

Moving Beyond Guidance: **A Walk-through of the National Family Treatment Court Best Practice Standards (Part 1)**

Alexis Balkey, MPA
Supervising Manager

Russ Bermejo, MSW
Senior Program Associate

Teri Kook, MSW
Senior Program Associate

CACC | October 28-30, 2019



Center for Children and Family Futures
Strengthening Partnerships, Improving Family Outcomes





Acknowledgement

This presentation is supported by:
Grant #2016-DC-BX-K003 awarded by the
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S.
Department of Justice.



This project was supported by Grant #2016-DC-BX-K003 awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of Justice.

Our Mission

To improve safety, permanency, well-being and recovery outcomes for children, parents and families affected by trauma, substance use and mental health disorders.



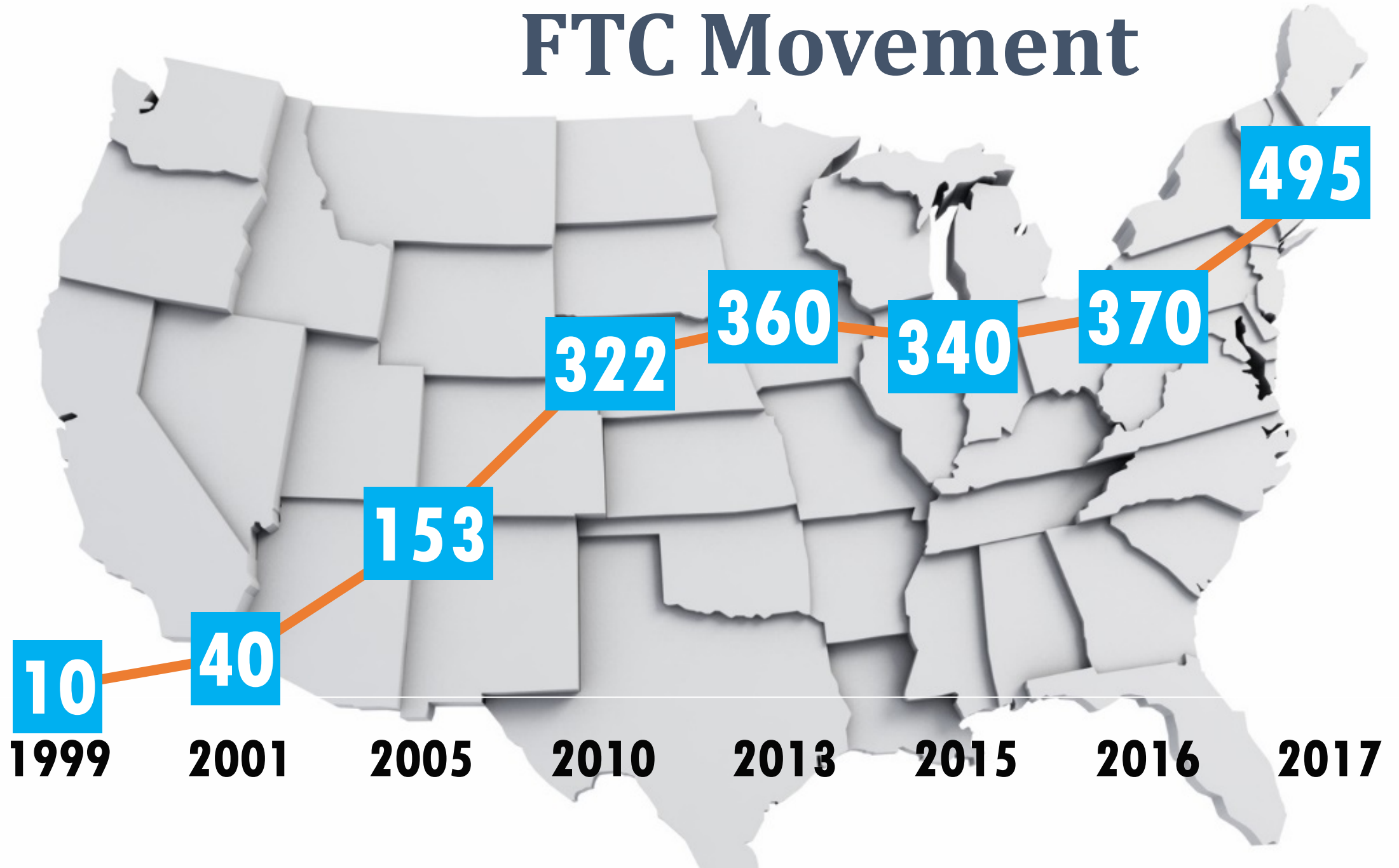
Center for Children and Family Futures
Strengthening Partnerships, Improving Family Outcomes

