Learning Conversation Notes	
Name of Partner: Superior Court High Conflict Families (STEP)	**Date:** July 8, 2009
Conversation Participants: Janice LeRoux, Nancy Baggett, Cathy Ferron, Janice Critchlow, Judy Marston, Amy Rudd, Christine Taylor-Brown, Deborah Slaven, Christine Trejo, Contessa Brown	
Outcome: • Separating parents of children prenatal through 5 participating in STEP will demonstrate cooperative co-parenting skills and provide a nurturing and child-focused environment that is in the best interests of their children's healthy development.	
Performance Measures: • Demographics according to the categories mandated in the First 5 Placer Demographic Tool. In addition the following will be required; number of children served directly, the number of children served indirectly and the number of parents/caregivers served. • Pre/post survey filled out by each parent to measure changes in co-parenting skills and child's environment. • Pre/post survey completed by Parenting Specialist to measure change in co-parenting skills and child's environment. • Placer Early Childhood Outcome Screen at intake, and thereafter at periodic intervals. • Post Graduation Assessment at 4 months.	
Number of Children Served:	63
When served:	12/1/08 – 6/30/09
Gender:	
- Male	40
- Female	23
- Unknown	
Ages:	
- Prenatal	
- < 1 year	
- 1 year	5
- 2 years	17
- 3 years	10
- 4 years	12
- 5 years	13
- Unknown	
Ethnicity:	
- Alaskan Native/ American Indian	
- Asian	
- Black/African American	1
- Hispanic/Latino	2
- Pacific Islander	
- White	44
- Multiracial	16
- Other	

What is this data telling us about achievement of outcomes?

Demographics

Children

- Of the total number of children during this reporting period, 2/3 were male and 1/3 were female.
- Twenty-seven percent of the children were 2 years of age.
- The majority of the children were 2-4 years of age.
- Cultural and ethnic differences can add to the conflict between parents.
- Program staff were able to identify three children with special needs and obtain services to assist them.
- The largest number of families came from the South Placer area.

Parents

- There were 98 parents in the program during this reporting period.
- The majority of the parents are in the 20-24 age range.
- The program is seeing more referrals and people who are more desperate due to the current economic situation.

Pre, Post and 4 Month Follow-up Surveys

- Twenty-two parents completed the surveys, representing 14 children.
- The majority of the parents rated themselves as a 4 at the four month follow-up survey.
- The survey results indicate that most parents are sustaining their co-parenting skills at the four month point.
- Reasons for scoring low on the survey could be because of refusing services or being unstable.
- Most of the parents were able to sustain cooperative co-parenting at the 4 month level.
- Improvement was made in all categories from the pre to the post surveys.
- For two of the couples who couldn't be reached, those parents were struggling and not accepting offered services or were non-compliant at exit.
- The co-parenting and communication questions are the ones that are hardest for the parents at the 4 month level.

Maintenance, Post and 4 Month Follow-up

- There were twelve parents, representing 6 children, completing the survey.
- MIC was a good referral source for fathers.
- In some cases, parents who are in the program for a longer period of time tend to have more severe issues in addition to co-parenting and experience less movement in improving their scores.
- The structure set in place for cooperative co-parenting appears to be maintained independently by the majority of the parents over the 4 month follow-up period.
- The couples that received the maintenance post survey, with the exception of one couple, are doing well.

Pre/Post Survey

- Overall there is a lot of growth across the pre and post scores.
- Parents are indicating they have adequate time with their children.
- Initially parents don't seem to realize the impact the co-parenting conflict has on their children.

- Out of the 22 couples the majority are successfully co-parenting.

<u>Placer Early Childhood Outcome Screen</u>

27 Children who have exited

- Overall the scores show strong improvement on all 20 indicators.
- Indicator 2 SAFE: overall children are exiting safer than they entered.
- Indicator 4 SAFE: overall there has been improvement.
- Indicator 7 HEALTHY: of the 27 children 20 were rated either 4 or 5.
- Indicator 10 HEALTHY: this indicator shows the biggest improvement.
- Indicator 11 AT HOME: overall 85% improved or stayed the same.
- Indicator 18 PARENT/CAREGIVER: With the exception of one child, overall the children experienced a more positive relationship with the parents.

12 Children continuing in the program

- There is improvement overall for this group but the scores are not as high as the group that exited.
- Indicator 2 SAFE: overall there is progress towards being safe but the majority of the couples need assistance.
- Indicator 4 SAFE: still need assistance.
- Indicator 7 HEALTHY: 100% improvement.
- Indicator 10 HEALTHY: overall definite improvement but with more work to do.
- Indicator 11 AT HOME: no one came in at a 4 or 5 and post showed 76% improved.
- Indicator 18 PARENT/CAREGIVER: 85% improved, overall shift with a significant number having a more positive relationship with the child.

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

- Consider referring parents who have children with special needs to the Warmline for additional and specialized support.
- Continue collecting the post 4 month data and stress to parents the importance of keeping their contact information updated. (Perhaps collect the grandparents contact information.)

Next Steps:

- For the 2009-10 scope of work the scope of work will be amended to include information for services that families are referred to in lieu of the Early Childhood Outcome Screen.
- Next Learning Conversation: Wednesday, December 16, 2009, 1:30-4:00 PM