

# Connecticut Collaborative on Effective Practices for Trauma (CONCEPT)

## *Evaluation of CONCEPT Components*

**Overview:** The Connecticut Collaboration on Effective Practices for Trauma (CONCEPT) will work with The Consultation Center at Yale University to evaluate the implementation, costs, and outcomes associated with CONCEPT activities. The evaluation will address implementation fidelity; identify facilitator and barriers to implementation; measure costs of program administration and delivery; and assess outcomes at the child, family, and system levels. Multiple methods of gathering data (including surveys, focus groups, and use of agency data systems) will be used to provide a rich understanding of how CONCEPT programs, services, and supports were implemented and the benefits to children and families, agency staff, and the broader child welfare system.

### **KEY COMPONENTS OF CONCEPT'S EVALUATION PLAN:**

- **Planning Year Activities**  
CONCEPT's Evaluation Team will engage in a range of activities to inform planning efforts during the first year of the initiative. The team will assess the readiness and capacity of DCF Area Offices and community providers to implement trauma-informed care for children and youth involved with DCF through surveys and other means, and will conduct focus groups with agency staff and supervisors and with family representatives to identify facilitators and barriers to developing a more trauma-informed system. The Evaluation Team will conduct an inventory of the children's behavioral health service array to recognize the current state of trauma-informed services and supports available across the state, and will analyze available data at the state and community-level to better understand the characteristics of the children, youth, and families experiencing trauma within the child welfare population.
- **Implementation Evaluation**  
The CONCEPT evaluation will document the implementation of workforce development, screening and assessment, and Learning Collaborative activities. The team will assess fidelity of implementation of trauma-informed care models through the Learning Collaboratives, and identify facilitators and barriers to implementation of CONCEPT activities. The implementation evaluation will involve multiple data gathering methods including surveys, web-based data collection from community providers, and focus groups with a range of stakeholder groups.
- **Cost Evaluation**  
The CONCEPT evaluation will develop methods to measure program costs associated with the administration and delivery of services and supports. This data will inform planning for sustainability of program components.
- **Outcome Evaluation**  
The CONCEPT evaluation will assess outcomes associated with the range of activities implemented by CONCEPT including workforce development, universal screening and assessment protocols, and evidence based and trauma-informed service models. Outcomes will be assessed at multiple levels to demonstrate positive effects for children and families, agency and provider supervisors and staff, and the broader child welfare system. The evaluation will use multiple methods to gather data (including surveys, focus groups, and use of other agency data systems) to provide a richer understanding of program effects from multiple perspectives.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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