Learning Objectives

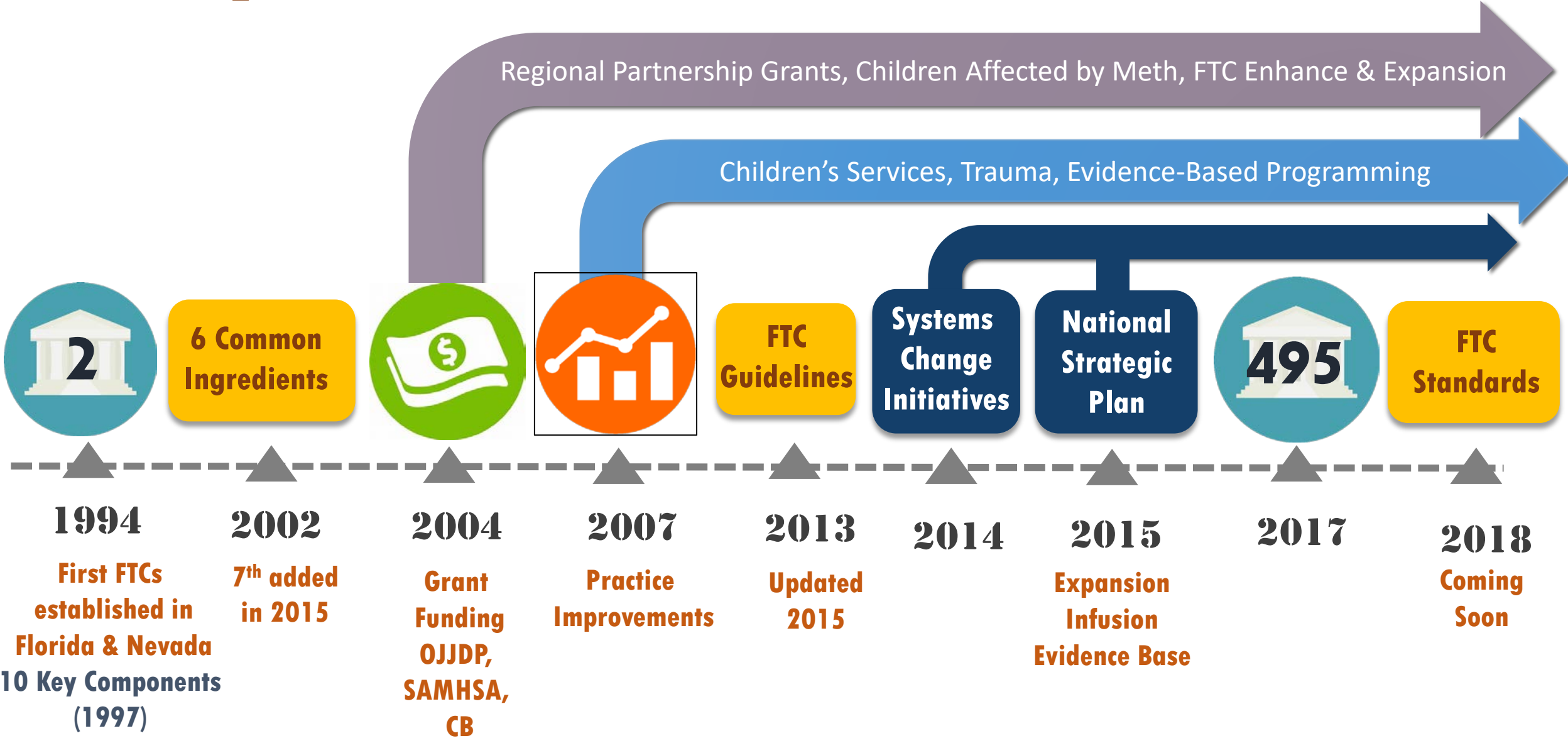
1. Summarize the need for and development of National FTC Best Practice Standards (BPS) and how they align with the National FTC Strategic Plan
2. Explain how states and local jurisdictions can use National FTC BPS to improve FTC practice and inform statewide standards and local policies and procedures
3. Describe the ways that the FTC BPS reflect earlier policy and practice guidance for family treatment courts

