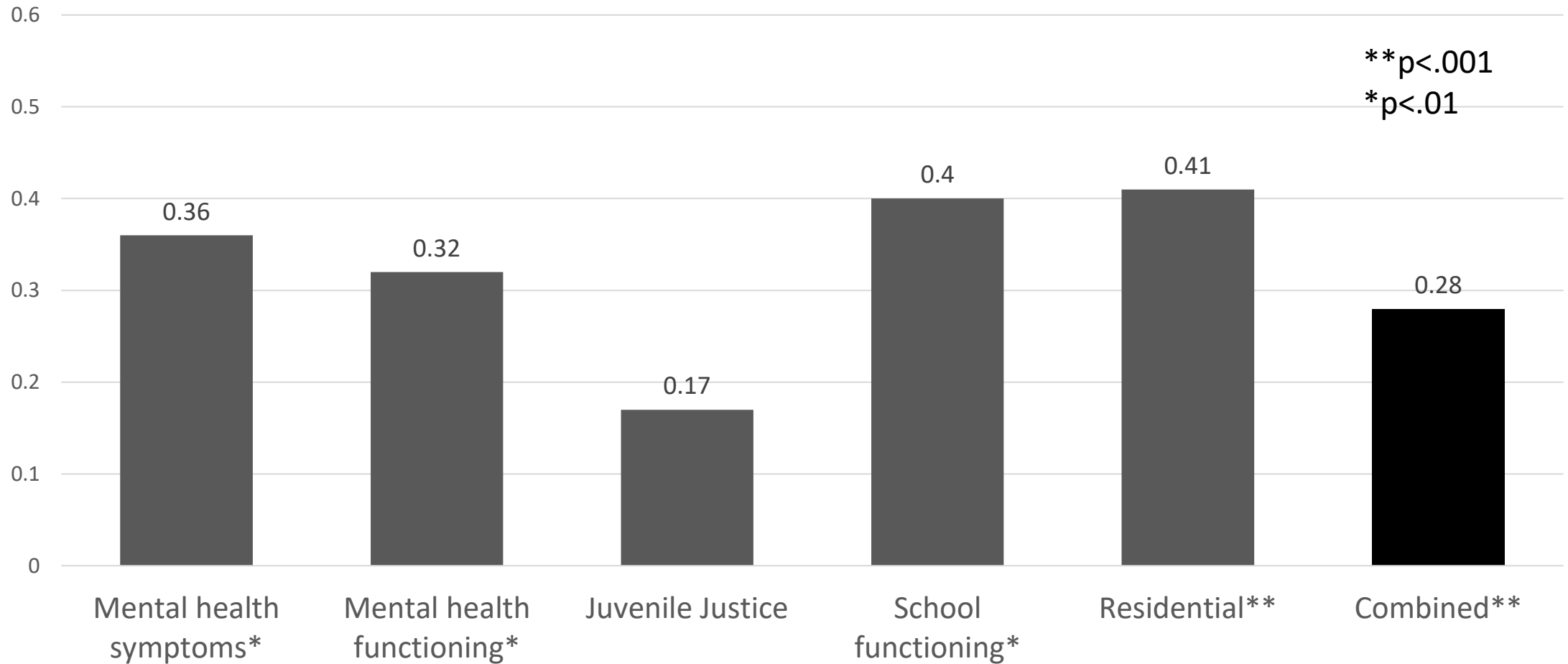
Research designs that meet current inclusion criteria by year*



