

Washington State Collaboration Efforts

Pregnant and Parenting
Women (PPW) with
Chemical Dependency Issues



An Example of Collaboration: Safe Babies Safe Moms (SBSM)

- Comprehensive program that includes:
 - Pregnant and Parenting Women (PPW) Residential and Outpatient Chemical Dependency (CD) Treatment
 - PPW Housing Support Services
 - Targeted Intensive Case Management (TICM) up to three years.
- Snohomish, Benton-Franklin, and Whatcom Counties
- 270 slots statewide
- For the highest risk women who abuse alcohol and/or drugs during pregnancy.

Entities That Participate in Collaborative Efforts to Make SBSM Successful

State Level Team: (meets every other month)

Department of Social and Health Services:

Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse

Medical Assistance

Children's Administration

Economic Services Administration

Research and Data Analysis

Department of Health

Entities That Participate in Collaborative Efforts to Make SBSM Successful (Continued)

Community Level Teams: (usually meet at least quarterly)

TICM Providers

PPW Residential and Outpatient CD Providers

Housing Support Services Providers

First Steps Providers

Local Child Protective Services Offices

Local Community Services Offices

Collaboration

- The communication that takes place everyday between and among the service provider and the State staff has been critical to the successful implementation of the Safe Babies Safe Moms program.
- This increased communication is a new and challenging way of conducting business - a way in which service providers truly work together to meet the comprehensive needs of the substance abusing pregnant/parenting woman.

The Importance of Communication

- It is important for State Level Staff to provide continuing support to programs by attending meetings, promptly answering questions, providing feedback about performance expectations, and helping to identify and meet training needs.
- Preliminary planning, including discussion about the day-to-day activities, such as sharing information and conducting meetings, is required to serve this population.
- State and community providers must work together to share information, identify shared values, and build a team to meet the needs of this population.

The Importance of Communication (Continued)

- To communicate and reinforce the vision of this comprehensive program, State staff must provide leadership for community providers and staff. Similarly, community providers must provide ongoing leadership to program-level staff.
- Serving this population may require innovative ways to conduct business and providers must adapt their practices to the program model and the needs of this population.

Other Washington State
Collaborative Efforts Focusing
on Substance Abusing
Pregnant and Parenting
Women

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Interagency Workgroup (FASIAWG)

- Established by the Legislature in 1995
- Legislatively mandated state agencies that attend:
 - DSHS (DASA, CA, MAA, JRA, DDD, MHD)
 - DOC
 - OSPI
 - DOH
- The state agencies listed above executed an interagency agreement to ensure the coordination of identification, prevention, and intervention programs for children who have fetal alcohol exposure, and for women who are at high risk of having children with fetal alcohol exposure.
- A process for community advocacy groups to participate in the review and development of identification, prevention, and intervention programs administered or contracted for by the agencies executing the agreement.

Coalitions/Provider Groups

- Washington State Coalition on Women's Substance Abuse Issues ([WSCWSAI](#))

The Coalition is a non-profit association of individuals and organizations concerned about women's chemical dependency issues. Members include: individuals and local and state government agencies who work with disabilities, health care providers, domestic violence providers, chemical dependency treatment. They may include therapists, researchers, attorneys, and others concerned with public policy issues affecting chemical dependency treatment for women.

- Solutions

This group, founded in 1997, is a women's advocacy group that looks at the issues of substance abusing women and their children and explores positive solutions through researching and discussing what is going on within Washington State and in other states.

- PPW Provider Group

This is a quarterly meeting of the contracted providers that offer services to the substance abusing pregnant/parenting women population.

Additional Information

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