



CHILD WELFARE PARTNERSHIP FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING (CW-PART)

Highlights for CalSWEC Board
February, 2014



Where we are with the partnerships with the county and the student teams:

Strong working relationships with both Santa Cruz and Santa Clara County continue.

In addition to collaborative work to refine and finalize research plans, notable developments in our partnership activities include an increasing consulting role with our county partners. The issue briefs submitted with the recent report reflect an important development in the role of the university research team members with county partners. We are developing a dual role as both researchers and consultants with our county partners. We have essentially adopted an “embedded” model where members of our research team are part of key planning teams. For example, Dr. Cohen is part of a data sub-committee of the Cross-Agency Systems Team grappling with models for effective use of data across systems, Dr. Drabble is part of a data/research committee of the Dependency Wellness Court (with DFCS, court, Dependency Advocacy Center, and other reps) helping to design a meaningful and sustainable evaluation model for both DWC and the Mentor Parent Program, and Dr. Lemon is part of a differential response committee helping to define, implement, and report findings to guide the work of the committee.

Student teams have been finalized, trained, and launched. .

- ◆ Student teams have been finalized for the current year. The teams include all but 1 (by choice) IV-E students, as well as non-IV-E students. The 2013/2014 research teams are staffed by five SJSU faculty, 17 IV-E students, one DFCS work-study student, and 11 non-IV-E students.
- ◆ Student teams were finalized and have received training through 1) special IV-E seminar about use of CWS/CMS and performance indicators to inform policy and practice; 2) orientation to the partnered research model through narrated PowerPoint modules created for the CW-PART students, 3) planning and working sessions with faculty lead teams, and 4) participation in special research seminars including other students involved in partnered projects.

Dissemination activities continue. We continue to disseminate research project findings reported through (9) Research Briefs. As mentioned in a prior report, evaluation findings for the Mentor Parent Project (MPP) were shared with the SCC Board of supervisors; resulting in extended and augmented funding for the project. Preliminary findings from the current MPP evaluation are slated for presentation to the Board of Supervisors in February, 2014.

Where we are with the research projects:

Each of the core projects are on track in Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties.

- ◆ Plans for each of the projects have been finalized in collaboration with county partners.
- ◆ We have one project (with multiple components) with Santa Cruz County. We also have three “core” projects with Santa Clara County Underway and four additional supplemental projects. It is worth noting that the supplemental projects also have multiple components, and will be reported separately as appropriate upon completion of projects in May. (Description of projects provided separately)
- ◆ IRB protocols have been submitted and accepted for projects, which are slated for completion by May, 2014.