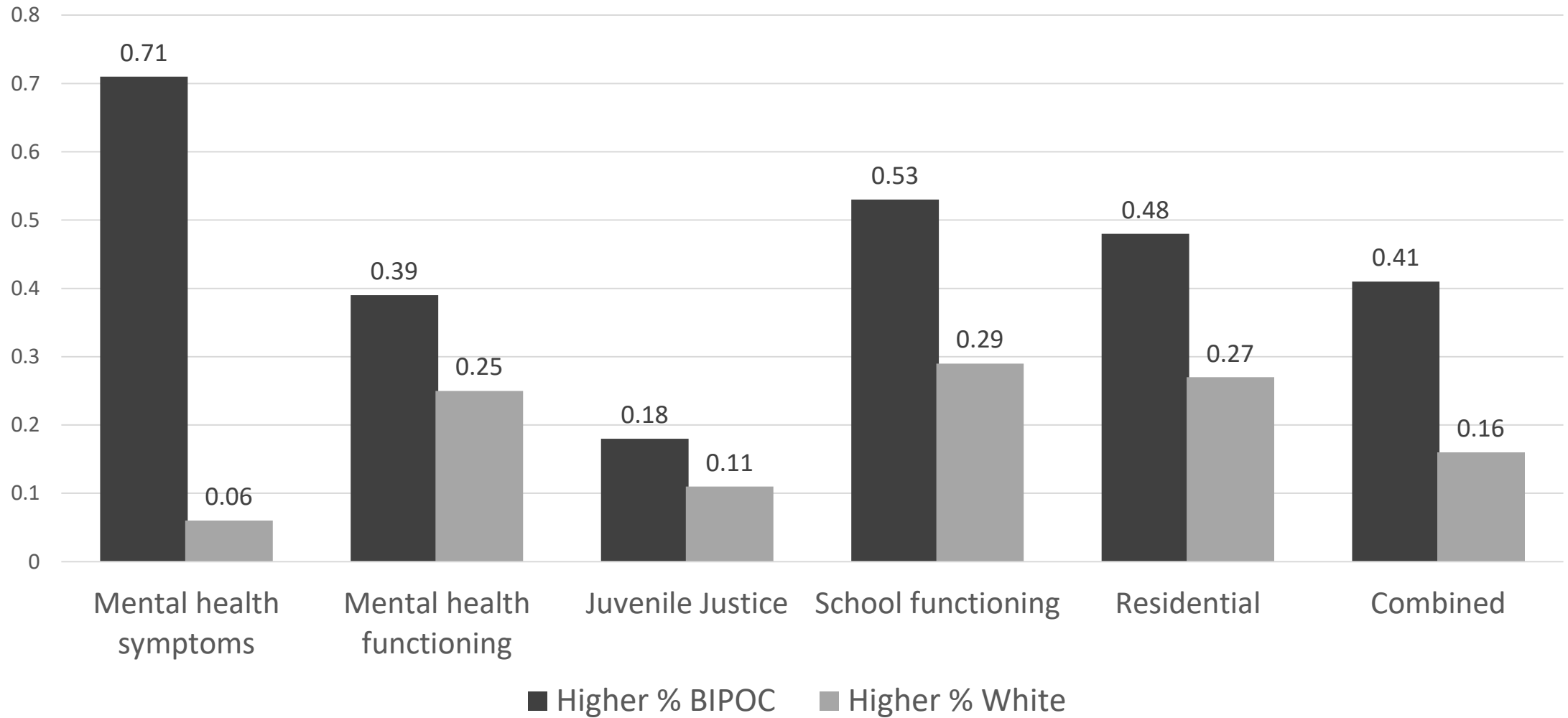
* Only includes peer-reviewed publications

