

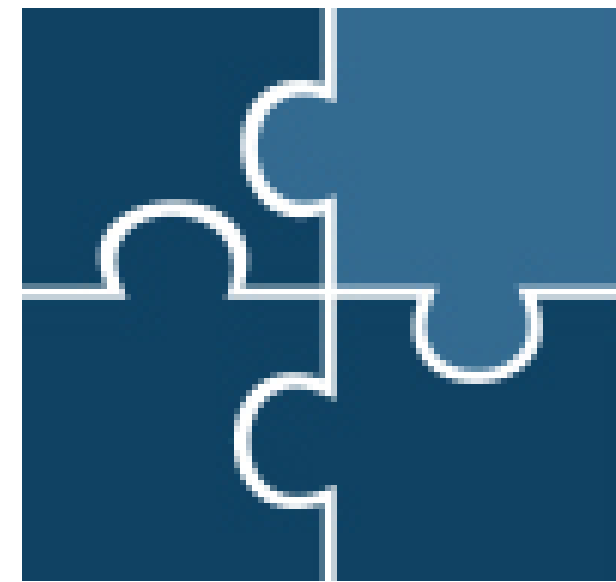


**Building Powerful Collaborations for Families
Affected by Substance Use Disorders : Child Welfare,
SUD Treatment and The Courts**

Region 7 & 8 ATTC Conference
May 6th, 2018

Jane Pfeifer, MPA | National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



National Center on
Substance Abuse
and Child Welfare

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Systems Struggle to Serve Families Affected by SUDs



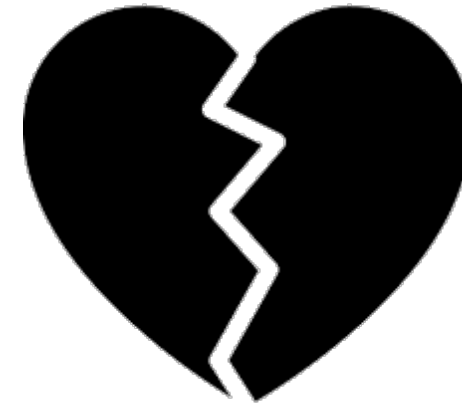
The lack of coordination and collaboration across child welfare, substance use disorder treatment, healthcare, courts and early childhood care systems has hindered their ability to fully support families with SUDs.

THE NEED TO DO BETTER FOR FAMILIES



Substance use disorders (SUDs) can negatively affect a parent's ability to provide a stable, nurturing home and environment.

Most children involved in the child welfare system and placed in out of home care have a parent with a SUD (Robin, et al., 2018)



Families affected by parental SUDs have a **lower likelihood of successful reunification** with their children, and their children tend to **stay in the foster care system longer** than children of parents without SUDs (Robin, et al., 2018)



The **lack of coordination and collaboration** between child welfare agencies, community partners, and substance use disorder treatment **undermines the effectiveness of agencies' response to families** (Radel et al., 2018)

