

Peer Support in Substance Abuse Recovery

CWLA National Substance Use
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Some Facts about Contra Costa County:

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Contra Costa County has over 1,085,000 residents living within 798 square miles. It is the 9th largest county in the state.

There are 19 cities and 21 unincorporated areas located within the 3 geographically distinct regions.

Our diverse population is 51% Caucasian, 22% Hispanic, 9% African American, 16% Asian/Pacific Islanders and 2% American Indian.

More Facts

The average household income in Contra Costa County is \$62,000.

The unemployment averages 6% and 11% of our population has income below the poverty level

Contra Costa County gets approximately 22,000 hot line calls a year which result in:

- 7,500 referrals per year;
- 50% of referrals are investigated and result in approximately 1,000 substantiated cases a year;
 - 500 result in foster care. There are approximately 1,100 children in foster care in CoCo County;
 - 250 result in Family Maintenance;
 - 250 go to Differential Response;

Frequently Asked Questions

How do you pay for the program?

Blended funds:

79% is coded to Parent Training and Education which is paid out of Realignment funds, PSSF, CAPIT, some wrap;

Who do you work for?

Contra Costa County CFS contracts with the Contra Costa County Child Abuse Prevention Council to provide this program.

The CFS and CAPC Partnership

- The EIOS are co-located with CFS staff in county buildings, and have access to county resources, training, county cars, etc.
- As employees of CAPC, the EIOS work 37.5 hours per week and have the same benefits as other CAPC employees (health care benefit, a generous holiday package, earned time off, retirement, cell phones, etc.)
- How many EIOS do you have?
Three. 1 in each of our 3 offices.

The Objective: To explore the value of using peer support for child welfare clients who may be in need of recovery services.

Model: Contra Costa County uses a peer-support model to work with CFS involved parents. EIOS provide a number of vital functions in order to support recovery.

The Use of Peer Support in Contra Costa County Children and Family Services

Parent Partners

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Early
Intervention
Outreach
Specialists

Integrated Approach to Timely Family Reunification

Parent Partners

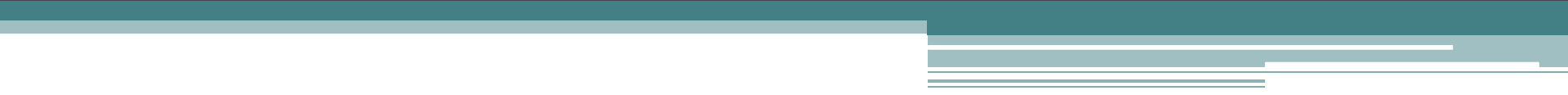
Meet parents at Court and work with them on:

- Understanding the Child Welfare System;
- Help parents understand their case plan;
- Help Parents access appropriate supports and services;
- Prepare for Court;
- Make long-range plans post reunification;
- Work collaboratively with their Family Team.
- Consult with CFS staff to better meet parents' needs.

Early Intervention Outreach Specialists

- Perform substance abuse assessments;
- Talk with parents about their need for treatment;
- Make recommendations about the appropriate level and type of treatment;
- Assist parents in getting into treatment;
- Prepare parents for treatment and support them while they are in treatment;
- Work collaboratively with their Family Team.
- Consult with CFS staff to educate them on family's needs and about programs.

Both programs are the result of a unique collaboration between the Child Abuse Prevention Council and Children and Family Services in Contra Costa County, California

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Who are these EIOS?