Wraparound Effects Were Positive and Significant for Nearly All Outcomes

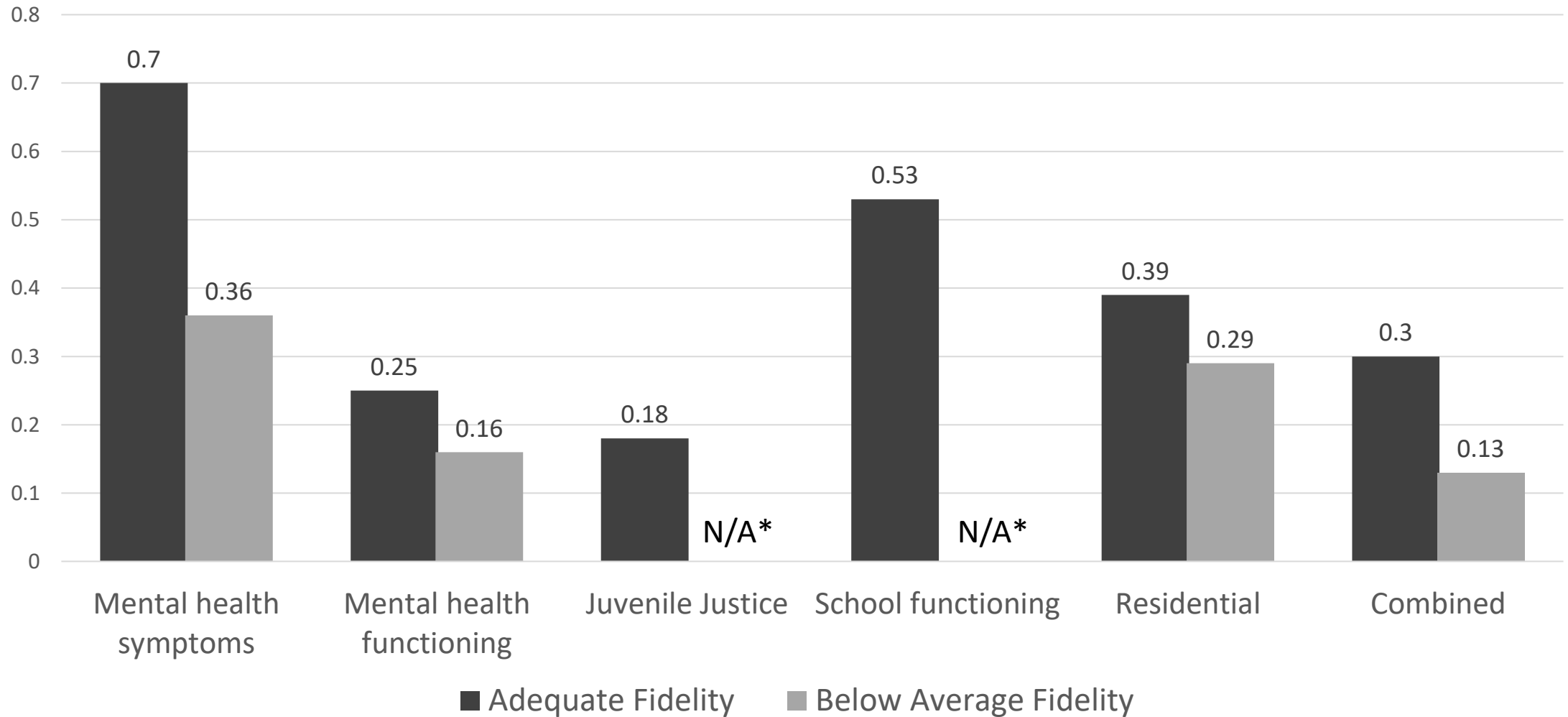
Average Effect Sizes from Wraparound Meta-Analysis (2021)



Wraparound Effects Larger for Youth of Color



Wraparound Effects Stronger for Studies with Adequate Fidelity



*Inadequate sample size

The Clearinghouse Rating Was Based on A Key Criterion *That the Wraparound Research in Child Welfare Did Not Meet*

- “Well-supported”:

- two significant positive effects in one or more rigorous studies *and*
- at least one study with sustained favorable effect of **at least 12 months beyond the end of treatment.**

- “Supported”:

- At least one significant difference *and*
- at least one with sustained favorable effect of **at least 6 months beyond the end of treatment**



