

The University of Maine

DigitalCommons@UMaine

Student and Trainee Scholarship

Center for Community Inclusion and Disability
Studies

4-2021

Child Development Services - Partnering for Improvement through Survey Data Collection

Gabrielle Jackson
University of Maine

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/ccids_studentpub



Part of the [Early Childhood Education Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Jackson, Gabrielle, "Child Development Services - Partnering for Improvement through Survey Data Collection" (2021). *Student and Trainee Scholarship*. 7.

https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/ccids_studentpub/7

This Poster is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Student and Trainee Scholarship by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.



Recommendations

The Child Development Services Part C system is an Intermediate Educational Unit that provides both Early Intervention (birth through three years) under the supervision of the Maine Department of Education. The CDS system ensures the provision of special education rules, federal and state regulations statewide, through a network of regional sites. Regional CDS sites provide case management and direct instruction for families with children from birth through age five. Each of the 9 regional sites in Maine conduct Child Find, which is the process of identifying children with disabilities. Screenings and evaluations are provided in order to identify children who are eligible for services. Regional CDS sites arrange for local services that include early intervention and special education and related services for eligible child from birth to age five and their families.



The Story

This leadership placement began as a discussion about CDS Part C's current needs and where they wished to see improvement. A common theme in conversation was their current fidelity check database. Fidelity checks are performed on providers to assess the fidelity they are implementing the Routines Based Intervention System (created by Robin McWilliams) in their work with families and children. The Early Intervention Program Manager (EIPM) and Part C Director both outlined the Fidelity check Database as a system that needed improvement and was being under utilized due to it's reported system flaws and clear desired areas for improvement. I began to explore the database and created survey questions to survey the EIPM team to explore opinions of the database, how the database is used, fidelity check timelines, recommended areas for improvement, and what about the system is working. After the survey data was collected I presented common themes and recommendations to the EIPM team. A written report for the data was created as well as recommendations from the EIPM team, myself, LEND faculty, and from other states Part C systems.

Reference

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/learning/cds>

NH-ME LEND is supported by a grant (#T73MC33246) from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and administered by the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD).
Learn more at iod.unh.edu/nh-me-lead

Survey Questions

What components should be included In the training portion of the database?
What should be included in the fidelity check portion of the database?

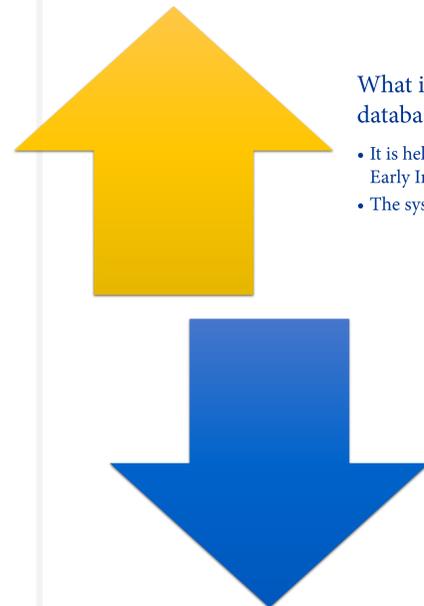
How often are you completing fidelity checks for each person you supervise?

What is the barrier to completing fidelity checks more often?

How is the data collected from the fidelity checks meaningful? How are you utilizing the data that is currently available to you in this system? How is the data collected from the fidelity checks being used by site directors?

What is working with the current fidelity database? What is not working with the current fidelity database?

If you could recommend improvements to the data system what would they be?



What is working with the current fidelity check database?

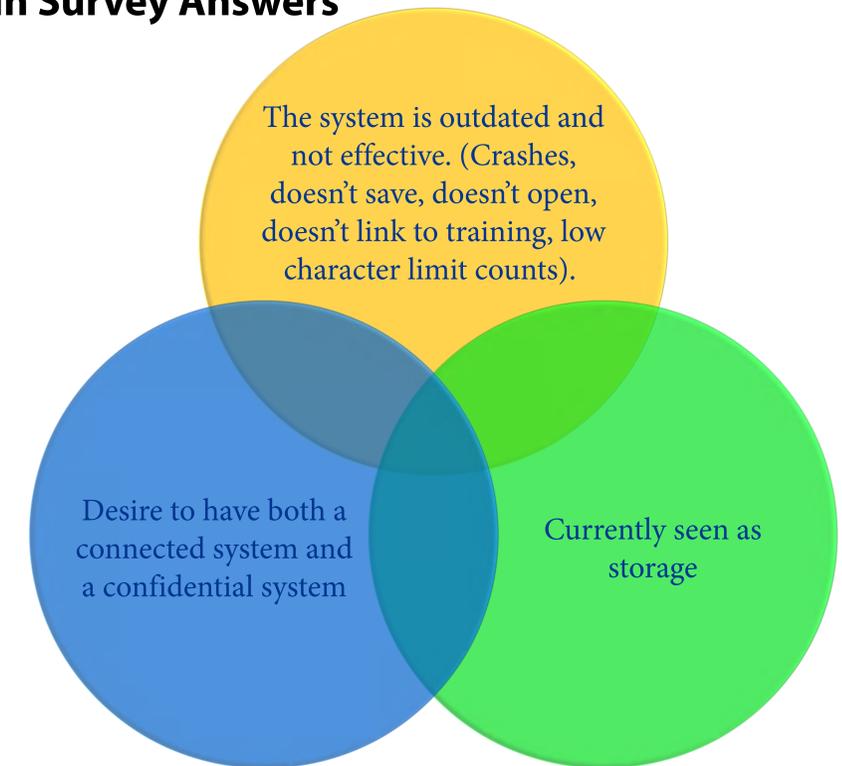
- It is helpful to have one place to put information related to the Early Intervention system.
- The system allows for easy reporting to the federal government.

What is not working with the current fidelity check database?

- Lack of advanced functions-Ex. Ability to calculate number of providers meeting fidelity for March 2021
- Lack of technical support
- Had to do data digs to find trainings, as they couldn't be included in the system
- Disparity in interaction and use by Site Directors, use of data on a state level, and use of data beyond federal reporting requirements.

Conclusions

Common Themes Found in Survey Answers



Recommendations

- Work with IT department, or appropriate IT support to create **simple, user-friendly, useful** tracking system.
- Develop a system that can support:
 - Identifying overall patterns of components that are going well and things that are challenging, whether for an individual, the site, or the state.
 - Searching by basic info in such as name, site, score and then possibly select common missed areas or needs (that could be sortable)to see if they get addressed or improve after training.
- Analyze if the data collected is helpful, are there additions, subtractions (excluding what is required federally).
- Research and consider building tech tools where you can complete the fidelity check within the database itself.