



**THE LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIA ON
EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE IN THE HUMAN SERVICES**

Shaping the Next Generation of Evidence in Child Welfare

January 28th, 2008 | 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Attendees were asked to think about the information they heard from the morning session guest presenters. The presentations focused on the importance of practitioners and researchers working together in conducting and translating research findings into practice. The summary below describes things that attendees said they would do differently to increase collaboration.

TABLE TALK SUMMARY

What researchers and practitioners will do differently after today (1/28/08)

1. Develop tools and protocols for improved standardization of data collection
2. Validate that tools/policies currently in place are doing what they were designed to do
3. Establish relationships, interdependence, and liaisons/points of contact in universities and agencies – and then coordinate with the state
 - a. Develop dedicated FTE “Evidence-Based Liaison”
 - i. Make sure researcher is mutually/beneficial
 - ii. Build trust
 - iii. Track local, state, and national research efforts
 1. relate findings to local efforts (ex. SIP)
 2. focus on clinical goals
 3. monitor baseline performances and progress
 4. implementation strategies
 5. share ideas and link with local community based organizations who provide direct service
 - a. CWSW provide clinical case management

4. Include connection for child welfare workers regarding data collection and link results and how they are/can be used
5. Promote exposure/training to county stake holders, link research to practice (at all levels)
6. Evaluate visitation structure and standardization
 - a. Promote best practice re: visitation styles
 - b. Develop standard visitation protocol
7. Consistent training in graduate school extending into agency practice
 - a. Integrate EBP into the curriculum
 - b. Promote research investigation and evaluation
 - c. Give interns a defined list of research project ideas
8. Find out how to use data and research practice
 - a. Culture shift needed to integrate EBP, establish managerial support and university assistance in integration of EBP into core child welfare training
 - b. Establish research and development units in agencies
 - c. Educate staff on EBP
9. Find out how mental health (CIMH) projects impact child welfare outcomes
10. Come up with supervisory skill set training academy
 - a. Ongoing consultation groups
11. Have a researcher be part of the program development including EBP on the front end
 - a. Have clear questions and goals
12. Share multi-year research agenda with partners
13. Establish research advisory group to include county, universities, and RTA
14. Train social workers on policy issues related to EBP
15. Move staff development under the research and evaluation department (training is an integral part of practice shift)