WORKING TOGETHER DIFFERENTLY

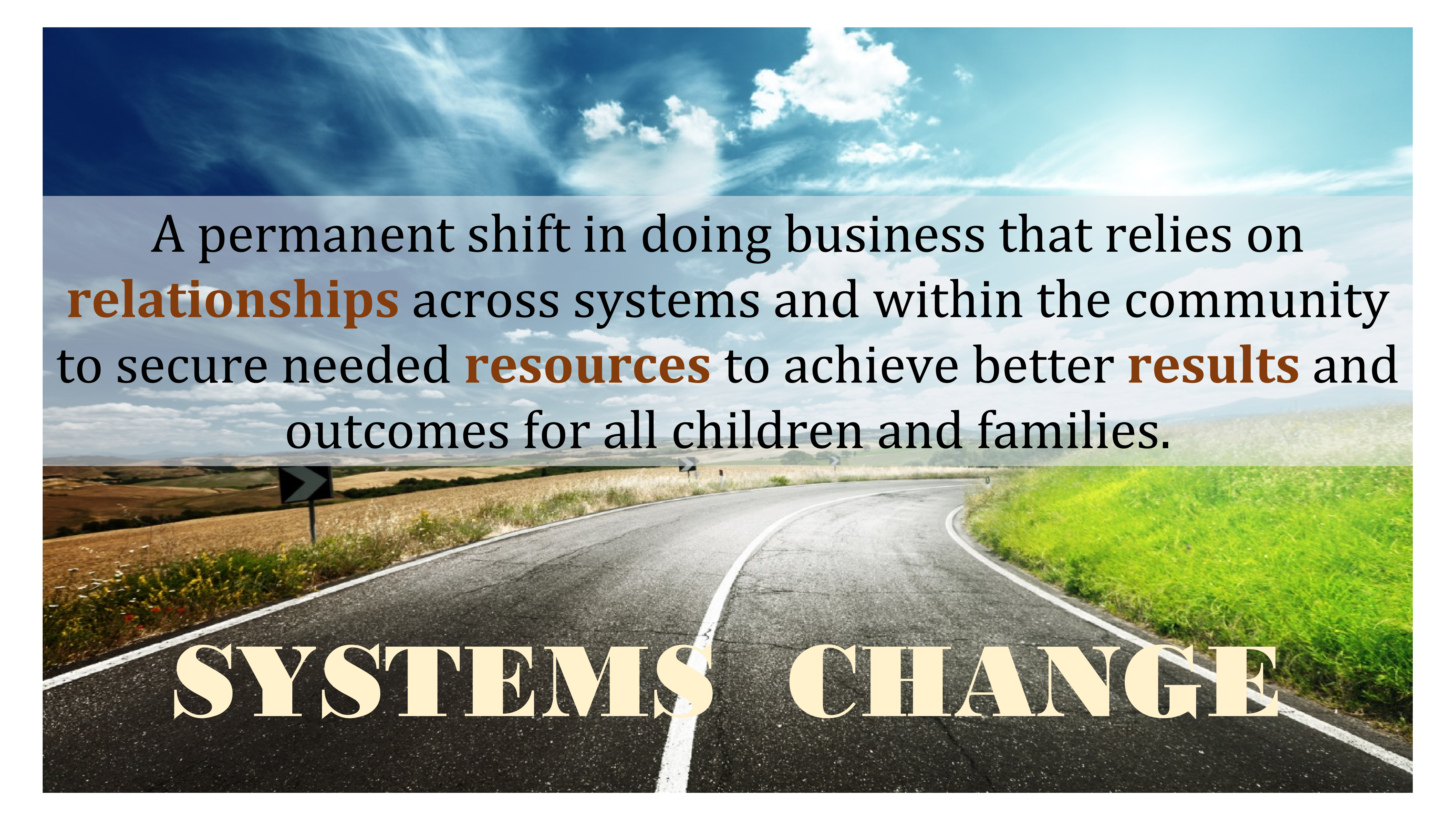
What is it going to take?



To better serve more children and families

Ensure best practices

Systems Change

A photograph of a winding asphalt road that curves through a rural landscape. The road is dark grey with white lane markings. To the left of the road is a field of golden-brown grass, and to the right is a field of bright green grass. In the background, there are rolling hills and a clear blue sky with scattered white clouds. A semi-transparent grey box is overlaid on the upper half of the image, containing text.

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.


SYSTEMS CHANGE

The Necessity of Collaboration



Substance use and child maltreatment are often **multi-generational problems** that can only be addressed through a coordinated approach across multiple systems to address needs of both parents and children.

(Boles, et al., 2012; Dennis, et al., 2015; Drabble, 2010)

A close-up photograph of two hands, one with a blue and white striped shirt cuff visible, gently cupping a mound of dark, rich soil. A small, vibrant green seedling with four leaves is growing out of the center of the soil. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the hands and the striped shirt.

Meaningful collaboration across systems that includes agreement on **common values**, enhanced **communication** and **information sharing**, blended funding and data collection for **share outcomes...**

...results in improved outcomes for families including **increased engagement and retention** of parents in substance use treatment, **fewer children removed** from parental custody, **increased family reunification** post-removal and **fewer children reentering** the child welfare system and foster care.

LEVELS OF COLLABORATION

Systemic Collaboration

At the systems level, collaboration can occur between organizations to exchange information, develop joint policies, and develop joint outcomes

Individual Case Collaboration

At the practice level, collaboration can occur between child welfare workers, treatment counselors, and other providers to coordinate client resources and case planning

