

Trauma-Informed Systems



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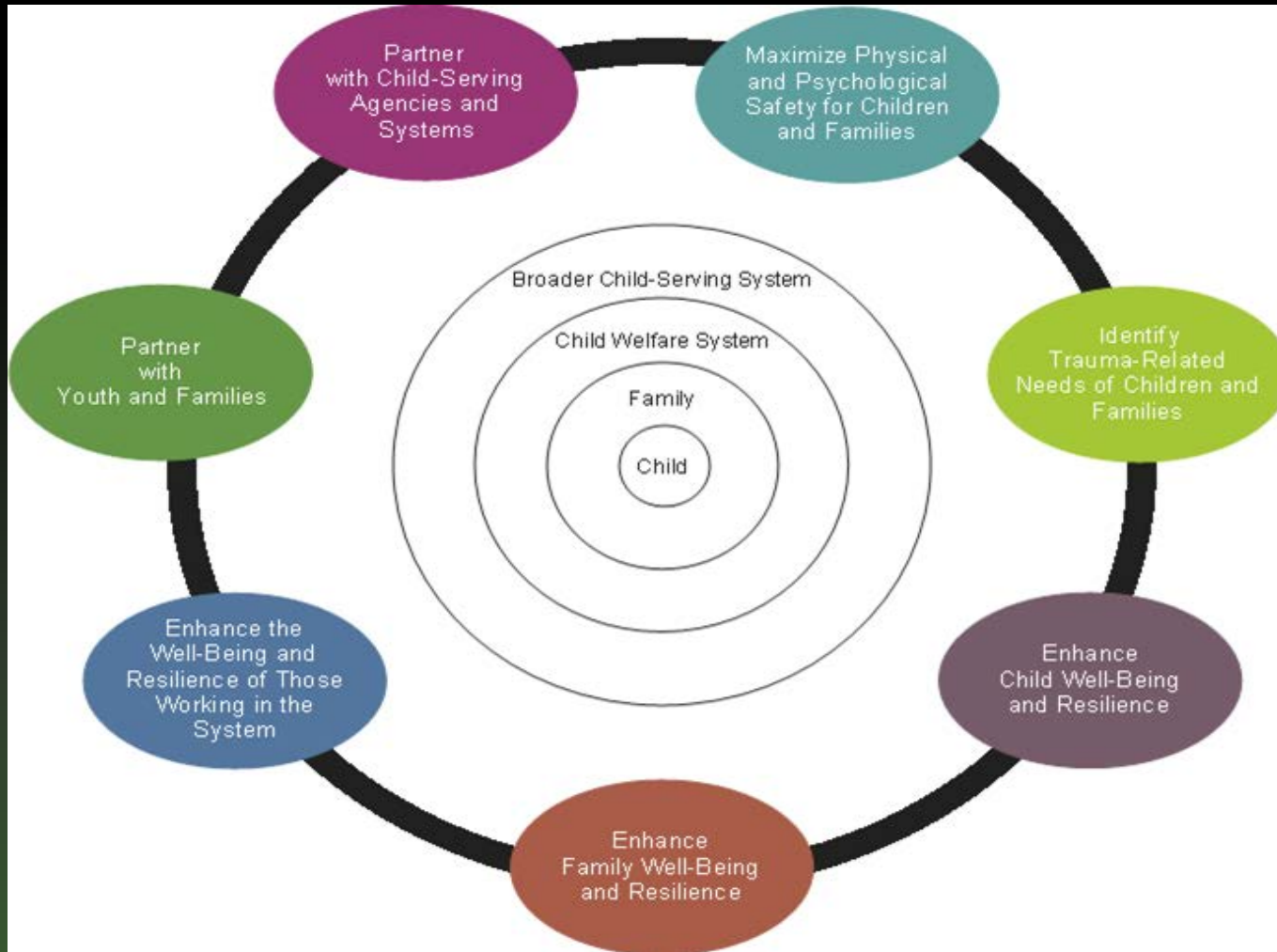
Definition of Trauma-Informed System



A trauma-informed child welfare system is one in which all parties involved recognize and respond to the varying impact of traumatic stress on children, caregivers and those who have contact with the system. Programs and organizations within the system infuse this knowledge, awareness and skills into their organizational cultures, policies, and practices. They act in collaboration, using the best available science, to facilitate and support resiliency and recovery.

- CTISP National Advisory Committee

Essential Elements of a Trauma-Informed Child Welfare System



How do we get there from here?



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Goal of the Trauma-Informed Child Welfare BSC



To develop and promote trauma-informed policies and practices related to foster care placement, thereby increasing placement stability and promoting a sense of permanency among children in care.

Overview of the BSC



- Sponsored by the National Center for Child Traumatic Stress with funding from SAMHSA
- Includes 9 sites from across the country (CO, FL, MA, NC, NH, OK, TX, Los Angeles and San Diego)
- Public child welfare system is lead, but the team is a partnership between child welfare jurisdictions, partner mental health/trauma sites, and family representatives (youth, parents, foster parents)

Examples of Monthly Metrics Data from the TICWP-BSC



1. Number of requests to move children out of a placement (due to “negative” or behavioral issues)
2. Number of actual moves each month
3. Number of children in placement who received MH assessments
4. Number of children in placement who received trauma-focused screening or assessment
5. Number of children receiving treatment (generic and trauma-focused EBP)

Data Highlights



As of August, 2011:

- 53% of children in placement had received a trauma-focused screening, compared to 18% at the beginning.
- Almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of foster parents surveyed said they were able to manage symptoms and behaviors of children in their care.
- Placement moves and move requests declined (with minor ups and downs) throughout the project.