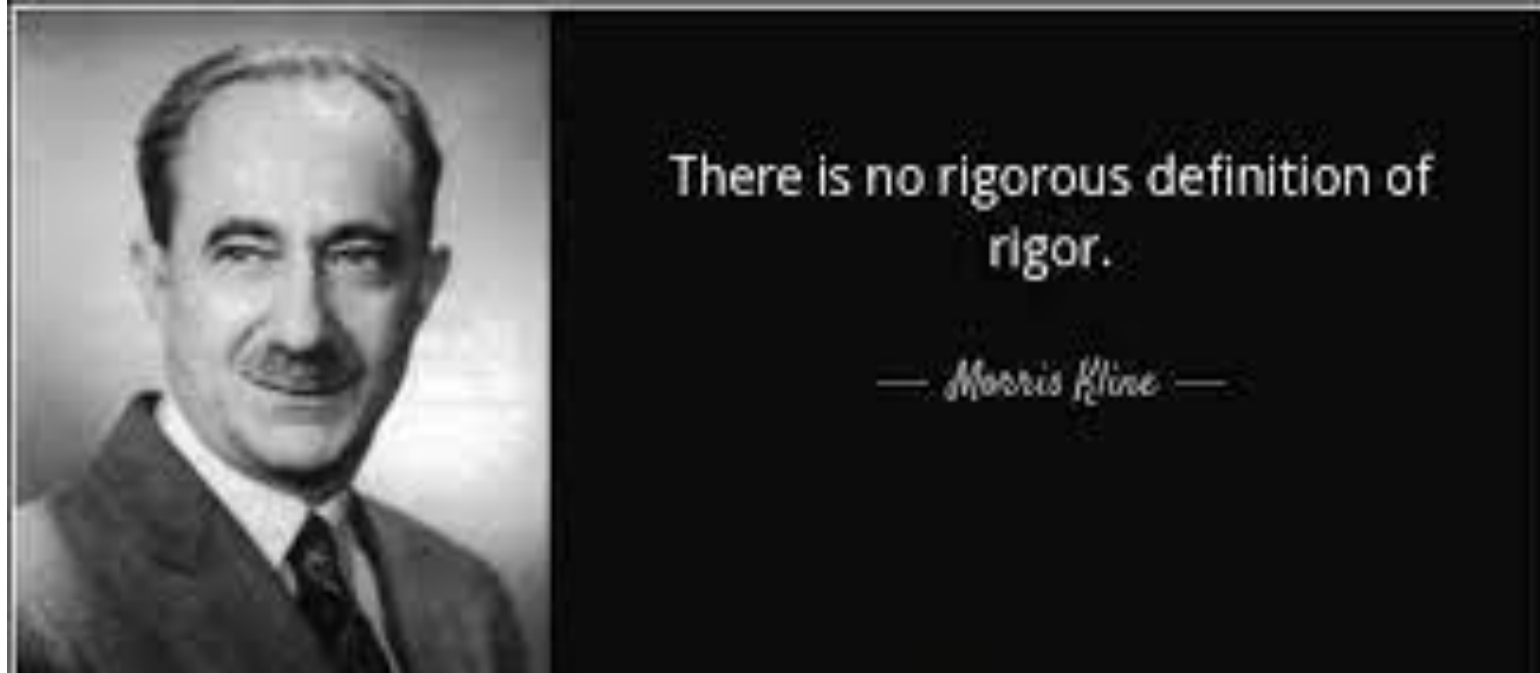
So What Does It All Mean?



- Despite over 1,000 nominations, Wraparound is one of only 50 or so to be listed in the Clearinghouse.
- Wraparound was found to be supported by evidence.
- States now know of Wraparound's status and what the rules are for including Wraparound in their Title IV-E plans

What's Next for States?

- States that seek to fund Wraparound via Title IV-E will need to develop and describe a ***rigorous evaluation plan*** of Wraparound fidelity and outcomes.



Poll Question 3

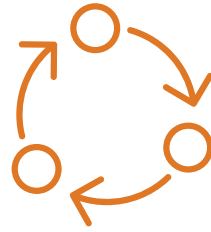
3. If your state is implementing Wraparound (in any system), what would you say is the level of development of its evaluation plan?

- a. We have a well-designed evaluation plan and it provides high-quality data that informs our work.
- b. We have a well-designed evaluation plan, but I don't think it is providing useful data or information
- c. We have a plan, but don't think it is well-designed or providing useful data
- d. We don't have a plan or any data
- e. I don't know

What are the evaluation requirements?