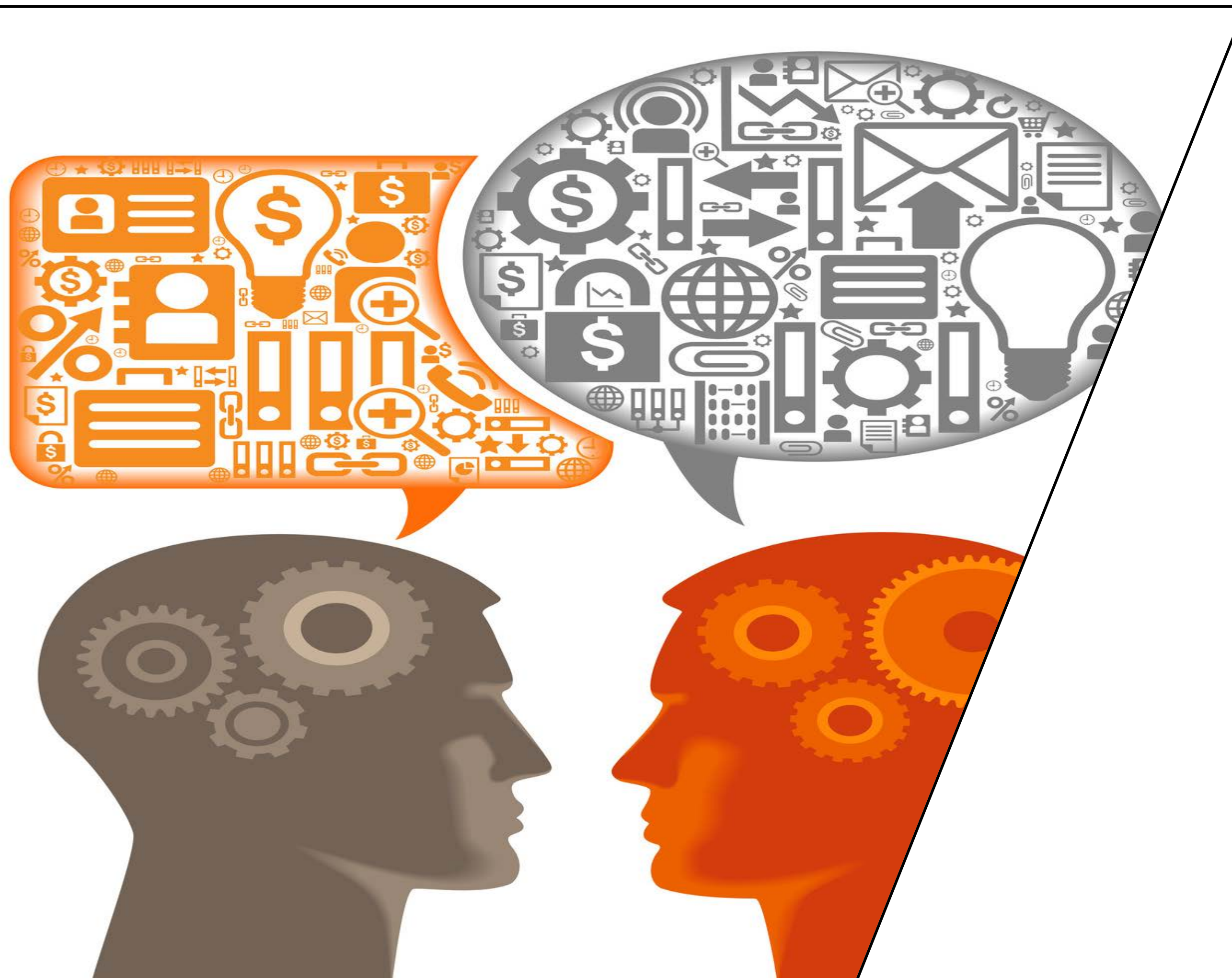
COLLABORATION NECESSITIES

- **Communication**: People receiving treatment need information, and multiple helpers need to share information
- **Coordination**: Multiple efforts from helping professionals must be coordinated to benefit everyone
- **Consultation**: Helpers with one kind of expertise need input and advice from helpers with other expertise

Service is more effective when professionals talk

BARRIERS TO COLLABORATION

Between Child Welfare Agencies, Substance Use Disorder Treatment Programs, and Courts



Data Sharing and Communication

Regulations related to confidentiality
Trust between systems

Clashes with Mission and Vision

Differences of opinion with overall mission
and agency priorities and regulations

Client Engagement

Differences in efforts to engage clients in
treatment, and client' mistrust of Child Protective
Services

KEY INGREDIENTS

- 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
- Systematic response for participants – contingency management
- Collaborative non-adversarial approach grounded in efficient communication across service systems and court

