

Family to Family Outcomes

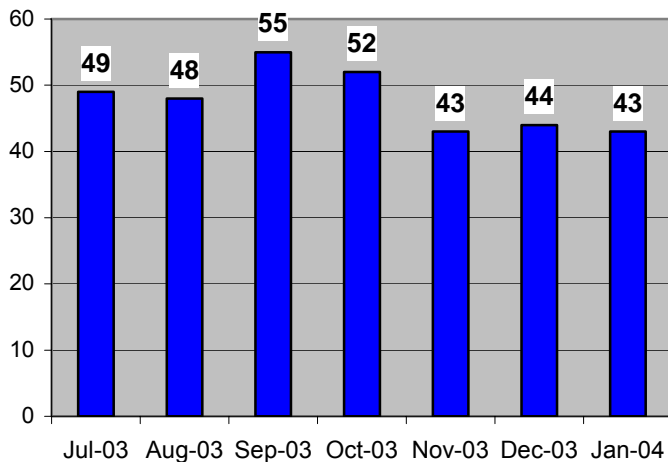
Guilford County Department of Social Services

April 2004

Team Decision-Making Meetings: Data Update

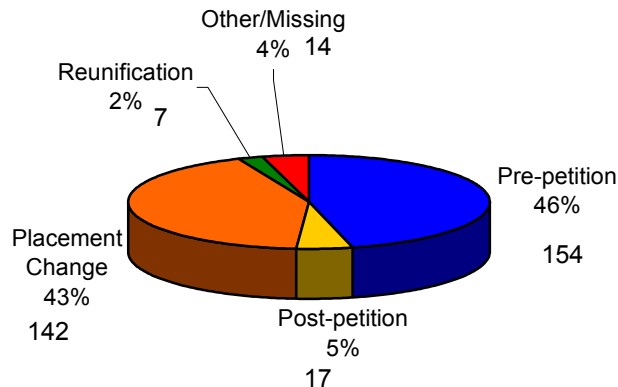
The TDM meeting is the most common interface for child welfare staff members with Family to Family. The implementation of TDMs has affected every aspect of child welfare and has gone beyond the agency walls to involve birth parents, relatives, community members, other service providers, and foster parents. Given the importance of TDMs, this outcomes update is devoted to the latest TDM data.

TDMs per Month*



*Excludes Child & Family Team Meetings

TDM Type Jul 2003 to Jan 2004



Who Participated In TDMs

7794 people (average of 7 people per meeting) attended TDMs (7/02 to 1/04).

Birth parents attended 81% of pre-petition TDMs and 33% of placement change TDMs.

Relatives attended 45% of pre-petition TDMs and 16% of placement change TDMs.

Children attended 15% of pre-petition TDMs and 26% of placement change TDMs.

Foster parents attended 43% of placement change TDMs.

Very few community and faith community members attended TDMs. ■

TDM Outcomes

Children Placed: 39%

Of the 688 children who had pre-petition TDMs, 271 or 39% came into placement (7/02 to 1/04).

Most children (83%) who entered care did so after their first TDM.

Children Moved: 62%

Of 360 placement change TDMs involving 329 children, 62% recommended a move in placement. However, 26% were moves to less restrictive placements (7/02 to 1/04).