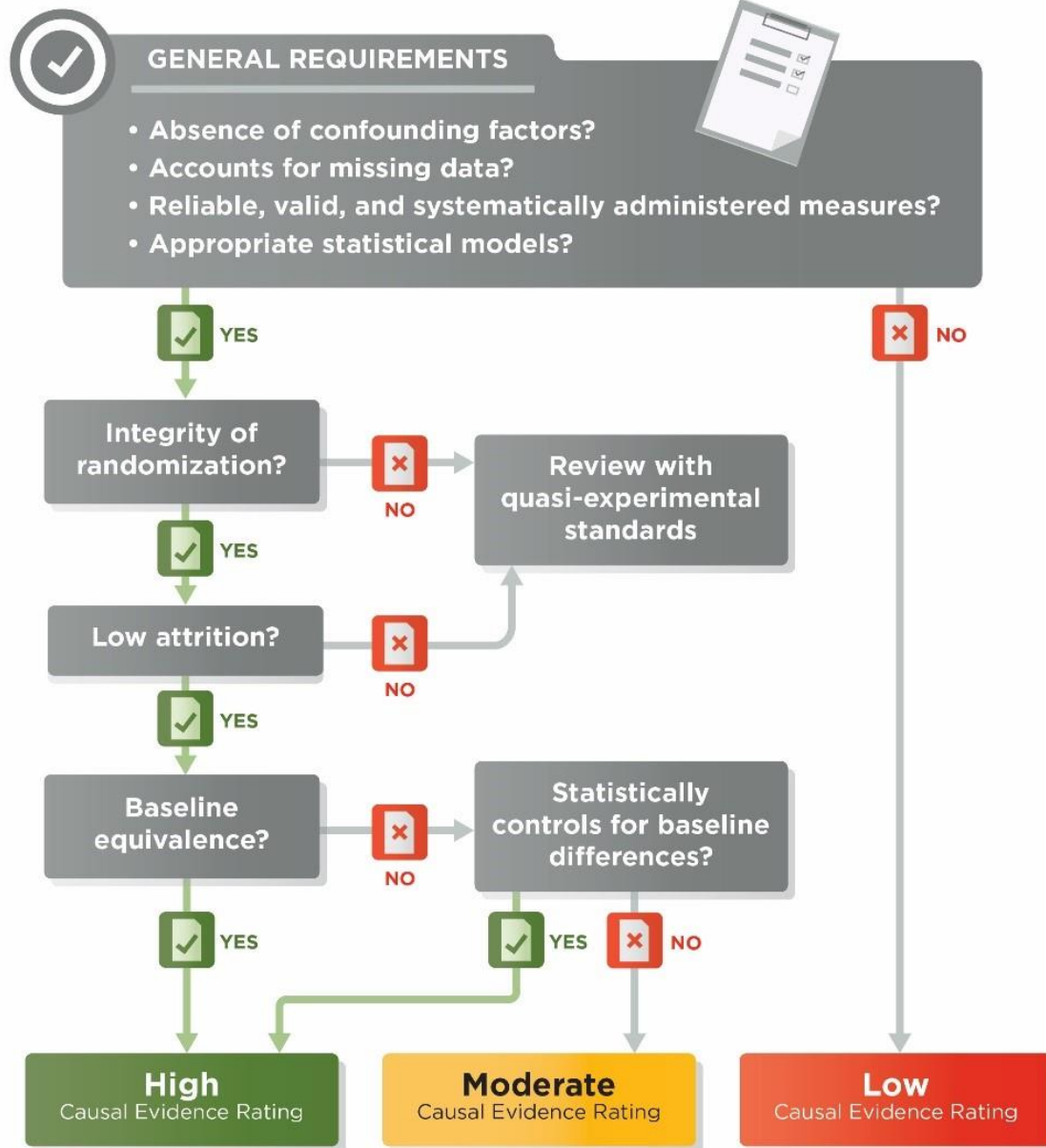
A “well-designed and rigorous evaluation”



Continuous quality improvement (CQI) and fidelity monitors



Federal data reporting



Wilson et al. (2019)

What is a “well-designed and rigorous evaluation”?

“Rigorous evaluations build upon the evidence base for practices that are shown to be effective in strengthening families and preventing child maltreatment and **provide high-quality data** to assist child- and family-serving agencies in making informed decisions that lead to improved outcomes for children and families” (ACYF-CB-IM-19-04)

ACF seeks to find opportunities for states to “contribute to the evidence,” however, **this level of rigor is not required.**

Designing a rigorous evaluation

- Scope and purpose of the evaluation
- Target population
- Evaluation design
- Comparison group
- Process outcomes
- Target outcomes

Based on the *Evaluation Plan Development Tip Sheet*
(ACYF-CB-IM-19-04)

Designing a rigorous evaluation

- **Scope and purpose of the evaluation**
- Target population
- Evaluation design
- Comparison group
- Process outcomes
- Target outcomes

- What questions will be answered through this evaluation?
- Is the implementation of the program being evaluated?

Designing a rigorous evaluation

- Scope and purpose of the evaluation
- **Target population**
- Evaluation design
- Comparison group
- Process outcomes
- Target outcomes



- Who is the target population to be served by Wraparound?
- What are the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in Wraparound?
- How is eligibility being assessed?

Designing a rigorous evaluation

- Scope and purpose of the evaluation
- Target population
- **Evaluation design**
- Comparison group
- Process outcomes
- Target outcomes



- How is the evaluation being designed to assess outcomes?
- What methodology is being used (e.g., RCT, QED, pre- and posttest)?