HOW COLLABORATIVE POLICY AND PRACTICES



5Rs

Recovery

Remain at home

Reunification

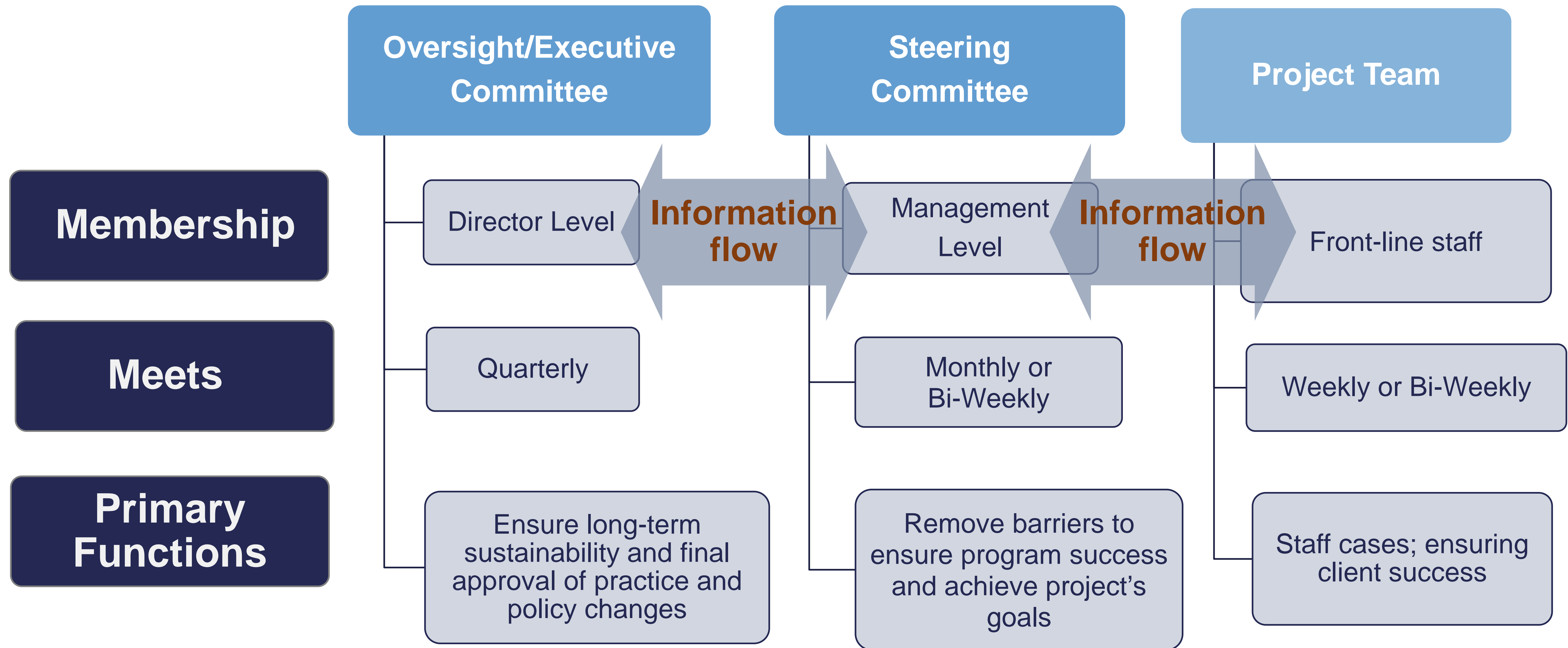
Repeat maltreatment

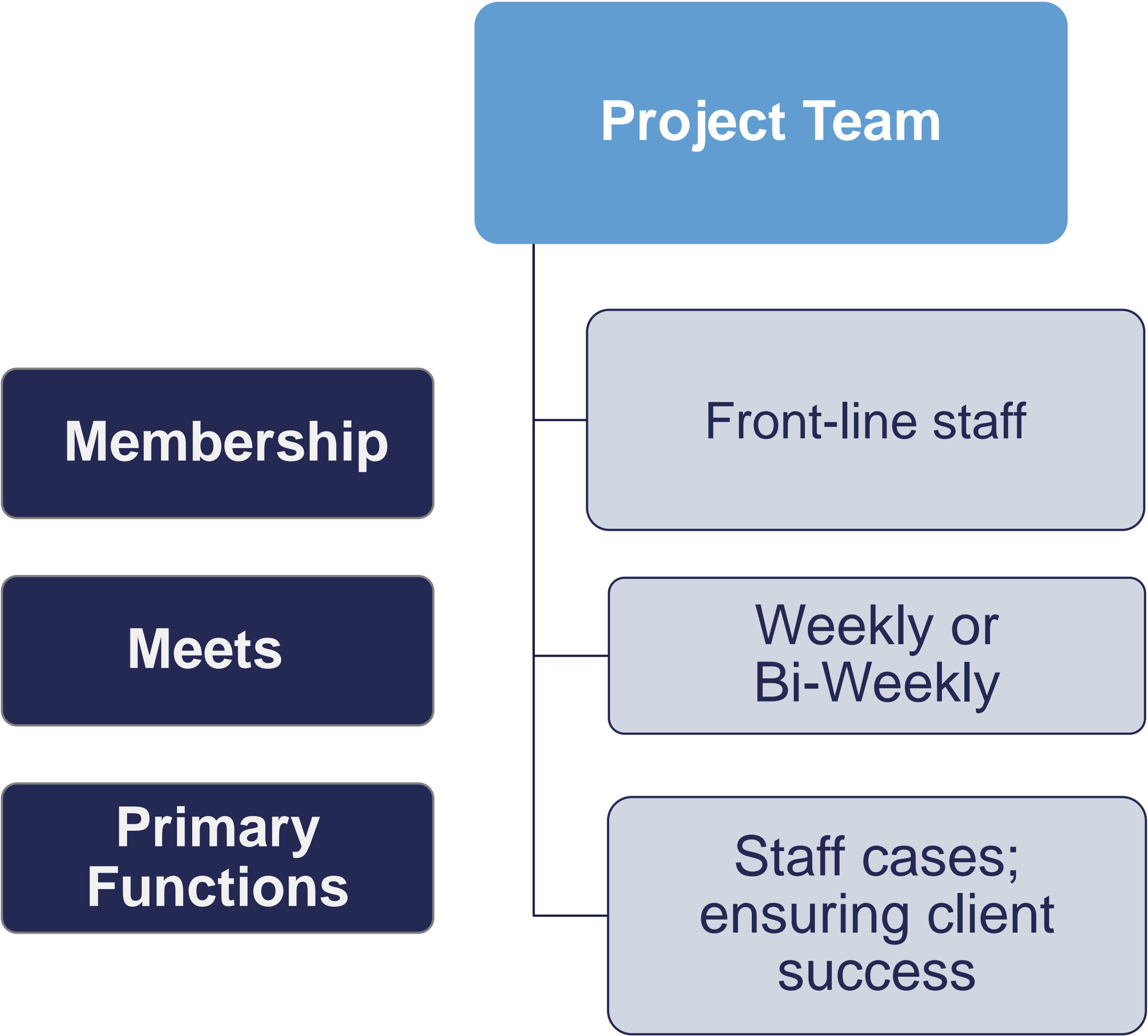
Re-entry

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

- ***The Planning Team*** – This team gathers information, develops an operational plan, and evolves to resolve policy and procedure issues. This team will eventually disband
- ***Executive Oversight Committee*** – This committee is comprised of high-level administrators across agencies who have the authority for their organization to shape practice and policy, and ensure program sustainability
- ***The Steering Committee*** – This committee sets major policy directions, identifies and finds solutions to barriers, and secures resources
- ***The Project Team*** – This team works day-to-day with children, youth and families

THE COLLABORATIVE STRUCTURE FOR LEADING CHANGE





Steering Committee

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graph TD; SC[Steering Committee] --- M[Membership]; SC --- Meets[Meets]; SC --- PF[Primary Functions]; M --- ML[Management Level]; Meets --- MB[Monthly or Bi-Monthly]; PF --- R[Remove barriers to ensure program success and achieve project's goals];
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Membership

Management Level

Meets

Monthly or Bi-Monthly

**Primary
Functions**

Remove barriers to ensure program
success and achieve project's goals

FIVE STANDING AGENDA ITEMS FOR STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS



1. Data dashboard
2. Systems barriers
3. Funding and sustainability
4. Staff training and knowledge development
5. Outreach efforts

Oversight/Executive Committee

Membership

Director Level

Meets

Quarterly or Semi-Annually

**Primary
Functions**

Ensure long-term sustainability; review and use data reports; give final approval of practice and policy changes

CHILD WELFARE ENGAGEMENT



CHILD WELFARE ENGAGEMENT

Benchmarks of an Active Child Welfare Partnership

