

Partnerships for Families

A collaborative research project

RESEARCH TEAM

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

DAVID KOLKO

COMMUNITY LIAISON

AMY HERSHELL (CO-INVESTIGATOR)

COMMUNITY LIAISON

BARBARA BAUMANN (CO-INVESTIGATOR)

CO-INVESTIGATOR

STEPHEN WISNIEWSKI

PROJECT COORDINATOR

BETSY HOLDEN

ADMINISTRATION

HEATHER BRAGG

RESEARCH PROJECT ASSISTANT

CAROL BUSH

RESEARCH PROJECT ASSISTANT

DAWN RONE

STUDY AIMS

The goal of the research study is to better understand the effectiveness of AF-CBT in community settings.



Barbara explaining problem-solving skills

2006 IN REVIEW

With 2006 coming to an end, it is interesting to look back on all that has happened in the Partnerships for Families (PFF) Project. Six agencies began in the fall (Wave 1). To accommodate the recruitment, training, and enrollment needs of participating agencies, another group begins in the spring (Wave 2). Wave 1 participants in the AF-CBT condition are in the process of successfully completing their consultation phase. Those in the existing services condition are continuing to see patients per agency practice. There has been much work done to get to this point, and we want to thank all of the participating agencies for their help and effort.

Wave 1 started in the spring/early summer with an introduction to the PFF project, including many orientation meetings to allow both project staff and agencies to familiarize each other with information

regarding how to best work together. This included a review of the aims and research design of the study. Orientation then moved on to the Federal Wide Assurance (ethics) training, initial assessment and then on to randomization. Each participating practitioner (or team) picked randomly from a "bag" assigning them to either existing services or the enrichment training. Right now, we have 65 practitioners and 26 supervisors/managers participating in the project.

January 2007 will begin with Wave 2 practitioner recruitment, assessment and assignment by picking one of two conditions randomly from a "bag" called "randomization." If you are interested in becoming a part of the project, talk to your supervisor or visit our website at www.partnershipsforfamilies.org

RECRUITING FAMILIES BEGINNING IN FEBRUARY 2007

Family recruitment begins in February! Between now and February, the members of the Community Advisory Board are helping to fine-tune how families can best be approached and informed about the project.

The Partnerships for Families Project has designed a brochure to help agencies with

the family recruitment process. In the brochure, there is a brief description of the project and contact information. Professionals from the participating agencies will use the brochure to explain the study very briefly to families who could potentially benefit from participating in the project. Families will be asked to complete a permission to contact

COLLABORATING AGENCIES

AUBERLE

WWW.AUBERLE.ORG

EVERY CHILD

WWW.EVERYCHILDINC.ORG

FAMILY LINKS

WWW.FAMILYLINKS.ORG

FAMILY PATHWAYS

WWW.FAMILYPATHWAYS.NET

FAMILY RESOURCES

WWW.FAMILYRESOURCESOFFPA.ORG

NORTHSHORE COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

WWW.NCA-PGH.ORG

RANKIN CHRISTIAN CENTER

WWW.RANKINCHRISTIANCENTER.ORG

WPIC

WPIC.UPMC.COM/CLINICALSVCS.HTM



Amy at an AF-CBT training

form which will allow a research assessor to follow-up with them. There is a specific space on the brochure for interested families to write down how we will be able to contact them. Families will only be called if they provide written permission.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

The Community Advisory Board (CAB) has been working very hard lately. They have been discussing agency participation and other topics surrounding the Partnerships for Families Project. The main focus of the CAB in October was on family recruitment.

The Partnerships for Families logo was approved by the CAB in October and is now used on the website and publications. The logo, four multi-colored outreaching hands joining together to form a partnership, emphasizes the making of strong partnerships among

community agencies, science, practitioners and families. The logo can be seen on the brochure used to recruit families and the website.

The CAB has thoroughly reviewed the structure and the wording of the brochure which is necessary to make the project comprehensible and appealing to families in the community. The CAB has offered constructive responses and made valuable suggestions in making the brochure appropriate and appealing to the public.

In addition to the brochure, other issues concerning the recruitment of families have been addressed. These include providing detailed information to families and others in the community, making referrals and conducting assessments. A new Sharepoint website, a secure site in which documents can be exchanged, also has been created for the Partnerships for Families project. This site enables an efficient, secure and easy transfer of information between those involved in the project (e.g., audio files)



The new Partnerships for Families logo

AGENCY OF THE MONTH: FAMILY PATHWAYS

Family Pathways in Butler, PA, is a comprehensive agency designed to meet the treatment and support needs of children with families impacted by separation, loss, and trauma. The mission of Family Pathways is to promote wellness by restoring, sustaining, and enhancing family relationships. The agency was incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1998 and the current service continuum includes the following:

- Individual, group, and family therapies specializing in the treatment of trauma, loss, child abuse, attachment disorders and family conflict

- Family Based Mental Health Services
- Access and visitation services for children and parents
- Kinship care for children being raised by a grandparent or other relatives
- Therapeutic foster care for children, with a specialized component for pregnant and parenting teens
- Medically fragile foster care, and,
- Permanency/adoption services for children with special needs



Family Pathways on location in Butler, PA

UPMC

LOCATION:

100 N. Bellefield Ave.
Bellefield Towers 5th Floor
3811 O'Hara Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
e-mail: partnerships@upmc.edu

Website: www.partnershipsforfamilies.org/

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please feel free to contact us at

1-800-518-0384

If you have any questions about or would like more information on the Partnerships for Families Project.

