JJPI School Screening Program

Learning Objective

- To review the lessons learned from a prevention collaboration between three agencies:
 The School District of Philadelphia
 DHS (Department of Human Services)
- The Joseph J. Peters Institute
 To discuss the development and utilization of a program designed to reduce unwarranted involvement of Ohlid Protective Services.

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Program Description and Rictors

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- demographic and insurance in
- IPI Pol-
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JJPI School Screening Program



The Process



Learning Objectives:

- To review the lessons learned from a prevention collaboration between three agencies:
 - The School District of Philadelphia
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 - The Joseph J. Peters Institute
- To discuss the development and utilization of a program designed to reduce unwarranted involvement of Child Protective Services.
- To highlight barriers to consider for future implementation

the Joseph J. Peters Institute Brief History

- Formed in 1955 to support Philadelphia in the management and assessment of sexual offenders.
- Opened a separate location in late 1990s to provide services to sexually abused children and their families.
- One of the initial sites in Philadelphia to offer Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) to abused children and their nonoffending caregivers.
- Today, service about 1000 sexually abused children and their families annually.

Program Description and History

The Joseph J. Peters Institute Sexual Abuse School Screening Program (JJPI-SSP) was a grant funded partnership between JJPI, The Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS), and the School District of Philadelphia (SDP).

The program was structured to increase the knowledge about healthy and problematic child sexual behaivors in children K through 8th grade. Rather than pathologizing the child, the program was degined to assess the broader fucntioning of child, family, school and larger community.

Again - program designed to support families and increase the ability of family and school to understand child behavioral problem and manage such in school and at home.

School Screening Program

Started in 2005, the JJPI-SSP targeted Philadelphia public school children in grades K- 8 who violated the school code for sexually inappropriate behaviors.

The SSP was designed to offer an alternative to involvement of child protective services (unless suspicion of abuse was present) for sexually acting out behaviors that might be rooted in exposure to sexualized material and/or trauma.

Sexual Behavior Problems at School

- School district of Philadelphia was receiving 100's of reports on an annual basis.
- Standard procedure notify child protective services regardless of evidence of abuse or threat to child.

Commonly Identified Behaviors

Kissing
Sexual Drawings
Sexual Language
Sexual Gestures
Inappropriate touching
Indecent Exposure
Digital Fondling
Humping
Masturbation
Insertion of Objects
Genital contact
Penetration

Commonly Identified Behaviors

Kissing Sexual Drawings Sexual Language **Sexual Gestures** Inappropriate touching **Indecent Exposure Digital Fondling** Humping Masturbation **Insertion of Objects Genital contact Penetration**

The Process

After the school code is violated, a counselor fills out the JJPI school screening referral packet (SSRP) and forwards it to the school screening coordinator.

The packet includes:

- A School Screening Information form which includes demographic and insurance information
- Informed Consent for Outpatient Services
- JJPI Releases of Information (ROI)
- The School District of Philadelphia's ROI

Pre-Screening and Measures

The counselor and JJPI SSC discuss the incident to determine if it meets criteria for the program. If so, a detailed incident report is completed. and a screening measures packet is sent to the counselor to be filled out by the parent and teacher.

A confirmation letter is sent to the school counselor detailing the screening procedure and the necessary attendees.

The packet contains the following measures:

- Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL 1.5-5 or 6-18)
- Teacher Report Form (TRF 1.5-5 or 6-18)
- · Child Sexual Behavior Inventory (CSBI)
- Trauma Symptom Checklist for Children (TSCC)
- Trauma Symptom Checklist for Young Children (TSCYC)
- Youth Self Report (YSR 11-18)

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- Youth Self Report (YSR 11-18)

One the day of the screening, a clinician conducts a two (2) hour structured interview with the parent and child AT THE SCHOOL. At the end of the screening the parent and school are given copies of a School Screening Recommendation Form which indicates the recommended interventions.

Recommendations could Include (if warranted):

- Line of Sight Supervision
- Psychosexual evaluation
- General mental health evaluation
- General information to the family about behavior management
- TF-CBT servives and direct help to family to get connected with providers

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Results:

- School District utilized service more and more the city of Philadelphia expanded funding to the program.
- During the 2015-2016 academic year, budgeted to provide 80 on-site two hour evaluations of children K-8.
- Weakness of program: anecdotal data on outcome no funding to collaborate with school district and city
 to gather and analyze patterns; however, city official
 and school personnel reported less "unnecessary"
 child protective services reporting.

Barriers to Success

Preliminary analysis of FY 16 service utilization seems to indicate that the program may have been impacted by several factors.

The reduction of school counseling staff in the school district

- · Counselors took longer to follow-up
- Schools were no longer aware of the program or how to utilize it (Referrals increased substantially after presentations made to counselors - again, collaboration and relationships between service providers and schools needed for success)

Staff turnover - school district changed; loss of professional connections

- Reduction of staff within the school district resulted in less administrative follow up between school, family, and community mental health providers
- Reduction of professional development trainings at the school district no platform to meet with school staff to share information about CSA

Parental engagement - communication between school and families

 Parents demonstrated increased rates of difficulties to follow through with screenings (naturally difficult for families) and/or use of other means to avoid intervention

Recommendations

- Continued collaboration and study is needed as most of the data is anecdotal and no concrete analysis has occurred.
- Counselors should undergo training on utilization of the program early in the school year.
- Teaching staff could benefit from training on Healthy
 Childhood Sexual Development in order to better
 distinguish between children's normative behaviors and
 problem behaviors.

Thank You!!!

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