

Spotlight on Arizona's Kids: A Closer Look at the Child Welfare System

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Introductions

- Introduce yourself:
 - Name
 - Organization



Ted Talk from Dr. Nadine Burke Harris about effects of adverse childhood experiences and toxic stress

<https://youtu.be/95ovlJ3dsNk?t=4m24s>



The Project



Arizona's child welfare system has been overwhelmed by cases of abuse and neglect.

Despite the creation of a new agency and progress it has realized, challenges remain.

The Arizona Community Foundation has responded. ACF asked Morrison Institute to determine how to best use its expertise to improve child and family outcomes in Arizona.



Goals

Provide information on the types of neglect occurring in the state

*Leadership
Advisory
Forums*

Provide visual representation of gap analysis by mapping resources

Help the State of Arizona develop a common understanding of prevention

Serve as a provider of data and discussion facilitator to inform programmatic, policy, or legislative options for change



The Approach

Morrison believes the most effective approach is one of collaboration and partnership between ACF, Morrison Institute for Public Policy, the Department of Child Safety, and the community

Several meetings held with DCS director and other officials where we asked what topics are not being researched, where we can have the most positive impact

DCS and the community responded requesting more information about types of neglect



Barriers to progress

Lack of information on types of neglect occurring in Arizona

Common shared definition and understanding of prevention

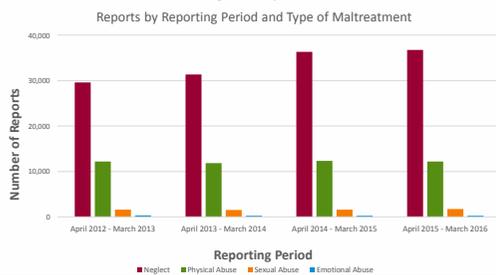
Gap analysis of what we have and what we need

Lack of clarity around who owns prevention responsibilities and roles



Neglect in Arizona

In Arizona, on average about 70.4% of all reports from April 2012 to March 2016 were neglect reports



Identifying Neglect Categories

Literature review to identify neglect terms and definitions used

Identified shared attributes among definitions

Solicited input from DCS, expert qualitative researcher, and child experts



Methodology of neglect analysis

All reports from calendar years 2013-2015

Two strata:

- Reports involving a removal within 30 days of the hotline call
- Reports never involving a removal

400 randomly selected cases in each strata allow for 95% confidence level with a confidence interval of 5

- Reports with no removal 77,817
- Reports with a removal within 30 days of hotline call 8,213



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Methodology continued

Each report has been redacted to protect sensitive information such as names and ethnicity

Coders review the hotline report and code what type of neglect is present

Coders review report narrative including Safety and Risk Assessments (CSRAs), assessment of present danger, assessment of risk factors, assessment of impending danger, and clinical supervision decision

In cases where coders are not able to identify what is taking place, we have consulted with DCS for their opinion

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What will the neglect analysis yield?

Aggregated data on prevalence of types of neglect from hotline calls of:

- Reports involving a removal within 30 days
- Reports never involving a removal

Aggregated data on prevalence of types of neglect from report narratives:

- Reports involving a removal within 30 days
- Reports never involving a removal

Aggregated data on prevalence of types of neglect by geography (not by zip code but potentially primary care area)

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'Drift into Failure'

Child neglect is generally not a one-time occurrence and tends to develop over time

Individual events by themselves may not raise concerns, primary and secondary prevention activities are necessary to ensure that individual events don't rise to the level of child safety intervention

Many Arizona state agencies provide prevention programs, but more can be done by the community to improve prevention efforts in the state



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Resource mapping

Gap Analysis

- Mapping and categorizing as many human resource providers as possible in the state of Arizona can allow for identification of gaps in services
 - Can inform grant makers
 - Can inform service providers
 - Can inform individuals about services accessible to them in their community

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Methodology of resource mapping

Data sources include:

- Arizona Council of Human Service Providers member list
- Maricopa Association of Governments list of human service providers NAICS codes
- First Things First list of providers
- Manually pulled data from 211

Categorizing service providers according to literature review and review of similar analysis conducted in Wisconsin

Geocoding service providers to place on map and overlay with other demographic data including neglect analysis results and census data

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Our Vision

Ensure that all Arizona children are safe at home



Success is providing stronger protection for Arizona's children against maltreatment with fewer children in out-of-home placement.



Thank
You