- Widespread engagement at all staff levels within child welfare
- Leadership committed to institutionalizing and infusing proven practices



CHILD WELFARE ENGAGEMENT

Strategies to Promote an Active Child Welfare Partnership

- Dedicated staff or unit or agency liaisons
- Regular meetings and ongoing communication and information sharing
- Proactive outreach and responsiveness to child welfare's needs

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT



SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT

Strategies to Improve Treatment Access

- Standardized or universal screening and assessment
- Increased information sharing between the court, child welfare and SUD treatment providers
- Communication protocol for information sharing
- Streamlined intake processes
- Co-located or dedicated staff

COURTS



COLLABORATIVE COURT TEAMS

Strategies For Engaging the Court Team

- Recognize and discuss competing priorities, different views on who is the client and diverse mandates
- Clear communication protocols for increased information sharing
- Shared decision making practices
- Cross-training on evidence-based practices

CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND PARENT-CHILD INTERVENTIONS



CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND PARENT-CHILD INTERVENTIONS

Progress in Improving Children's Services

- Building community capacity by training many providers
- Integrating interventions into the existing service infrastructure
- Leveraging existing community resources

The background of the slide is a photograph of a multi-lane highway stretching into the distance, viewed from underneath a large concrete bridge. The scene is captured at sunset or sunrise, with a warm, golden light illuminating the sky and the bridge's underside. The perspective is from the center of the road, looking down its length towards a bright horizon. The bridge's concrete pillars and beams are visible on both sides, creating a sense of depth and structure.