*What is the Need for
National FTC Best Practice
Standards?*

FTC Movement



Family Treatment Court Movement



National Vision

for

All Families



Every family in the child welfare system affected by parental/caregiver substance use disorders will have timely access to comprehensive and coordinated screening, assessment and service delivery for family's success.

Top **3** Threats to the FTC Movement

1

Accountability to the
FTC Model

2

Being Apart from
Systems Change vs.
Being A Part of
Systems Change

3

Disproportionality
and Equity



A Road Map for the Movement

Family Drug Court National Strategic Plan

National Strategic Plan For Family Drug Courts

MARCH 2017

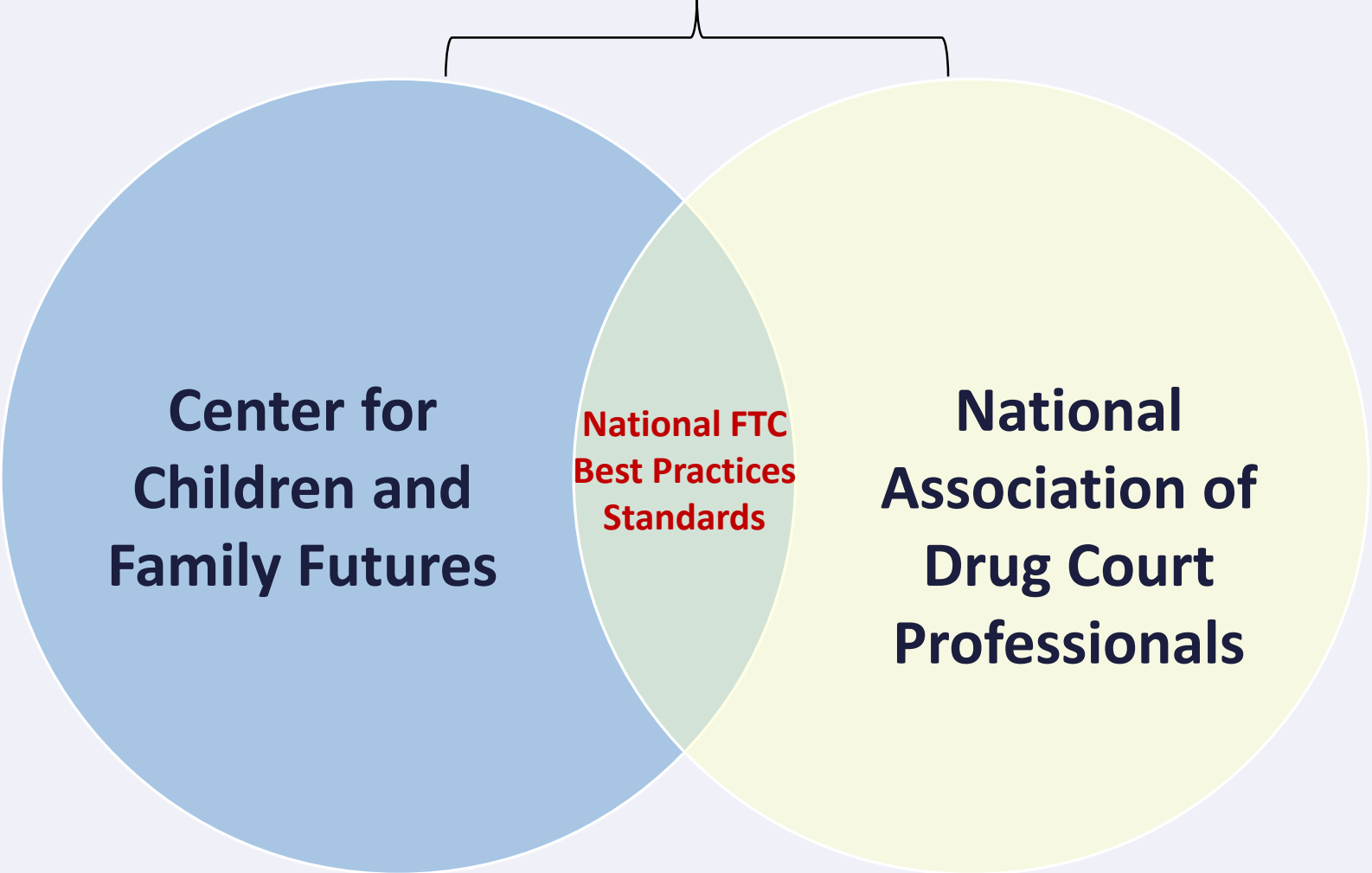


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- 1** Ensure Quality Implementation
- 2** Expansion of FTC Reach
- 3** Build Evidence Base

Available at: <https://www.cffutures.org/report/national-strategic-plan/>

Supported by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention



National FTC BPS Development Process

1. Reviewed existing literature from the FTC Guidelines
2. Created matrix of effective strategies
3. Created Advisory Group and held Kick-Off event
4. Reviewed matrix to further refine draft Standards
5. Developed first draft by Advisory Group
6. Review and edit process

ADULT DRUG COURT BEST PRACTICE STANDARDS

VOLUME I



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DRUG COURT PROFESSIONALS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

ADULT DRUG COURT BEST PRACTICE STANDARDS

VOLUME II

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DRUG COURT PROFESSIONALS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA



Important Practices of FTCs

7

- System of identifying families
- Timely access to assessment and treatment services
- Increased management of recovery services and compliance with treatment
- Improved family-centered services and parent-child relationships
- Increased judicial oversight
- Systematic response for participants – contingency management
