ANNOUNCING A NEW FIDELITY MEASURE!

The Wraparound Evaluation and Research Team (WERT) at the University of Washington is excited to announce that we have completed the first version of a brief, self-administered version of the Wraparound Fidelity Index called the **Wraparound Fidelity Index Short Form**, or the **WFI-EZ**.

The WFI-EZ is a measure of fidelity to wraparound principles that is less burdensome than the full WFI interview protocol. The forms consist of four sections: Basic information, experiences with wraparound, satisfaction with services, and perception of outcomes. These items can be completed by the respondents themselves at their own convenience, either on paper or online. We have created caregiver, facilitator, and youth forms in both English and Spanish.

PILOT PROCESS & RESULTS

Last year, a pilot version of the WFI-EZ was developed. First, the research team used a multi-round process of input from experts to develop an item pool of indicators of model-adherent wraparound. Based on the results, we developed a pilot version of WFI-EZ and tested it in several sites across the country. Results were promising. Caregivers who used the measure overwhelmingly rated it as relevant to their services and easy to complete. Data analysis showed the WFI-EZ had strong internal consistency (Cronbach’s Alpha = .937), and results of exploratory factor analysis (EFA) showed that most items had large salient loadings on the first factor exceeding .50. These two pieces of information provide evidence that the items are well-related to one another and that the measure is unidimensional. Additionally, total WFI-EZ scores and many item scores differentiated between wraparound sites implementing the full model vs. partial implementation sites (p<.01). WFI-EZ scores were also associated with satisfaction and outcome items included in the pilot survey.

Analysis of results for individual items (variance, association with outcomes, alpha if deleted) and the EFA led us to reduce the number of core fidelity items to 25. We also used these results to assign each item to one of 5 fidelity domains that are based on the theory of change for wraparound: Effective strategies, Effective teamwork, Family- and strengths-driven, Needs-based, and Natural and community supports. Internal consistency for each of these 5-item scales was found to be adequate; however, continued testing is needed to confirm the reliability, predictive validity, and usefulness of this subscale structure.

WHAT’S NEXT?

We are excited to begin disseminating the WFI-EZ and work with agencies to use the measure to evaluate and improve services. The measure is currently being integrated into an online data and reporting system called **WrapTrack**, which will replace our previous WONDERS system. WrapTrack will allow for easy online administration, data feedback and reporting of WFI-EZ information. Until then, WFI-EZ data can be collected via online survey software called Qualtrics.

As sites begin to use the measure, WERT will have the opportunity to further examine its validity and its relationship to other fidelity measures and important outcomes. If you would like more information about the WFI-EZ or are interested in using the measure, please contact WERT at wrapeval@uw.edu.