Big Picture: a knowledge exchange

1. Sharing our different experiences and practice wisdom in working with Aboriginal families carrying the burden of brain impairments from:
   1. environmental toxins,
   2. fetal alcohol spectrum disorder,
   3. solvent abuse, accidents,
   4. adverse pre-natal conditions and
   5. other factors (including poverty, mental illness and substance abuse).

2. Developing a joint protocol for the two agencies to work together in cooperative intervention model for these families
Parameters

- Native Child and Family Services provides mental health, case management and early years intervention services to its families, operating within professional guidelines and best practice guidelines. The Centre for Family, Child and Adolescent Advancement has a similar foundation but from a different industry: Neuropsychology, rehabilitation psychology, vocational rehabilitation and rehabilitation science.

- The goal of the training is not to replace one model with a completely different one, but to understand each approach and if there are differences, discuss a way to implement services to ensure the best outcomes for our families.
Tuesday: June 5, 2007

1. History and Vision of CFCAA
2. Origin of the Aboriginal content in CFCAA
3. Introduce Tracy Marvin
4. The implementation of this model in an aboriginal context: specific techniques, use of community resources (Elders, native healing), case examples
Our Proposal

- CFCAA is prepared to support NCFST to implement this model internally with your own staff by providing:
  - clinical supervision and staff training
  - Assistance to recruit and screen new parent coaches
  - copies of our curricula and literature review
  - Access to psychological assessments for the clients of the parent coaching program
  - Implementation of the outcome evaluation instruments and protocol
Target Group

- At Risk Children/Parents Include known or suspicions of:
  - Fetal alcohol (FASD);
  - Learning disability;
  - Traumatic brain injury (to moderate); AD/HD;
  - Psychological Disorders (to moderate)
History and Vision (CFCAA)

- a private donation funded and operated non-profit registered charitable foundation to fund an effective home-based parenting program.
- **mandate**: to provide pragmatic prevention and intervention services to at-risk parents and their children.
- **founded by** Dr. J. Douglas Salmon, Jr., registered psychologist with practice in rehabilitation, neuro-psychology, adult learning disability, and, related vocational assessment/counseling; and,
- Ms. Susan Fraser, B.A., M.N., R.N., Mental health nurse with Master's in Nursing, with special interest in trauma and interventions for parents with known psychopathology.
- CFCAA began receiving referrals and serving clients in October 2005
- Since then, we completed a pilot project involving 32 families served over the past 15 months.
Special Presentation

Tracy Marvin
Types of families served

Multi-problem families where

- child has significant school adjustment problems,
  - disruptive behaviour at home and
  - co-morbid disorders (developmental, medical, LD),
- parent(s) ostracized/excluded by school,
  - involved with CAS,
  - domestic violence,
  - poverty,
  - housing crisis.
Special needs of fathers

- Father assuming parenting role for the first time after mother departs
  - Children display significant emotional problems
    - Some with an prior history of abuse
  - Lack of communication & family meetings
  - Executive functions of family not being attended to by Dad
  - Dad has significant emotional issues
Brain impairments

- Many parents had prior diagnoses of brain impairments including LD and FASD
- Several children had developmental anomalies (treated by school as if DH), probable but unconfirmed FASD,
Core Service Delivery Objectives
Competencies, Skills & Developmental

1) **Life Skills**: Safety/security; housing; health; Family schedule/organization/daily routine; Meals (nutrition, shopping, planning, organization, implementation); transportation; finances; laundry; cleaning/organization
Objectives (cont)

2) Parental relationship/skills:
   Attachment/bonding; communication skills; activities; appropriate discipline; conflict resolution

3) Social/community linkage support

4) Children: Academic readiness & support; problem identification/referral
Objectives (cont)

5) **Adolescents**: Problem identification/referral; academic support; vocational guidance

6) **Adults**: Problem identification/referral; Vocational guidance
End of Session #1

See you tomorrow at 10:00