MONITORING OUTCOMES

Systems Walk-Through

Assess effectiveness of system in achieving its desired results or outcomes

Data and Info Walk-Through

Who collects data, where is it stored, who uses it, who “owns” the data, levels of access



DATA DASHBOARD

- What needles are you trying move?
- What outcomes are the most important?
- Is there shared accountability for “moving the needle” in a measurable way?
 - Who are we comparing to?

Total number of cases that resulted in investigation and those with a screening

Number and percentage of parents referred for assessment

Number and percentage who received an assessment

Number and percentage referred to treatment

Number and percentage admitted to treatment

Number and percentage in treatment for at least 90 days

Number and percentage completing treatment

Payoff – Number and percentage Reunified / Remained at home

**DROP-OFF
POINTS**

CALL TO ACTION & NEXT STEPS

REVIEW THE SAFERR PUBLICATION



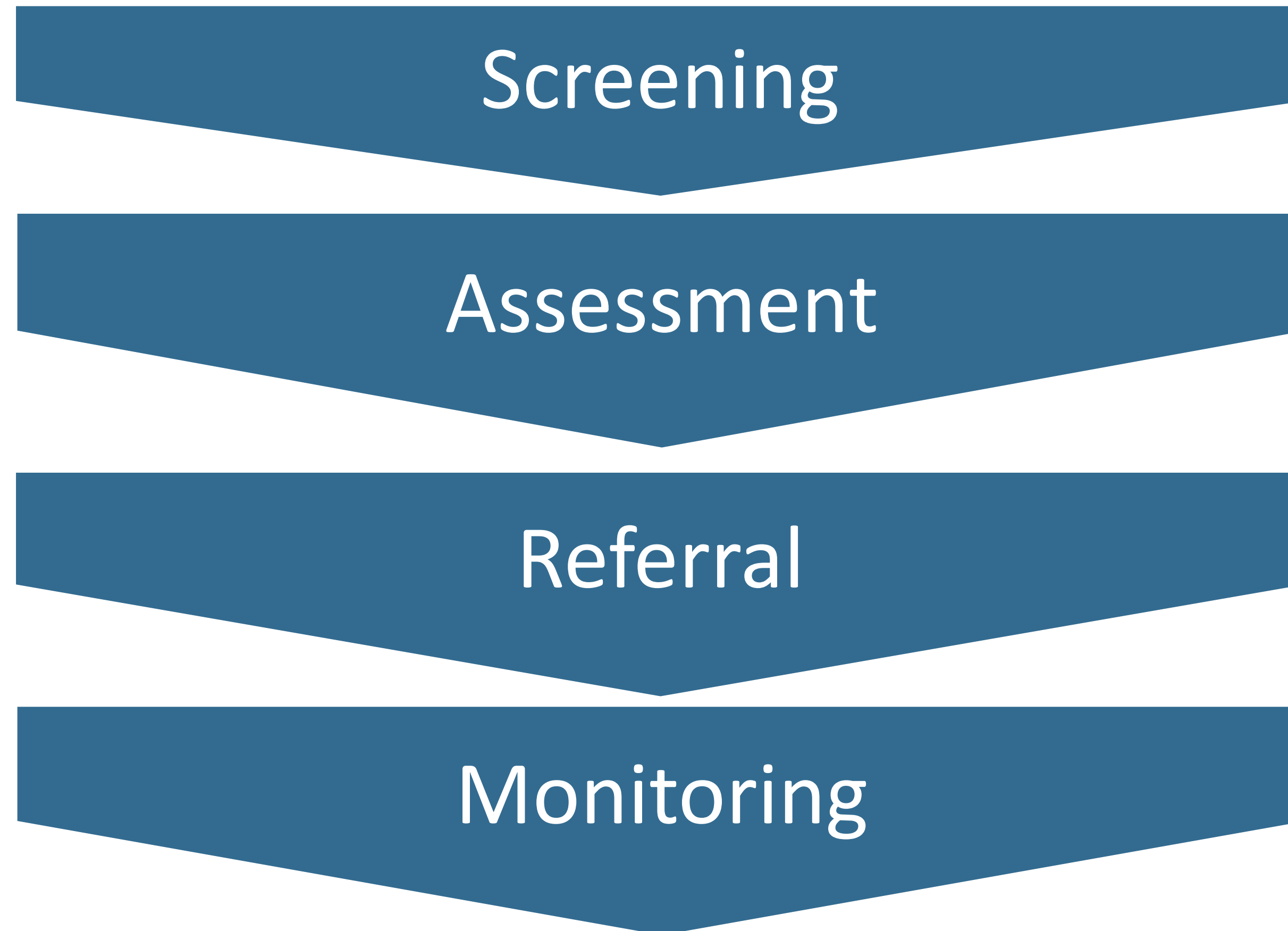
Use this tool to assess your current collaborative approach and consider how to improve the practices and policies used across systems.