- Collaborative non-adversarial approach grounded in efficient communication across service systems and court

Sources: 2002 Process Evaluation and Findings from 2015 CAM Evaluation

National FTC Standards Development

157 Effective Strategies
FTC Guidelines

73 Selected for potential
inclusion in FTC Standards

**Review Matrix for
Selected Research-Based
Strategies and Practice-
Based Wisdom**

August 2017

**Development of
First Drafts**

January 2018

**Advisory Group
Review of Revised
Drafts**

November 2018

**Anticipated
Release**

Summer 2019

July 2017

**Convene
Advisory Group**

September 2017

**Advisory
Group Meeting,
in Washington, DC**

May 2018

**Advisory
Group Meeting,
in Houston, TX**

January 2019

**OJJDP, Peer
Review, & Public
Comment**

Advisory Group Leadership

NAME	AFFILIATION
PROJECT OFFICERS	
Kathryn Barry	Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
Kellie Blue	Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
PROJECT LEADS	
Nancy K. Young, Ph.D.	Center for Children and Family Futures
Theresa Lemus	Center for Children and Family Futures
Terrence Walton	National Association of Drug Court Professionals
PROJECT STAFF	
Jane Pfeifer	Center for Children and Family Futures
Meghan Wheeler	National Association of Drug Court Professionals
Kirstin Frescoln, Ph.D.	Center for Children and Family Futures
Melody Fields	National Association of Drug Court Professionals
Lisa McElroy	Center for Children and Family Futures

Advisory Group Members

NAME	AFFILIATION
Alexis Balkey	Center for Children and Family Futures
Jody Brook, Ph.D.	University of Kansas
Shannon Carey, Ph.D.	NPC Research
Hon. Jeri Cohen	State of Florida, Eleventh Judicial Circuit
Kim Dennis	Center for Children and Family Futures
Sylvia Deporto	San Francisco Human Services Agency
Jackie Doodley	Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services, Bureau of Health Integration
Hon. S. Pamela Gray	Magistrate Judge Retired – Washington, DC
Amy W. Hall	North Carolina Judicial Branch: Guardian ad Litem

