



## **Technical Assistance Products in Development**

NCSACW is currently developing a variety of products that advance knowledge and practice in the linkages among substance use disorders, child welfare, and family court systems. The following products are anticipated to be available in early Spring 2008.

### ***Framework and Policy Tools***

#### **Introductory Overview of State and Tribal Child Welfare, Alcohol and Drug Services, and Court Systems**

This document is intended to provide general background on each of the three systems to support cross-system communication and coordination within State, County and Tribal jurisdictions, by promoting understanding of the operational characteristics of the systems. This document also outlines training implications and training resources associated with promoting and developing cross-system connections.

#### **Guide to Cross-System Data Sources for State and Tribal Child Welfare, Substance Abuse Treatment, and Court Systems**

This guide is intended to provide public entities, their collaborative partners and other stakeholders a summary of general information available to the public about each system. This guide is designed as a tool that assists public agencies to identify how they can use current information systems to monitor their progress in improving outcomes for children and families at the intersection of the three systems.

### ***Training and Staff Development Resources***

#### **Understanding Substance Use Disorders, Treatment and Family Recovery: A Guide for Legal Professionals**

This online tutorial will provide a primer for legal professionals, including judges and the various attorney groups involved in this process. Topics include substance abuse, treatment, recovery, the impact on children and families, child welfare timetables, cross-system communication and collaboration.

### ***Materials Prepared for Specific Topics and Audiences***

#### **Utilizing Drug Testing in the Context of Child Welfare**

This paper describes drug testing in the context of child welfare, highlight the issues associated with drug testing as it is currently employed by dependency courts and child-welfare agencies, describe policies, protocols, and programs that some agencies have advanced to resolve cross-system issues, and outline some of the implications that those cases have for dependency courts and child-welfare agencies.

#### **Substance Abuse Specialists in Child Welfare Agencies and Dependency Courts: Considerations for Program Designers and Evaluators**

This paper focuses on the placing of substance abuse specialists within child welfare or the dependency courts as a model of collaboration. The purpose of collocating substance abuse specialists is to ensure that parents are assessed more quickly, to improve client engagement and retention in treatment, streamline entry into treatment, and provide consultation to child welfare and dependency court workers.

### **State Legislator Resources**

NCSACW is developing an interactive resource webpage for State Legislators that will contain materials relevant to issues of child welfare and substance abuse. This resource will educate State legislators about the subjects of substance abuse, child welfare, and dependency courts, inform State legislators about cross-systems collaboration, and utilize innovative web-based technology.