<https://ncsacw.samhsa.gov/resources/SAFERR.aspx>

CONDUCT AN SYSTEMS WALK-THROUGH

Flow Chart: Child Welfare Involved Families With Substance Use Disorders



Contact us



ncsacw@cffutures.org

VIEW AND DISCUSS RELATED WEBINARS



Practice and Policy Webinar

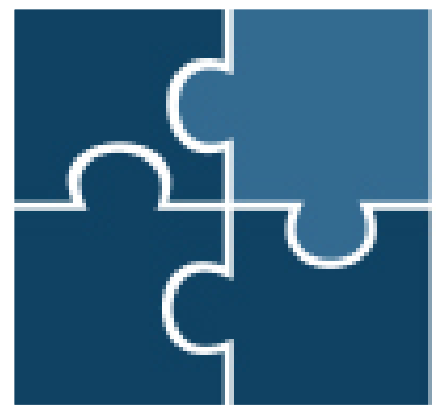
This webinar provides an overview of the issues facing child welfare, substance abuse treatment providers and the courts, presents current models of reform, integrates identified priority areas, and discusses common barriers and contextual issues.

Screening and Assessment for Family Engagement and Retention

Active collaboration across systems helps ensure parents in need of substance abuse treatment are identified and receive appropriate treatment in a timely manner. This webinar will explore strategies to develop an integrated system of care for families by changing policies, procedures and practices to promote inter-agency collaboration and data sharing among child welfare, the dependency courts and substance use treatment.

