

Weaving Together Effective Policy & Practice

Kansas City Task Force

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Multidisciplinary team approach

- Focus on community approach
- Systems change
- Collaboration instead of coordination

Who we are

- Origins of the Kansas City Task Force
- Who the members are
- What the charge and focus of action
- Structure of the group and meeting agenda
- Dynamics of change

Results

- Linkage Coordinator Program
- Senate Bill 190
- TIES Program
- Amethyst Place
- Family Drug Court
- Prosecutor's collective statement

- Family Court
- Supported sale tax for drug treatment programs
- First officially appointed multidisciplinary team
- Grandparents as Guardians program

Tools

- Position paper, fact sheets, data
- Senate Bill 190
- Tracking system
- Newborn Crisis Assessment form
- Family Drug Court
- COMBAT funds (anti drug sales tax)
- CSTAR: drug treatment for women & children
- Supported housing

Lessons Learned

- Decision makers need to be at the table
- Divergent points of view need to be encouraged and valued
- Collective statements need to be created by the team and used to shape and form the process
- Recognize and affirm different professional perspectives

- Advocate for legislation when needed
- Monitor the regulations
- Design a data tracking system that collects what you need
- Embrace controversy
- Timing is critical, seize the windows of opportunity
- Constancy allows you to be there when there is receptivity to change

Session will

- Examine the tools we developed
- Review the history of the Task Force
- Discuss the roles of child protection, health care, court, drug treatment
- Summarize how systems were changed through the Task Force actions