Designing a rigorous evaluation

- Scope and purpose of the evaluation
- Target population
- Evaluation design
- **Comparison group**
- Process outcomes
- Target outcomes



- Who is the comparison group for youth served by Wraparound?
- How are they being selected (i.e., randomization vs. matching)?
- What intervention is the comparison group getting?

Designing a rigorous evaluation

- Scope and purpose of the evaluation
- Target population
- Evaluation design
- Comparison group
- **Process outcomes**
- Target outcomes



- What are the procedures or policies that ensure successful implementation and outcomes?
- How are these being measured?
- How is fidelity to the Wraparound model being assessed?

- What youth-level outcomes are being evaluated?
- How are these outcomes being measured?
- What are the psychometric properties of standardized tools being used to assess outcomes?
- Over what period of time are outcomes being measured?

Designing a rigorous evaluation

- Scope and purpose of the evaluation
- Target population
- Evaluation design
- Comparison group
- Process outcomes
- **Target outcomes**

Other elements to include in an evaluation plan

Theory of Change

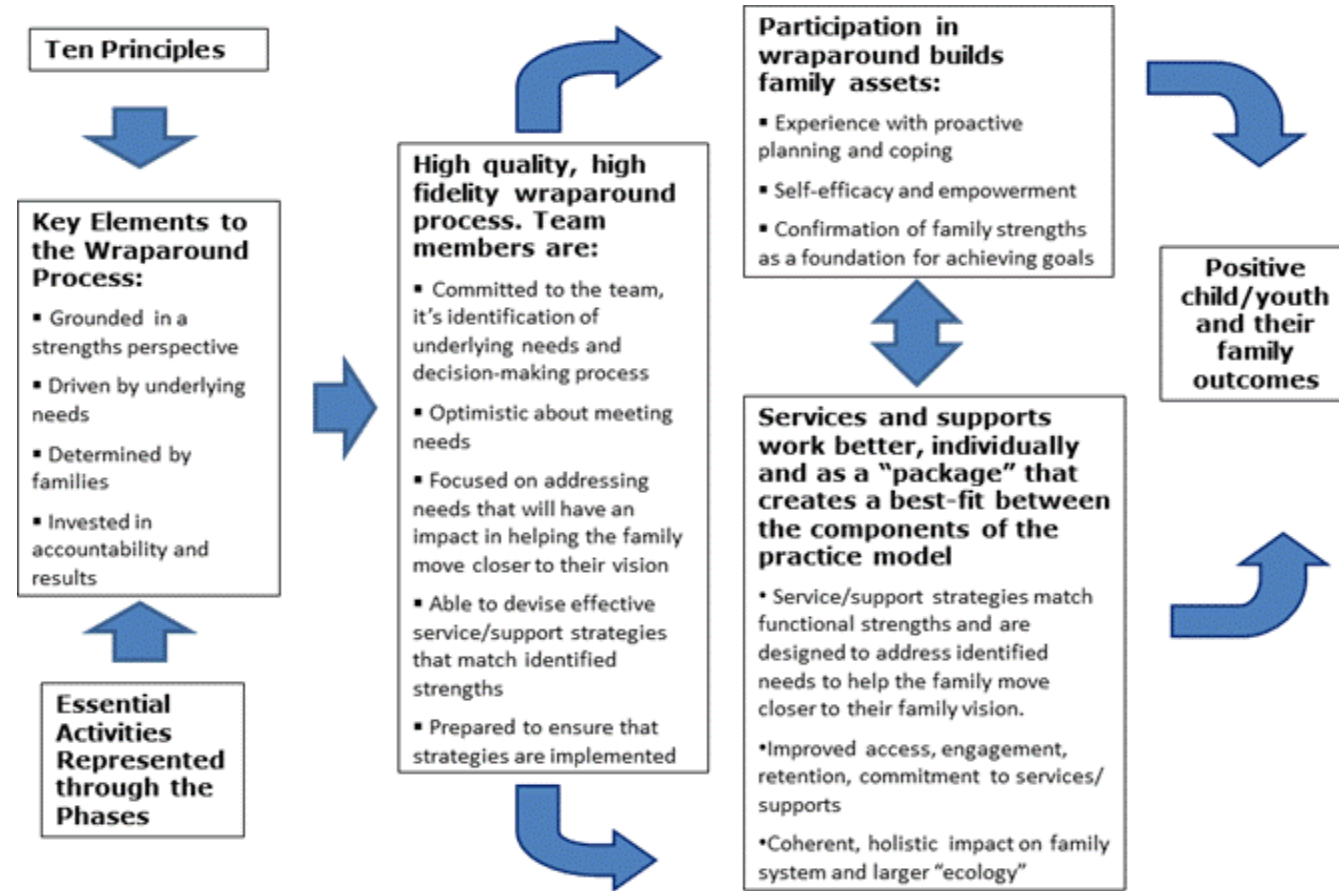
- Connection between intervention and changes
- Any assumptions

