Update of Current and Upcoming Activities Related to Addressing the BH Needs of Children Involved with DCS
May 16, 2016

Cenpatico scheduled 10 Foster Parent Forums across the Southern region (flyer is attached). The information from these meetings will be synthesized and utilized to develop an in-depth action plan. Forums completed to date have demonstrated the need for additional training about services and the RBHA and DES systems. Contact information is being collected from all participants so that Cenpatico can follow up in 3 months to determine if progress is being made and to address any questions or concerns.

Cenpatico will be facilitating a Jacobs Law Work Group on Thursday 5/26/16. DCS, CMDP, Office of Individual and Family Affairs (AHCCCS), foster care licensing agencies, kinship support agencies, and behavioral health agencies have been invited to attend. The purpose of this work group is to educate attendees about Jacob’s Law, identify and overcome barriers and to develop committees to plan cross-system training and education. The cross system trainings will create a forum to have a strong dialogue between systems and collaboratively identify strategies to better meet needs of foster parents and children in care.

Information about Jacob’s Law has been shared with our contracted providers during required provider meetings on the following dates: 4/6/16, 4/14/16, 5/6/16, and 5/12/16. In addition, Cenpatico is collaborating with system partners to develop a collective knowledge base about behavioral health services and the rights of foster, kinship and adoptive placements. Cenpatico has presented or is on the agenda to present information about Jacob’s Law at the following meetings.

- 4/18/16 Pima County Juvenile Court, Court Improvement Meeting
- 5/2/16 Pinal County Best For Babies
- 5/13/16 Pinal County HRSS Meeting
- 5/23/16 Yuma Jacobs Law Meeting DCS, HRSS and Providers
- 6/01/16 Behavioral Health and Jacob’s Law 101 for Pima County for CASAs
- 6/15/16 Foster Adoptive Council of Tucson
- 6/16/16 Family Support Partner Training

Cenpatico is encouraging DCS, foster parents and other system partners to utilize the established Cenpatico DCS single point of contact. In addition, Cenpatico met internally on 5/2/16 to establish a single database for all departments to track DCS/CMDP member concerns and provide regular tracking reports. Cenpatico staff training related to Jacob’s law has been scheduled for June. The training will include a review of Jacob’s Law and the specific requirements that enable foster, kinship and adoptive placements to facilitate better access to services for the children in their home.

Cenpatico is working collaboratively with MMIC and HCIC to ensure a shared understanding of Jacob’s Law and develop unified initiatives to facilitate the provision of services to children in foster, kinship and adoptive placements.
Network Development for Specialized Services for Children in Foster Care:

Cenpatico continues to work with Intake and Coordination of Care Agencies and specialty providers to improve service delivery to children in Foster Care. In March of 2016 Cenpatico implemented a foster care placement stabilization and secondary crisis responder program. The BOOST program is intended to meet ongoing placement issues and crisis stabilization needs of any child in the foster care system. Cenpatico is currently monitoring the utilization of this program in Pima County and streamlining access for foster parents.

Cenpatico continues to work with ICCAs identified as Centers of Excellence for Children in Foster Care. These agencies implemented the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) as an assessment tool for children in foster care starting in April 2016. Cenpatico will monitor the implementation of CANS and continue to push these agencies to adopt and utilize evidenced based practices for children in foster care.

In May 2016, Cenpatico provided Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Health training to 43 clinicians. Additional consultation is required to be certified and 36 clinicians are expected to complete the consultation process. This cohort of TF-CBT clinicians will bolster the provision of trauma focused treatment across Southern Arizona.

Cenpatico is training and certifying 23 High Fidelity Wraparound Facilitators region wide to ensure children receive community based treatment that meets the needs of the child and family, including foster families.

Cenpatico is collaborating with the Juvenile Courts in Pima, Pinal and Santa Cruz Counties to identify new initiatives to better serve youth who are involved in both delinquency and dependency court processes. This collaboration is new and the exact focus of the work is still to be determined. Updates will be provided in future reports.

A Cenpatico staff member serves as co-chair of the Best Practices Committee on the Pima County Juvenile Court, Community Court Collaborative Project. This committee is focused on the utilization of evidenced based practices for children and families involved with DCS, specifically evidenced based parenting services.

A Cenpatico staff member works closely with the Pima County Juvenile Court Family Drug Court. The drug court is recognized as a leader for its success in early and permanent reunification. The family drug court staff, DCS and Cenpatico encourage CFTs to refer the children to evidenced based practices including Child Parent Psychotherapy, Dinosaur School and Incredible Years.

Cenpatico is working with a DCS contracted shelter to be able to provide behavioral health services in the shelter to meet the needs of members. The organization that runs the shelter is also a Cenpatico contracted specialty provider of behavioral health services and recognizes the behavioral health needs of members within the shelter. Cenpatico will also be working with this agency to ensure that the shelter is able to take high needs children with appropriate behavioral health wrap supports to prevent the child from sleeping in a DCS office.
Foster Parents Contact/Request for Services Post 21 Days:

Cenpatico will be meeting with HRSS agencies, kinship support agencies and the DCS kinship unit to ensure that the “single point of contact information” is shared with all placements, is included in placement packets and is provided when the Rapid Response service occurs.

Cenpatico will establish a tracking process that can be utilized by every Cenpatico department to facilitate a “no wrong door” approach to contacting Cenpatico when services have not started within 21 days. The process will include specific timeframes for follow up to put services in place as quickly as possible. This process will provide a means to track each call or email that is received and address agency specific or system wide concerns as necessary.

All Cenpatico departments have been educated about the new “21 day service expectation”, including quality management. Tracking mechanisms are in place and providers will be monitored to this performance expectation going forward.