

Using Data to Build Comprehensive Systems for Infants and Families

FACILITATOR GUIDE



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Cate Teuten Bohn, MPH

Mary E. De Masi, Ph.D.

Susan Perkins, MS

Council on Children and Families

Evelyn Efinger, MS Ed

New York State Child Care Coordinating Council

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Washington Street, Suite 99, Rensselaer, New York 12144 and New York State Child Care
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PROJECT OVERVIEW

Why ‘Using Data to Build Comprehensive Systems for Infants and Families’ Was Developed

In October 2007, the first New York State Infancy Summit was convened to focus on the art of community collaboration across the many disciplines that address the needs of infants and their families. As a result, many communities have formed working partnerships with dedicated professionals interested in furthering this cause. The second New York State Infancy Summit and the accompanying materials were developed to help these community coalitions systematically review the core components of a comprehensive early childhood service system necessary to serve infants and their families and to help these professionals make an assessment of their current systems, identify issues that could benefit from their action and develop data-based advocacy efforts.

Intended Audience for the Materials

The materials that follow are intended for coalition members and facilitators in each region of the Child Care Coordinating Council. In particular, the material was developed for coalitions that are *just beginning* to examine their communities and assess where they may need to direct their attention. Those coalition members well into the process may wish to review resource materials and see if they may find new resources to support their work. The Facilitator Guide is also intended for less experienced facilitators and provides considerably more guidance than is necessary for seasoned facilitators. All materials are intended to help with the process but in no way do we expect them to be used verbatim for the sessions. We leave that to the comfort and expertise of both the facilitator and coalition members.

We also recognize the materials are appropriate for most advocacy groups and planning coalitions that would like to consider how they might examine ways to best serve young children in their community and hope it will be helpful to others who would like to take a closer look at how their local systems are serving infants and their families.

How to Use the DVD, Facilitator Guide and Resource Guide for the Infancy Summit

We have organized the information for the second Infancy Summit into four segments we refer to as sessions. These sessions can be viewed as four distinct sessions or may be used as a two-day event. If coalition groups decide to use a two-day format, we suggest enough time be provided between the first and second day so coalition members can have adequate time for the activities described in these sessions.

The Facilitator Guide was designed for new facilitators and we want to encourage facilitators to use it only as a guide so they can make decisions based on personal expertise as well as their own familiarity with the subject matter. We also have assumed members of coalitions will have varying familiarity with the subject matter and may be able to take a lead role to support their groups as the groups move through the sessions.

Project Partners

This effort is a partnership between the Council on Children and Families (Council) and the New York State Child Care Coordinating Council (NYSCCCC) and was funded by a professional development grant from the New York State Office on Children and Family Services to NYSCCCC. The development of the DVD and facilitator's guide, entitled *Using Data to Build Comprehensive Systems for Infants and Families* was a joint venture between the Council and NYSCCCC.

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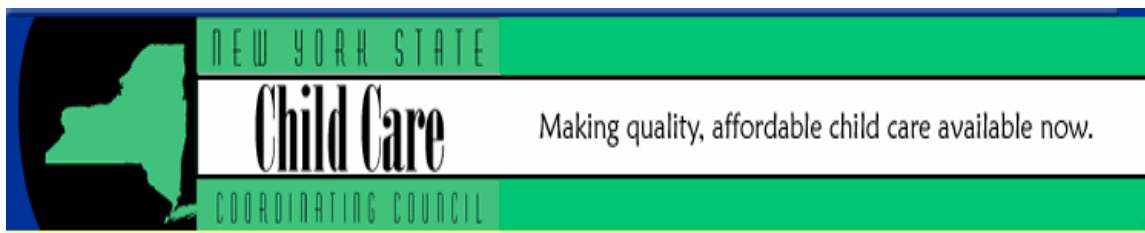
230 Washington Avenue Extension

Albany, NY 12203

Phone: (518) 690-4217

Fax: (518) 690-2887

<http://www.nyscccc.org>



COUNCIL ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

52 Washington Street, Suite 99

Rensselaer, New York 12144

Telephone:(518) 473-3652

Fax:(518) 473-2570

e-mail:council@ccf.state.ny.us

<http://www.ccf.state.ny.us/index.htm>