Advisory Group Members

NAME	AFFILIATION
Hon. Roger Heideman	Separate Juvenile Court of Lancaster County
David Kelly	Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau
Jeff Kushner	Montana Supreme Court
Margaret Lloyd, Ph.D.	University of Connecticut
Jill Murphy	King County Family Treatment Court
Angela Plunkett	Missouri Office of State Courts Administrator
Amy Romero	Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
Kathy Thompson	Iowa Children's Justice
Lauren van Schilfgaarde	Tribal Law and Policy Institute

National FTC Best Practice Standards

1. Organization and Structure
2. The Role of Judge
3. Ensuring Equity and Inclusion
4. Early Identification and Assessment
5. Timely, Quality, and Appropriate Substance Use Disorder Treatment
6. Comprehensive Case Management, Services, and Supports for Families
7. Therapeutic Responses to Behavior
8. Monitoring and Evaluation

Important Practices of FTCs

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- System of identifying families
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Important Practices of FTCs

- System of identifying families

- Timely access to assessment and treatment services

- Increased management of recovery services and compliance with treatment

- Improved family-centered services and parent-child relationships

4. Early identification & assessment

5. Timely, quality, & appropriate substance use disorder treatment

6. Comprehensive case management, services, and supports for families

Important Practices of FTCs

- Increased judicial oversight

- Systematic response for participants – contingency management

- Collaborative non-adversarial approach grounded in efficient communication across service systems and court

2. The role of the judge

7. Therapeutic responses to behavior

1. Organization and structure

3. Ensuring equity and inclusion

8. Monitoring and evaluation

FTC Guidelines as a Framework



FTC Guidelines as a Framework

1. Create shared Mission and Vision
2. Develop interagency partnerships
3. Create effective communication protocols for sharing information
4. Ensure interdisciplinary knowledge
8. Garner community support



1. Organization and structure
 - Shared Mission and Vision
 - Partnerships, Community Resources, and Support
 - Communication and Information Sharing
 - Cross Training and Interdisciplinary Education

FTC Guidelines as a Framework

5. Develop protocols for early identification and assessment



4. Early identification and assessment

6. Address the needs of parents



5. Timely, Quality, and Appropriate Substance Use Disorder Treatment
6. Comprehensive Case Management, Services, and Supports for Families

FTC Guidelines as a Framework

7. Address the needs of children



6. Comprehensive Case Management, Services, and Supports for Families

10. Evaluate for shared outcomes and accountability



8. Monitoring and evaluation

9. Implement funding and sustainability strategies

*National FTC Best Practice
Standards*

GOAL

To create **model** standards to **guide** the daily operations of **family treatment courts**



How can we do better?

- Can we get parents into treatment sooner?
- Can we keep children home or get them home sooner?
- Can we all work to keep kids safe and families together?
- How do we work together to improve outcomes for children and families?

FTC Model as a Collaborative Solution

Judicial Oversight

Comprehensive Services



**Drug Court
Hearings**



**Therapeutic
Jurisprudence**



**Access to Quality
Treatment and
Enhanced
Recovery Support**



**Enhanced
Family-Based
Services**

FTC Model – Multiple Expertise



Child Welfare Services assess child risk and safety, provides for needs of child and family, focus on child permanency and well-being



Treatment assess parent's need for treatment – level of care, areas of life functioning, recovery supports



Court provides oversight, ensures timeliness, child well-being and access to services

GOAL

To create model standards to **support state decisions** regarding **resource development and priorities**

Why?

Improve outcomes
for **more** children
and families

*If it works,
why isn't it working for
more kids and families?*



What?



A permanent shift in doing business that relies on **relationships** across systems and within the community to secure needed **resources** to achieve better **results** and outcomes for all children and families.

3Rs



GOAL

A photograph of a family of three walking through a field of tall grass and purple flowers. A man in a light blue shirt is carrying a young boy on his shoulders. The boy is wearing a blue tank top and has his arms outstretched. A woman in a white tank top and blue shorts is walking to the right, looking towards the man and child. The background shows a line of trees under a clear blue sky.

