



PA CARE PARTNERSHIP

County Collaborative Monthly Call

**Family Driven and the PA Family Alliance for
Children's Services (PA FACS)**

February 26, 2019

Please enter you name and email address in the chat box

Agenda

- Define Family Driven
- Review and discuss family driven support, engaging families, Technical Assistance, and Training Opportunities.
- Review Statewide Family Grant PA Alliance for Children's Services (PA-FACS) and how this can assist counties
- Discussion on general needs for the counties.

Defining Family Driven

Family Driven at the Family Level:

Family driven at an individual family level means families have a primary decision-making role in the care of their own children. In some situations, families may not have the opportunity to drive all decisions, but they should have the opportunity to have involvement in the decisions.

Family Driven at a System Level:

Systems work in partnership with families so that the voices and knowledge of families can be utilized in all levels of service systems. Family partners can be in leadership positions at their county and state providing input into the policies, procedures and funding decisions that govern the care of all children in their communities. Family driven concepts can be realized even within the context of delinquency and/or dependency proceedings, even when there is a feeling of that it is not being driven by the family.

What does Family Driven look like?

- At a Family or Personal Level
 - ▶ Have a primary decision making role in the care of their own children
 - ▶ Choose the services, supports, and providers
 - ▶ Are a central part of the team and at all meetings
 - ▶ Understand they are the experts on their family
 - ▶ Feel valued and validated
 - ▶ Express challenges, ideas or plans and not fear alienation or retribution
 - ▶ Are prepared for every meeting

What does Family Driven look like?

- At a System Level
 - ▶ Choosing culturally and linguistically competent, supports, services and providers.
 - ▶ Active and primary in setting goals
 - ▶ Designing implementing and evaluating programs
 - ▶ Monitoring outcomes with system partners
 - ▶ Partnering in funding decisions with system partners
 - ▶ Determining the effectiveness of all efforts to promote the mental and behavioral health of youth and families

What steps are needed to get to Family Driven?

- At a System Level
 - ▶ Setting a goal of a minimum of 25% of the County Leadership Team are family members, who share equal responsibility with youth and system partners
 - ▶ Providing training and education to family members on systems
 - ▶ Providing training and education on leadership and meetings
 - ▶ Providing training and education on System of Care Values and Principles
 - ▶ Most importantly, don't discount the lived experience and knowledge provided by family members.

Locating and Engaging Family Members

- Family members are everywhere
- Family members who have had children/youth in the different systems bring a variety of knowledge
- Are there youth who have done well in Juvenile Justice, Child Welfare, Drug and Alcohol, and local shelter care?

Who are Family Members?

- Grandparents
- Foster Parents
- Aunts
- Uncles
- Kinship Care
- Siblings
- Other family members/caregivers who have been involved in the youth's life and recovery that have knowledge around the different systems.

Engaging and Building Up Family Members

- Ensure that family members are prepared, trained, supported, and valued.
- Are family members welcome to local, regional or state training events?
- Are there family members in your county who could connect with other families to share their knowledge and experience?
- Are families valued and respected even when they are not in the room?
- The county has mechanisms and policies in place to provide assistance for family participation in events such as compensation consultation, transportation, travel reimbursement and child care.
- Are there policies in place that would help families attend trainings?

Long Term Family Driven Goals

- **All county child-serving systems are accountable to youth and families that are receiving services.**
 - ▶ Are family members aware of all services that exist across all systems?
 - ▶ Are the services across the systems quality services?
 - ▶ Family members could be part of helping to make sure accountable and quality services exist in your county.
- **Families have multiple opportunities in the county to provide leadership, support and advocacy.**
 - ▶ Are there systems that could have family members participate on
 - **Committees**
 - **Advisory Boards**
 - **Focus Groups**

These groups could help family members gain the knowledge they need to be able to become valuable family partners on County Leadership Teams.

Long Term Family Driven Goals

- **Families have access to information and skill-building training in the county to help make informed decisions for their family**
 - ▶ Can families attend trainings that are designed for those who work in the systems?
 - ▶ Can families attend informational meetings to learn what a service is to accomplish for families (Family Based, MST, FGDM, other EVP's)?
- **Families and systems in the county have shared responsibility to ensure informed decision making**
 - ▶ Are Family partners on County Leadership Teams part of the discussions and decision making?
 - ▶ How do other family members in your county learn what is happening at your County Leadership Team meetings?

Long Term Family Driven Goals

- **Families have a primary decision making role in the county regarding their youth's and care and overall wellbeing.**
 - ▶ Are family members giving input about the decisions on what would work best for their families?
 - ▶ What happens if a family does not agree with recommendations?
 - ▶ Are all family members treated the same and is their input given the same weight in the decision making?
- **Family members in the county have access to a family organization that supports family involvement at the system and service delivery levels**
 - ▶ Is there a family organization in your county?
 - ▶ Is this an organization that families who have youth in multiple systems can reach out to?
 - ▶ Would your County leadership Team help to create a support system for families?

Technical Assistance Guides and Training

For County Partners

- Family Member Recruitment and Retention
- System Partners Tools Prior to Engagement
- Engagement Strategies
- Family Event Planning
- Assuring Family Involvement in Partnership with Youth and System Partners
- Assist County Leadership Teams to ensure Family Voice is present, respected and valued

Technical Assistance and Training

For Family Members

Active Listening Training

- Presentation provides information and the skills needed for active listening for family members. The information can be utilized for facilitators, co-chairs or anyone who is leading a meeting or discussion.

Goal Setting Training

- Understanding goals and objectives and how direct our attention and motivation. Goals can be set for personal and organizations

Roles and Responsibilities Training

- Presentation looks at roles and responsibilities for family members and others when they are involved in committee's and boards. Types of committee's that exist and the differences between advisory and governance boards.

Technical Assistance and Training

For Family Members

County Leadership Family Member Orientation

- Provides Family partners on County Leadership Teams information on the roles and responsibilities of being partners on a County leadership Team

Family Member Roadmap

- Provides a peer-supported workshop environment for families/caregivers of children/youth to learn and practice family –tested strategies for partnering effectively with providers of services and systems.
- Workshops are facilitated by certified peer trainers who have “lived experience” as primary caregivers of children/youth involved in emotional, behavioral, developmental, cognitive services and other systems.
- This curriculum is linked to a “theory of change” for family empowerment.
- 10 to 20 families needed for training to be provided
- For more information about the training or to schedule, contact Crystal Karenchak-karenchakcm@upmc.edu or 717-772-7628

Family Peer Support



PA Family Alliance

FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Connecting, empowering & educating families
& communities

PA Family Alliance History

Grant funded in September 2018, our goal is to create a family run state-wide network helping families:

- connect to one another
- learn how systems work and
- how to work within systems

We support families in their efforts to organize in their local communities, state-wide and even at the national level to make sure a family voice is heard and respected across the Commonwealth of PA.

How can we work together?

Families

- Support families to be able to participate as an informed consumer on committees, councils and groups through on-line and in person trainings, mentoring and shadowing
- Speakers bureau
- Educational opportunities for professional development

Systems Partners

- TA on how to engage families and welcome them to committees, councils and groups
- Assistance with focus groups, support groups and assessments
- Assistance in first contact and engaging with families in your area

Stay in touch. Learn more. Get involved.

Visit us at www.pafamilyalliance.org



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pafacs/>

Linked In:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/pa-family-alliance>

Questions and Comments

- Are there specific county needs or request for Family Support and Training?
- Future presentation requests

• Pennsylvania System of Care Partnership

For more information on the materials presented in this session contact:

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