ADDRESSING CHILD LANGUAGE OUTCOMES: BUILDING & MAINTAINING A STATEWIDE INITIATIVE

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Conference

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PRESENTERS

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1. Participants will learn about one state's experience embedding child language outcomes into its EHDI system
- 2. Participants will learn the value of measuring language outcomes to impact each child's early intervention plan
- 3. Participants will appreciate the value of measuring language outcomes to impact a state's EHDI system

THE RATIONALE FOR THE F.A.M.I.L.Y. ASSESSMENT

Withstanding the test of time

1980'S

Colorado's JBC requests objective documentation of child outcomes to justify EI funding

F.A.M.I.L.Y. Assessment

- Family completes (with early interventionist)
- Assessment (rec & ex language, vocabulary, speech, listening, pre-verbal communication, pragmatics)
- Multi-disciplinary
- Interactional
- Learning
- Young child

1990'S

- Video + protocols
- Trial with providers
 - Collect data (no need to score)
 - Train providers to apply results
- 9 months' growth in 9 months' time
- Funding from CSDB, grants, University of Colorado (SLHS)

2000'S

- Determining eligibility for unilateral hearing differences
- Efficacy of early identification/early intervention
 - Yoshinaga-Itano, Sedey, Coulter, & Mehl (1998)
 - Moeller (2000)
 - Vohr, Jodoin-Krauzyk, Tucker, et al. (2011)
 - Meinzen-Derr, Wiley, & Choo (2011)
 - Yoshinaga-Itano, Sedey, Wiggin, & Chung (2017)
- Replication is cumbersome and costly

2010'S - 2020'S

 National Early Childhood Assessment Project (NECAP)

 Outcomes and Developmental Data Assistance Center for EHDI Programs (ODDACE)

2024

- HRSA's NOFO (2024-2029) investigates child language outcomes
- CO EHDI proposes to investigate child language outcomes for specific groups defined by, for example: geographic location, maternal age, race/ethnicity, child's age of identification, child's age at entry into early intervention, and/or hearing acuity levels
- Training of EI providers will reflect identified health disparities & generate opportunities for system improvement

COLLABORATING WITH FAMILIES: COMPLETING AND UTILIZING ASSESSMENT

- Help to fill in the forms
- Learn about age-appropriate developmental levels
- Learn how to observe and evaluate developmental levels
- Learn how to understand assessment results
- Learn how to use these results to create goals and next steps
- Use knowledge and language from assessments to advocate for appropriate educational placements

CREATING A STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

DOCUMENTING LANGUAGE OUTCOMES STATE-WIDE

- Longstanding, multi-agency commitment to collecting and documenting language outcomes statewide
- Collaboration, collegiality, and financial or in-kind support
 - Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind (CSDB)
 - Colorado EHDI (CO-EHDI)
 - University of Colorado-Boulder (CU-Boulder)
 - Colorado Department of Early Childhood (Part C)

COLORADO COLLABORATIVE FRAMEWORK

Part C Early Interventionists and CSDB Coordinators facilitate assessment with families

CSDB contracts with CU-Boulder to manage assessment and outcomes database

CSDB funds B to 3
Assessment & Accountability
Coordinator

CU-Boulder scores assessments and maintains detailed database

CSDB and CU-Boulder share intervention and outcome data with the EHDI-IS

CO-EHDI supports analysis of language outcomes and health disparities

BENEFITS OF DOCUMENTING LANGUAGE OUTCOMES PROGRAM-WIDE

- Benefits to the Early Intervention program include:
 - Systematic program-wide accountability and evaluation
 - Identifies program strengths and challenges (informing professional personnel preparation needs)
 - Allows programs to examine outcomes across different subgroups of children (determine who is at most risk for language delay)
 - Supplies data to strengthen grant applications

BENEFITS OF DOCUMENTING LANGUAGE OUTCOMES STATE-WIDE

- Benefits to the Colorado EHDI program:
 - Responsive to current HRSA supplement and upcoming HRSA 5year grant
 - Completes the circle
 - Screening → detection → intervention → outcomes
 - Can examine association of various EHDI benchmarks to child outcomes
 - Identifies health disparities
 - what sub-groups are at most risk for language delays
 - where should we direct additional attention

Sample Database Fields: Language Outcomes