To create model standards to **improve outcomes for individuals, children, and families** affected by substance use and mental health disorders who are involved in the child welfare system

National FTC Best Practice Standards

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Structure of FTC Best Practice Standards

Description – Each Standard begins with a descriptive summary paragraph

Provisions – these expand on the description and are mandates stating what FTCs should do; they are designed to be as directive and measurable as possible

Rationale – describes the reasoning and applicable research base for each provision, drawing upon both practice-based evidence and empirical studies from a wide range of related fields of study

Key Considerations – provide additional explanation of the provision and practical implementation advice

References – are included at the end of each section

Structure of FTC Best Practice Standards

The FTC Best Practice Standards are not a how-to document

- The Rationale provides many useful resources and research articles for each Provision
- CCFF and NADCP will work with our other national partners, funders, states, and communities to develop training curricula, webinars, and other resources to support adoption of the BPS

Family Treatment Court

PLANNING GUIDE

Home - National Drug Court Inst x +

→ ↻ 🔒 <https://www.ndci.org> ☆ 📄 ⚙️ 🔍 🌐 🏠 📧

Did you mean to go to <http://ndci/>?

NDCI
NATIONAL DRUG COURT INSTITUTE

ABOUT NDCI RESOURCES CONTACT

SEARCH THIS WEBSITE **SEARCH**

TRAINING

Family Drug Courts - Children and Family Futures

↶ → ↻ 🔒 <https://www.cffutures.org/family-drug>

Children and Family Futures
Strengthening Partnerships, Improving Family Outcomes

Who We Are

Family Drug Courts

Developing, enhancing and expanding FDCs across the nation

Through federally- and foundation-funded projects, Children and Family Futures delivers **15** years working with family drug courts nationwide

<https://www.cffutures.org/careers/> intensities to states, tribes, and local

**Guidance to States:
Recommendations for
Developing Family Drug
Court Guidelines**

Original Printing April 2013
Publication # (if applicable)

This project is supported by Award No. 2009-DC-6K-4269 awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice.

Adopting the FTC Best Practice Standards

Developmental – Adoption of all Standards will take patience, persistence, and time

State Standards – States can modify existing State Standards to encompass National FTC Standards or use to develop State Standards

Measure Progress– FTC Standards “set the bar” for practice, use these to measure growth and progress toward full adoption

Adopting the FTC Best Practice Standards

Developmental

- The Standards set out what is “best practice” – what FTCs should do to increase the likelihood of stable recovery and healthy, unified families affected by SUD and MH and involved in child welfare
- Resources may not be available to meet all provisions
- How can communities meet the needs of individuals, children, and families participating in FTCs?
- What resources need to be developed and/or policies/procedures changed to most closely achieve these provisions?

Adopting the FTC Best Practice Standards

State Standards

- Even states that have State Standards may not have Standards for FTCs (often criminal focused)
- Which stakeholders need to be involved to modify and adopt State Standards that encompass the different stakeholders, legal procedures, and outcomes of families involved in child welfare?
- How can state systems – Court Improvement Program, Family Courts, Treatment, Child Welfare, Medicaid, etc. – work to support adoption of these Standards?

Adopting the FTC Best Practice Standards

Measure Progress

- Begin by establishing your jurisdiction's strengths and needs in regard to the FTC BPS
- Determine which Provisions you can quickly adopt and which will take more time or resources
- Develop a plan to move toward adoption of all Provisions

Adopting the FTC Best Practice Standards

Direct Service Practitioners can use the Standards to reflect on and enhance their work with children, families, individuals, and communities.

Community Leaders can use the Standards as a tool for capacity building within their community.

Policymakers can adopt the Standards as a means of establishing expectations for quality practice for children, families, and individuals involved in child welfare and affected by substance use and mental health disorders.

Funders can adopt the Standards for use in requests for proposals, program monitoring, and quality assurance.

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Don't Panic!