Visit  www.cffutures.org

CONTACT THE NCSACW TTA PROGRAM

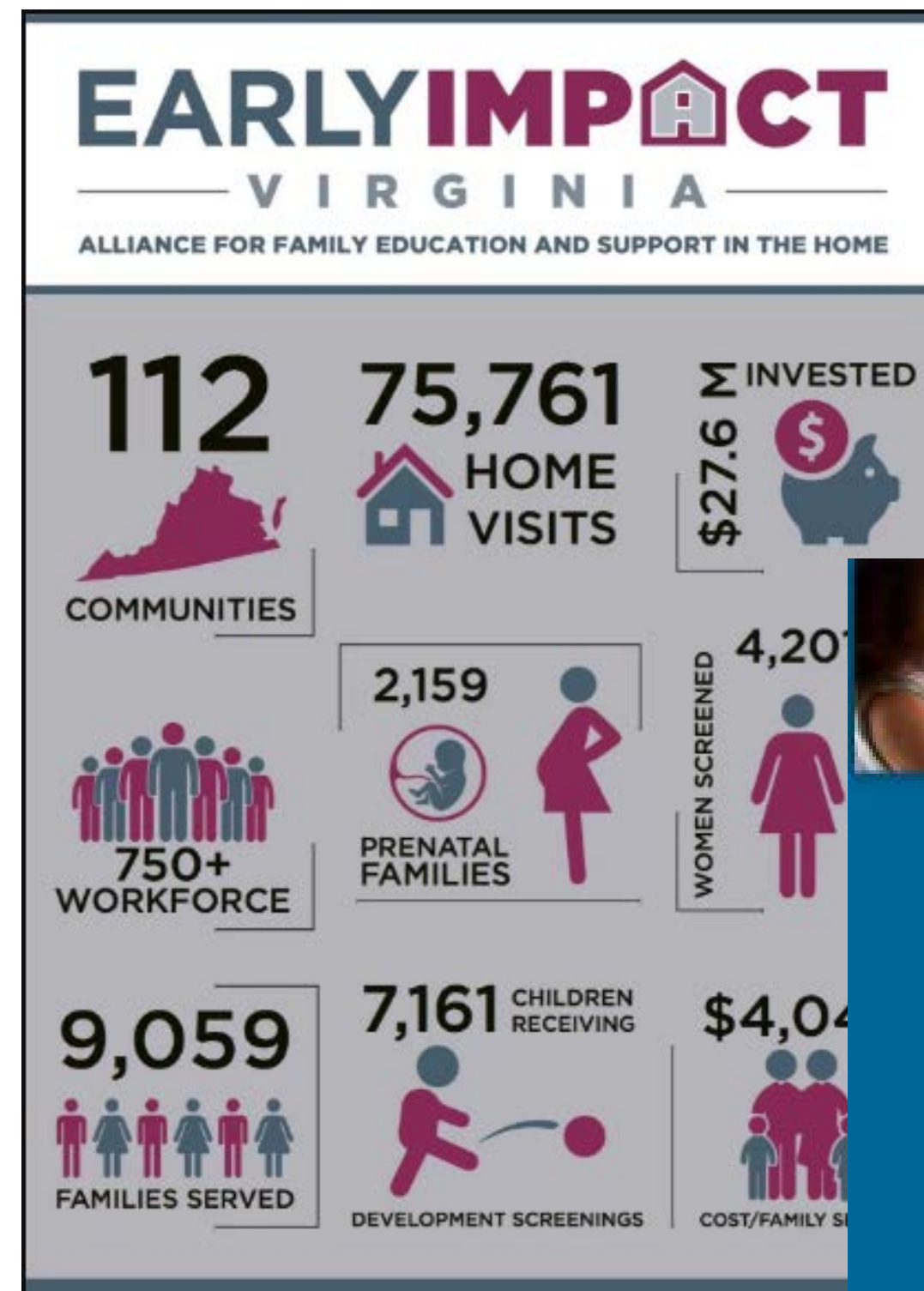


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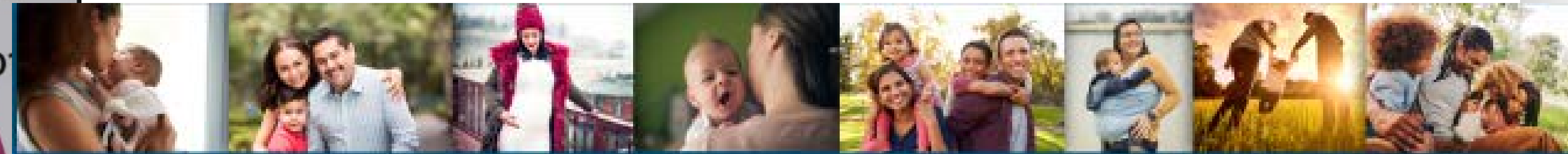
- Connect you with programs that are developing tools and implementing practices and protocols to support their powerful collaborative
- Training and technical assistance to support collaboration and systems change

Contact us @ *ncsacw@cffutures.org*

GET ENGAGED IN CURRENT COLLABORATIVE WORK



HELP is here.
PREVENT • TREAT • RECOVER

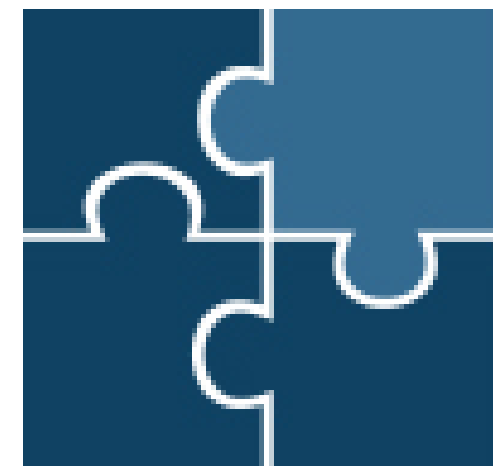


STATEWIDE INITIATIVE FOR COMMUNITY-BASED PRENATAL RECOVERY-ORIENTED CARE

mi DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES **mi** DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH **ATTC** Great Lakes (HHS Region 5)
Association Technology Transfer Center Network
Connecting Knowledge, Skills, and Expertise with Innovation



PREGNANCY AND OPIOID EXPOSURE:
GUIDANCE FOR NORTH CAROLINA



National Center on
Substance Abuse
and Child Welfare

Bringing Systems Together for Family Recovery, Safety and Stability

CONTACT INFORMATION

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A scenic landscape featuring a bright sun in the upper left, casting a warm glow over a sky filled with soft, white and grey clouds. Below the sky, rolling green hills are visible, with a dense line of dark evergreen trees in the foreground. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

Q&A AND DISCUSSION