**Partnership with Casey Family Programs and Colorado Department of Human Services to**

**Develop a Predictive Analytics Practice Model to Reduce Children’s Reentry into Foster Care**

**Final Report CFP FY18**

**December 21, 2018**

**National Implementation Research Network, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

The National Implementation Resource Network (NIRN) entered into a partnership with Casey Family Programs, the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) Division of Child Welfare, and Eckerd Connects to support use of a predictive analytics model as part of a practice model to address reentry of children and youth to foster care. The predictive analytics and coaching model as well as the larger permanency practice model will be used to identify children and youth at high risk for reentry into foster care and match them with effective practices to address their needs. The desired outcome of these efforts is to reduce subsequent child welfare involvement and/or reentry into foster care.

To support this need, NIRN partnerd with Casey, CDHS, and Eckerd by: 1) supporting development of Exploration and Implementation teams; 2) collaborating on the identification of core components for the practice model for sustainable permanency; 3) facilitating an analysis of infrastructure present and needed to support use of the work; 4) supporting initial development of an implementation plan; and 5) participating in ongoing meetings. Below is a description of activities completed between January to December 2018.

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| **Services/Tasks** | **Detailed Description** | **Due Date** | **2018 Completed Activities**  |
| **Support the ongoing development of the Exploration and Implementation Team** | Service Provider will work with CFP and CO DHS to: * Promote team capacity development around core team functions and;
* Broker opportunities for sharing diverse team perspectives.
 | **Ongoing throughout the Term of Agreement** | * Provided guidance and support to CDHS on team development, structure, and processes
* Reviewed and provided input on team documents such as initiative summary and memo to counties
* Supported agenda development and facilitation of meetings
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| **Support identification of core components for the practice model for sustainable permanency** | Service Provider will work with CFP and CO DHS to support identification of core components for the practice model for sustainable permanency. Activities may include: * Conduct limited onsite interviews and virtual interviews to gather information on current practices to support sustainable permanency of children who exit care to reunification
* Conduct a targeted literature review on relevant best practices for permanency based on predictive analytic results
* Support the team in operationalizing core components of the practice model for sustainable permanency
 | **Ongoing throughout the Term of Agreement** | * Conducted a targeted literature review on effective permanency practices, effective implementation supports for ensuring practices are used with integrity, and strategies to ensure an enabling context in services to the practice
* Prepared a synthesis of research and practice brief including summaries of best practices and strategies, their definition and/or core copmonents, and key research findings
* Led activities in March, April and October 2018 to facilitate team and pilot counties’ reflection on alignment of practices in the brief to current practices in place in their respective contexts to support a sustainable permanency model. The activities also prompted the team and pilot counties to identify and operationalize which effective practices to prioritize for inclusion in a sustainable permanency practice model. Given the stage of the work and the fact that pilot sites had not yet been identified, these facilitated activities were used in place of interviews to gather information on current practices.
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| **Continue a limited diagnostic phase** | Service Provider will:* Support the development of a draft Theory of Change
 | **Ongoing throughout the Term of Agreement** | * Drafted a theory of change based on the initial data collected from the Purpose to Practice exercise conducted in 2017
* Completed facilitation of a *Purpose to Practice* exercise in January 2018 to collect data on key participants, initiative structure and practices
* Prepared final theory of change based on additional data and shared with the Exploration team for review and feedback in March 2018
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| **Support the development of an implementation plan** | Service Provider will support development of an implementation plan including: * Provide technical assistance to DCW to support the co-development of an implementation plan that considers the use of best practices to develop and install the necessary infrastructure supports to ensure the practice model is implemented with integrity
 | **Ongoing throughout the Term of Agreement** | * Facilitated an activity in August 2018 prompting county pilot sites to reflect on recommendations from Eckerd infrastructure assessment and consider implications for county leadership and staff
* Constructed an implementation planning worksheet and led a facilitated activity to consider key questions as a group. This activity modeled use of an implementation planning worksheet, so each county pilot site could use it to drive planning with their local leadership/implementation team
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| **Meeting participation** | Service Provider will participate in bi-monthly (6x per year) with the team including:* Two to three onsite meetings based on project need
* Virtual meetings as needed (up to 4x) in between face to face meetings
 | **Ongoing throughout the Term of Agreement** | * Participated in eight meetings with project leadership team members (CDHS, Casey, NIRN, Eckerd) on 1/3, 3/8, 3/16, 4/13, 4/23, 5/18, 6/8, 7/23, 7/26, and 10/9
* Co-facilitated three onsite meeting in CO with Exploration/Implementation Team on 1/29, 4/30, and 6/25
* Co-facilitated four virtual meeting with Exploration/Implementation Team on 3/26, 7/30, 8/27, and 10/29
* Participated in three virtual meetings with Exploration/Implementation Team on 2/26, 11/26, and 12/20
* Developed participant agendas for internal and Exploration/Implementation meetings, including operationalizing meeting objectives
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| **Provide Documentation**  | Service Provider will prepare and provide the following documents to CFP and CO-DHS:* Draft Theory of Change
* Core Practices to Support Sustainable Permanency
* Implementation plan template with suggested guidance based on project context
* Final Report with recommendations related to installation and initial implementation phases, to include a potential pilot
 | **Ongoing throughout the Term of Agreement** | * Developed and shared a Theory of Change based on data collected from the completion of the the *Purpose to Practice* exercise with the team in March 2018
* Developed a research brief synthesizing effective practices to support sustainable permanency as well as effective implementation methods and strategies for ensuring an enabling context with the team in March 2018
* Prepared and submitted a final report detailing the infrastructure assessment conducted for Eckerd’s predictive analytics and coaching model with the team in August 2018. This report included a summary of best practices, strengths, recommendations, and considerations related to installation and initial implementation of the predictive analytics and coaching model.
* Constructed and shared an implementation planning activity with the team in October 2018. The activity provided a template and model for identifying and prioritizing next steps.
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