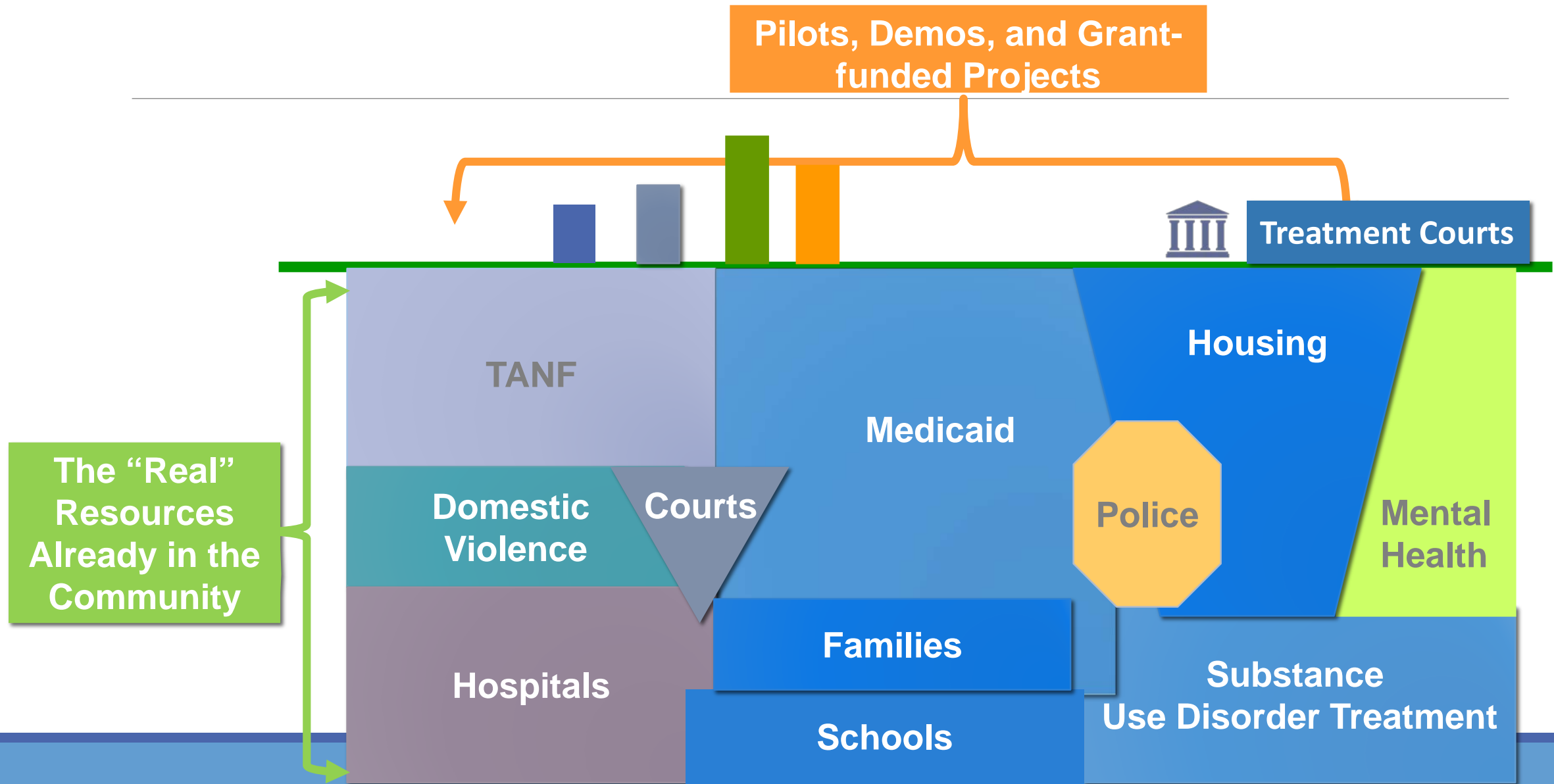
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Using the Resources We Already Have



Family First Prevention Services Act (2018)

Makes changes to federal child welfare financing, including allowing for federal Title IV-E dollars to reimburse states for substance use, mental health prevention and treatment services and parenting programs for children at imminent risk of being placed in foster care and their families

- Provisions Related to Substance Use and Mental Health Treatment for Families
 - Reimbursement for Family Residential Substance Use Disorder Treatment – **October 1, 2018**
 - Use of Title IV-E Funds to Prevent Child Placement in Out-of-Home Care – **October 1, 2019**
 - Reauthorization of Regional Partnership Grants

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Discussion



Contact Information

Family Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance Team

Center for Children and Family Futures

fdc@cfffutures.org

(714) 505-3525

www.cfffutures.org

