

Learning Conversation Notes																												
Name of Partner: WarmLine Family Resource Center - Placer County	Date: August 30, 2006																											
Number of Children Served: 377	Ages: 0 yr (28), 1 yr (33), 2 yr (97), 3 yr (90), 4 yr (35), 5 yr (32)																											
When Served: December 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006	<p>Gender:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Intake 186-Male</td> <td style="width: 33%;">ROI'</td> <td style="width: 33%;">24 Male</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Intake 114-Female</td> <td>ROI'</td> <td>18 Female</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inake 10 Unkn</td> <td>ROI'</td> <td>53 Unkn</td> </tr> </table> <p>Ethnicity</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Intake</th> <th style="text-align: right;">ROI</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>225 – Caucasian</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>22 – Hispanic</td> <td style="text-align: right;">14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0 - African Amer</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5– Asian</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 – Pacific Islander</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26 – Multiracial</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 – Other</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10 Unknown</td> <td style="text-align: right;">67</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Intake 186-Male	ROI'	24 Male	Intake 114-Female	ROI'	18 Female	Inake 10 Unkn	ROI'	53 Unkn	Intake	ROI	225 – Caucasian		22 – Hispanic	14	0 - African Amer	1	5– Asian	0	1 – Pacific Islander	1	26 – Multiracial	2	3 – Other	0	10 Unknown	67
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Conversation Participants: Don Ferretti, Nancy Baggett, Janice Critchlow, Judy Marston, Al Millan, Alison Burt, Anne-Marie Arrow, Jessi Graustein																												
<p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents in Placer County will access and use information, community resources, referral to services and supports, and networking opportunities at a facility in Placer County. • Parents will have a greater understanding of the special education process (including the Individual Family Service Plan and Individual Education Program) so that they can advocate for their child's appropriate educational placement and support. • Parents will receive support and assistance from other parents of children with special needs. Through this support, parents will feel more confident in their experience of raising a child with special needs. • A Fund Development Plan for financial sustainability of staff salaries of the Warm Line Family Resource Center – Placer County will exist and be implemented in 2006-07 (i.e., community support campaign and other grants). 																												

Performance Measures:

- Demographics (number of children served broken down by age, gender, ethnicity, geography, reported diagnosis, and when services were provided) utilizing the First 5 Placer Demographics Tool.
- Number of children served who are also enrolled in Early Start.
- Survey results of (1) parent understanding of the Individual Family Service Plan and Individual Education Program process and (2) the parents comfort level in being able to advocate on behalf of their child.
- Record of parent activities including number of parents who have attended parent events, pictures, and stories shared by parents of their experience at the FRC.
- Funds raised directed towards staff salaries at the Placer County location in 2006-07.

What is this data telling us about achievement of outcomes?Demographics

Phone calls over the last 6 months have increased from approximately 13 to 20 per week, calls are averaging 45 minutes.

There has been an increase in the number of direct referrals from Alta Regional Center and the Infant Program.

Last time it was 4 to 1 ratio male to female but this time it's a 2 to 1 ratio. Believe that having other children with non-autistic diagnoses coming into the program has changed the ratio of male to female children. Another contributing factor to a change in this ratio has been the ongoing development of relationships with pre-school programs serving children with a variety of special needs.

Release Of Information (ROI) forms are only for children 0-3. Autism is usually recognized around 2-3 years of age, which is reflected in the larger numbers of children in those age groups. In addition the larger numbers are representative of children transitioning from Early Start to preschool.

The demographics of the children served through this program seem to reflect the demographics of the county.

The largest region served is South Placer at 266 and Western Placer is next largest with 49. Have met with a special needs parent group in Western Placer and have been supporting them with resources.

The majority of children, 118, in this period have been diagnosed with autism, with speech delay being the next largest diagnosis at 37.

Early Start assesses, diagnoses and provides services for children 0-3 with special needs and 135 children in the Warmline demographics are also in Early Start.

Record of Parent Activity (a copy of the data report is attached to this report)

The report shows that over 100 parents have attended Warmline events during the last 7 months. Parents express that they want to have more social activities for their children, but Warmline social events, such as Play Day at the Park, for children have not been well attended. Discussing a way to address the attendance issue perhaps by doing a parent survey. Warmline staff are moving the event locations around in Placer County to attract more families in different communities.

By training the community professionals Warmline has built trust and have increased referrals and parent participation at these events.

IEP Trainings (a copy of the survey results are attached to this report)

At the IEP training no one scored over an 80 in their knowledge of the process and the majority scored between 0 and 10. This shows that the individuals taking the training are the right audience. Of the 46 who went to training all of them increased their knowledge by one level, the majority of the individuals seeking the training increased 3 levels of their knowledge of the IEP process. Fifteen individuals moved up 5 or more levels and two families actually moved up 11 levels. After the IEP training more parents ranked themselves 5 to 7 in overall confidence to advocate and participate. The parent survey indicated that parents felt they had learned more about assessments, rights, and behavior, among other themes. Parents indicated they would advocate, research and request assessments as some of the things they'll do after the training.

Placer County Autism Statistics

In the last learning conversation it was requested that more data be collected about autism in Placer County. The requested data was collected through interviews and national, state and county statistics. The websites for the statistics are in the attached report. The data reported is based on December 2005 enrollment and is not medical diagnostic rates. Placer County ranks 14th out of 58 counties with children meeting the criteria for "autistic-like" behaviors.

Fund Development (report attached to these notes)

Warmline has a plan and a goal to achieve financial sustainability. They are working towards achieving the sustainability goal.

In what ways will we apply what we have learned from our data?

Need to continue to get the message out that early diagnosis is important to helping children and families deal with special needs.

There are ethnic groups that are underrepresented in the Warmline demographics - this indicates a need to do more outreach to the schools and the community.

Have met with Early Head Start and Head Start in Tahoe. Materials in both English and Spanish were given to them. Warmline will follow up with Head Start to maintain the relationship.

Will be using data from national, state and county databases showing children 0-5 with special needs when developing outreach programs. This data is useful and could be used for outreach application and to reach families in other communities.

Currently the Warmline office is in the right location but there needs to be outreach in Auburn and in Colfax. Could work with Meadow Vista to draw families from both Auburn and Colfax. Identify which disabilities should be targeted in the Tahoe region when developing an outreach program.

Other points that were made during the conversation:

Cultural differences need to be taken in to consideration when doing outreach.

Next Steps:

At the next learning conversation report on progress in the Tahoe Area.

It will be decided at a later date if a learning conversation will be scheduled for February 2007. Continue to collect data as if preparing for the learning conversation.