37% of children experienced multiple placement change TDMs. ■

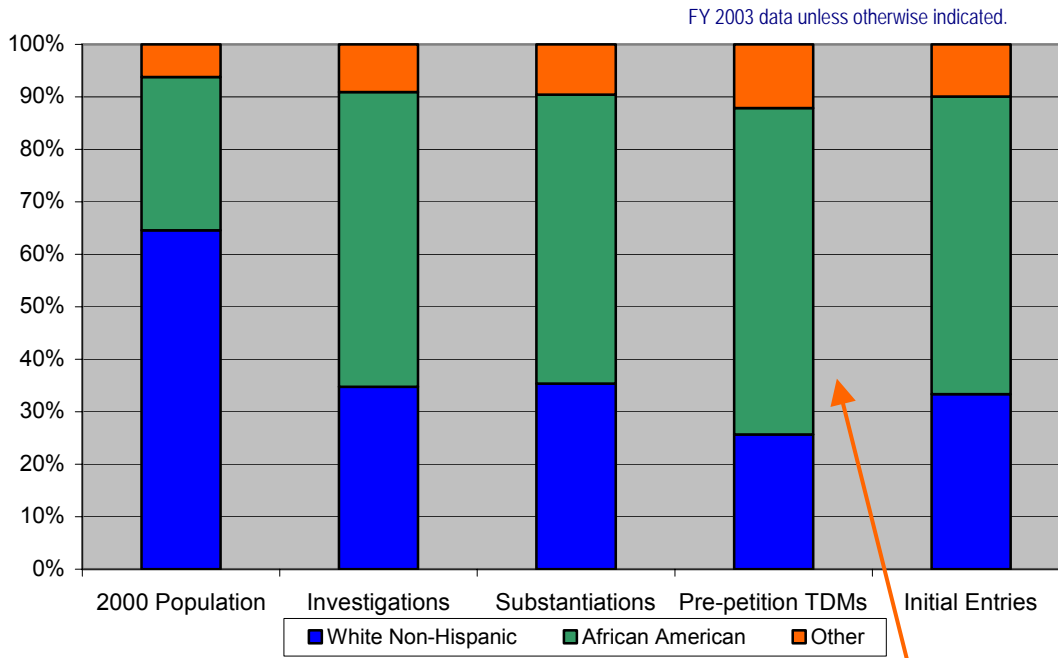
F2F Outcomes Report presented by: Self-Evaluation Team (SET)

Susan Brady (co-chair)
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Robert McEntire
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■

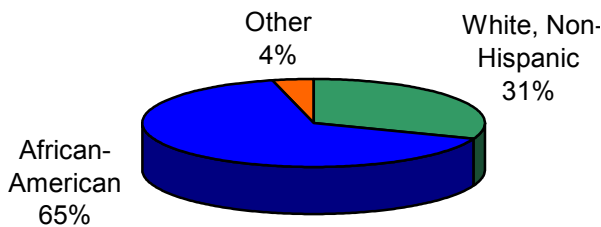
IN-DEPTH: Race and Team Decision-Making Meetings



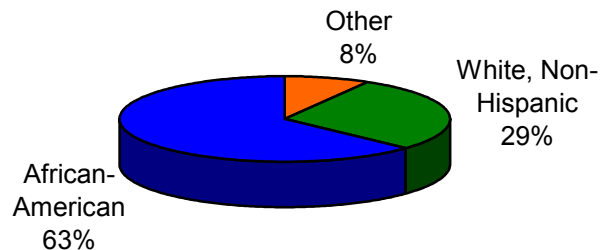
The rate at which African-American children were reported and accepted for investigation in FY 2003 was nearly double the rate at which they were present in the general county population (see chart above). However, the rate at which African-American children entered foster care was similar to the rate that they were investigated and substantiated. This data suggests that African-American children may not have a greater likelihood of placement into foster care despite the relatively high rate of reports concerning African-American children.

The addition of pre-petition TDM race data allows us to analyze whether any race group is at an increased (or decreased) risk for foster care placement and the possibility that the TDM process may lower or increase that risk. The rate at which African-American children experienced pre-petition TDMs was higher than the rate at which they entered foster care and the opposite was true for White children, suggesting a possible effect of TDMs. However, many factors influence placement risk and more data is needed before any conclusions can be drawn. ■

Foster Care Caseload (Jul 02 to Jan 04)



Race of Children Who Had Placement Change TDMs (Jul 02 to Jan 04)



The placement change TDM data allows us to see whether any race group is at an increased risk for a change in foster care placement. If increased risk were present, then we would expect to see a higher percentage of a race group having placement change TDMs than they are present in the general foster care population.

The racial percentages between placement change TDMs and the overall foster care population are similar for African-American and White children and slightly different for Other race children. However, Other race children made up a small percentage of the overall caseload and there is some disagreement in racial coding for this group. ■