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Today we will be exploring:

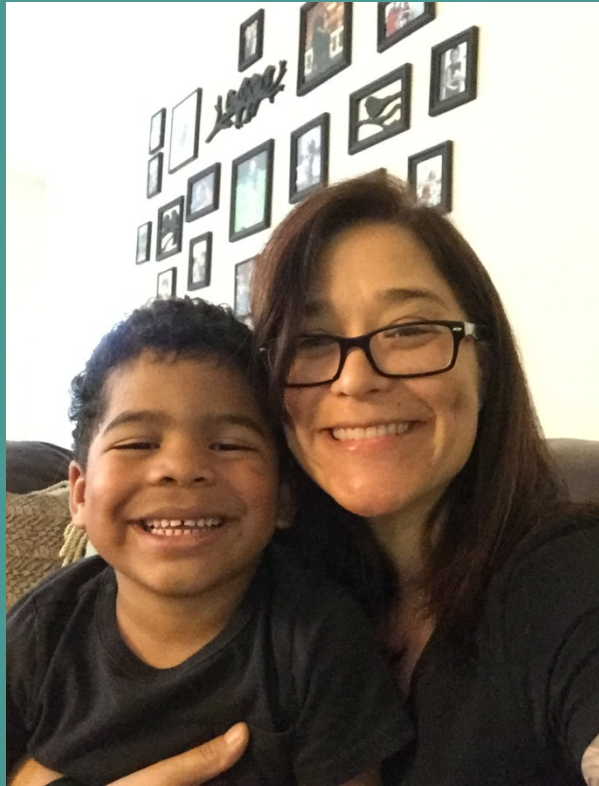
Who...Why... How... What?

Who are they?

Why do they do what they do?

How do they do what they do?

What don't EIOS do?



Sunita's Story



Therris' Story

The Do's and Don'ts of being an EIOS

See handout:



Work Collaboratively



Work collaboratively with Parent Partners who are supporting the parents relative to child welfare/court issues;

Perform Assessments

Perform field assessments on parents who are substance affected;

Make Recommendations:

Make recommendations relative to appropriate treatment programs and/or other supportive services;

Be Part of the Team

Actively participate in Team Decision Making meetings, Multi-disciplinary meetings, meetings with social workers, and support parents in court;

Prepare and support parents who are entering substance abuse treatment

Prepare parents for entry into a treatment program and provide support throughout treatment.

Support Parents Following Treatment

- ❖ Help parents develop drug and alcohol supports in their own communities. This could include helping the parent get and work with a Sponsor, participate in an alumni group, etc;
- ❖ Help parents develop relapse prevention plans;
- ❖ Help parents develop safety plans for their children in the event that they are going to use;

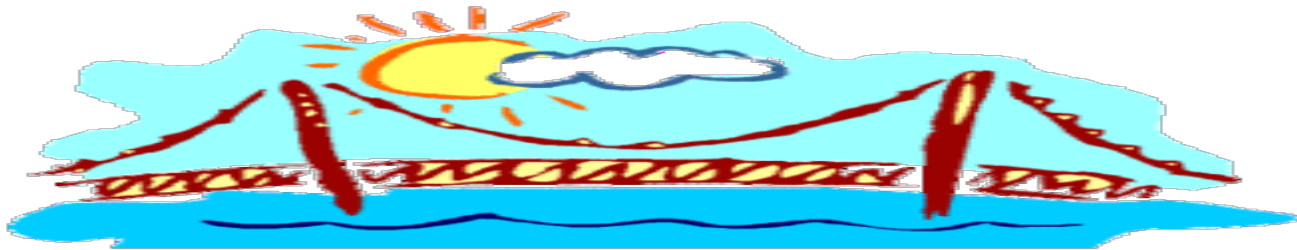
Support & Inform Social Workers

Consult with Social Workers on substance abuse issues. This consultation can be either case-specific or in the form of training/consultation regarding various drugs;

Educate other professionals (including attorneys);

Provide a 3X/weekly list of treatment program availability to parents and all child welfare staff;

Bridge the CFS and AOD Communities



Develop relationships with the substance abuse treatment programs inside the county and in neighboring counties in an effort to provide the appropriate level of treatment to the families with whom they are involved, as well as, identify appropriate treatment programs for specialized populations (peri-natal programs, Spanish speaking programs, family programs, adolescent programs, and dual diagnosis programs).

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