Logic model

- Inputs, outputs, outcomes
- Align to TOC
- Guide evaluation

Analysis plan

- Plan for both quantitative and qualitative data
- Statistical methods
- Handling missing or incomplete data



A Rigorous Evaluation of Wraparound

Target Population

- Eligibility for FFPSA
- Multi-system involved youth with complex needs

Process outcomes

- Fidelity to the Wraparound model
- Workforce development and Implementation factors

Target Outcomes

- Child Permanency: Least restrictive placement
- Child Well-being: Behavioral and emotional functioning
- Adult Well-being: Family functioning

CQI and Fidelity Monitoring

What is continuous quality improvement (CQI)?

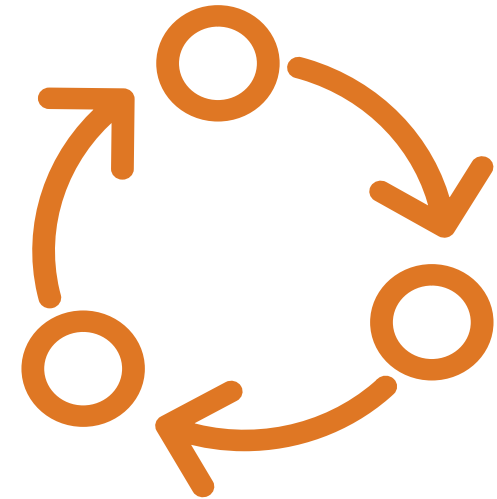
- “will be continuously monitored to ensure fidelity to the practice model, to determine outcomes achieved and identify how information learned from the monitoring will be used to refine and improve practices.”

Indicators to monitor and assess implementation

- Is the model being implemented with fidelity? How is fidelity being assessed?
- Is the target population being served?
- Is staffing adequate for the number of families being served? Are staff properly trained and developing skills appropriately?

Regular reporting and data review

- Who will be included on the CQI team? How frequently will they meet?
- What data will they be looking at regularly? What questions are they trying to answer?



Fidelity and CQI Tools for Wraparound

Wraparound Fidelity Assessment System

- Document Assessment and Review Tool (DART)
- Team Observation Measure (TOM 2.0)
- Wraparound Fidelity Index (WFI-EZ)



Implementation Monitoring

- Workforce Development Tools: COMET, SAS, CREST
- Impact of Training: IOTTA
- System and Organizational Change: WISP/WISS



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Data Systems

- WrapStat: Key Wraparound data collection and fidelity measures
- InnovatePractice©: Coaching and technical assistance

Federal Reporting Requirements

Data must be submitted for all children with a prevention plan on a six-month basis.

Must be consistent with AFCARS, NCANDS, or NYTD

Specific guidance for data coding and structure

Required data include :

- Demographics – DOB, Sex, Race, Ethnicity
- Pregnant/Parenting
- Service Data – Plan start date, Type of services, Service dates, Service cost
- Foster care status – 12 and 24 months from plan start date

Examples from approved plans

Approved plans are publicly available.

- [One approved plan](#) has included Wraparound (prior to designation as Promising)
- Plans vary in level of detail and structure
 - [Example 1](#): More concise, table format
 - [Example 2](#): More detailed narrative

Questions and Answers

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Resources

[Evaluation Plan Development Tip Sheet \(ACYF-CB-IM-19-04\)](#)

[Title IV-E Precent Services Clearinghouse: Handbook of Standards and Procedures, Version 1](#)

[State plans](#)

[Implementing the Family First Prevention Services Act: A Technical Guide for Agencies, Policymakers and Other Stakeholders](#)

[Guidance for Family First Prevention Services Act Evaluation Plans for High Fidelity Wraparound](#)

[Care Management Entities: Resources from the NWI](#)

[Systems of Care in Child Welfare: A Primer](#)

[UW Wraparound Evaluation and Research Team: Fidelity Tools and WrapStat](#)