



Online Newsletter for Supporting Evidence-Based Home Visiting to Prevent Child Maltreatment Grantees  
Prepared by the FRIENDS NRCCBCAP



## In the Spotlight:

### Lessons Learned: Adaptation and Evaluation of EBHV for Latino Communities

by Arthur Owora, Lana Beasley, Sabrina Pitts, & Jane Silovsky

Prior to the EBHV grant, our Oklahoma SafeCare (SC) program did not have the capacity to serve primarily Spanish-speaking Latino families. We targeted this in our grant application to enhance our ability to meet the needs of our growing Latino communities. The National SafeCare Training and Research Center had conducted translations of the parent handouts. We also wanted to ensure the services were culturally congruent for Oklahoma's Latino population. Our adaptation of SC integrated traditional healing and parenting practices and use of proverbs and storytelling, and addressed (a) extended family members (b) immigration, racism, and discrimination, (c) spirituality and religion, and (d) diversity within the Latino communities. For our evaluation, we are currently examining the feasibility of the adapted model, and will be conducting an outcome evaluation that includes collecting child and family data via a computerized interview. During the process of adapting SC, hiring and training providers, and creating our data collection tool, we



Isabel Chamberlin (Home Visitor), Ivelisse Cruz (SafeCare Supervisor/Home visitor), Patty DeMoraes-Huffine (Project Supervisor), Florencia Briglie (Home visitor) & Carmen Morales (Data collector), Arthur Owora (Project Research coordinator), Carrie Schwab (Project Administrative assistant), and Jane Silovsky (Project Director) *continued on page 2*

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### Upcoming Events

September  
9/15 3pm ET-EBHV Peer Learning Community Webinar-Program Updates and Using Partner Survey Findings

October  
10/31 Semi-annual progress reports due

### FPO Corner: A Federal Update

Dear Grantees,

Thank you all for your participation in the *Early Childhood 2010- Innovation for the Next Generation* meeting and the EBHV grantees meeting, which were both held last month in Washington DC. It is always great to meet with everyone. We appreciated all the thoughtful issues and questions raised, which we are using to guide our planning for the coming year.

The *Early Childhood 2010* meeting brought together State and local partners from a range of early childhood programs. It was very exciting to hear remarks from Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and Secretary Arne Duncan as they discussed the partnerships that are being made at the Federal level in regard to early childhood. Also, *continued on page 2*

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## In the Spotlight: EBHV for Latino Communities

have learned many lessons we thought may be helpful to share.

One lesson was that language is diverse. Immigrants from Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean Islands reside in Oklahoma. Translating parent material and measures that are readily understood by such a diverse population posed many challenges. Our provider agency team's knowledge of and experience with the local Latino communities' was invaluable as we adapted our parent materials and measures. Officially translated measures were inconsistent in regards to formality, which can be jarring when integrated into one interview package. Data collectors had to be trained to prepare the parent for these differences. Furthermore, due to the relatively high illiteracy rates in the community and the limitations of the text-to-speech computer programs, questionnaire items had to be recorded for the computer interview. Parent handouts had to be revised to simpler language with more pictures.

Another lesson pertained to provider training. Although all providers were bilingual, they differed in whether English or Spanish was their primary/first language. Training in both English and Spanish was important to accommodate the need to process and practice the material in different languages. Consideration of "machismo" (traditional roles and acceptable behavior for men) in the local community may impact decisions to hire male home visitors, particularly for programs targeting domestic violence. In addition, collaboration among

evaluation and agency staff can aid reflective decision making with respect to who collects what type of data (independent data collectors versus home visitors) depending on the content and tact needed during the data collection process.

Although there are many lessons learned through the feasibility study phase of the project, the process has underscored the importance of taking time to create a culturally sensitive and congruent approach to service provision and evaluation. The extent to which such accommodations may make a

difference to outcomes remains to be investigated. However, we have had positive responses to project adaptations by the Latino study participants and staff, with reduced implicit cost and burden of data collection. As we transition to full project implementation and evaluation, we look forward to continuing to learn lessons as part of this ongoing process.

For more information on the Oklahoma SafeCare grant program, please visit the EBHV website at [www.supportingebhv.org](http://www.supportingebhv.org).

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### FPO Corner: A Federal Update

Jack Shonkoff gave a wonderful plenary presentation on "The Scientific Foundations of Health and Learning and the Future of Early Childhood Policy", which underscored the importance of the earliest years, focusing on preventing child maltreatment and other adversities, and the scientific foundation for emphasizing prevention and early intervention to promote optimal health and development. You can view the opening and closing presentations at the *Early Childhood 2010* conference website at ([www.earlychildhood2010.org](http://www.earlychildhood2010.org)) located under the "Agenda and Sessions" tab.

The EBHV grantee meeting included a variety of sessions and speakers and provided an opportunity to meet grantees from other grant clusters that are doing similar work in the prevention of child abuse and neglect. These other programs included the

*Preventing Abuse and Neglect through Nurse Home Visitation (NHV)* grantees, and the *Rigorous Evaluations of Existing Child Abuse Prevention Programs (RECAPP)* grantees. MaryJo Caruso, from the FRIENDS National Resource Center, recorded the highlights of the meeting through a process called graphic recording. See page 3 for more information on the graphic recording of the grantee meeting.

You can also find other EBHV grantee meeting materials, such as slides and handouts, on the EBHV website ([www.supportingebhv.org](http://www.supportingebhv.org)).

We are approaching the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the EBHV grant projects, and as always, we look forward to continuing to partner with you to ensure much success in the upcoming year!

Rosie Gomez &  
Melissa Brodowski  
Federal Project Officers



## FRIENDS National Resource Center Focus: The 2010 EBHV Grantee Meeting: A Graphic Recording

The FRIENDS National Resource Center staff captured the *Supporting Evidence-Based Home Visiting* (EBHV) Grantee Meeting in colors, words, and images through a flow of information and ideas called graphic recording. This visual model served as an evolving summary and tangible record of the speakers and presentations that invoked discussion

among participants throughout the day.

Melissa Brodowski, Federal Project Officer, welcomed participants and reiterated the goal of the meeting which was, “to

support strategic decision making and action across the system to support evidence-based home visiting to prevent child abuse and neglect”. Catherine Nolan, Director of the Office on Child Abuse and Neglect (OCAN), reminded attendees that the Children’s Bureau will be celebrating its 100 year anniversary in 2012, and is experiencing an evolution in home visiting that is a reflection of commitment and cutting edge efforts.

Participants then had the honor of hearing from Commissioner Bryan Samuels of the Admin-

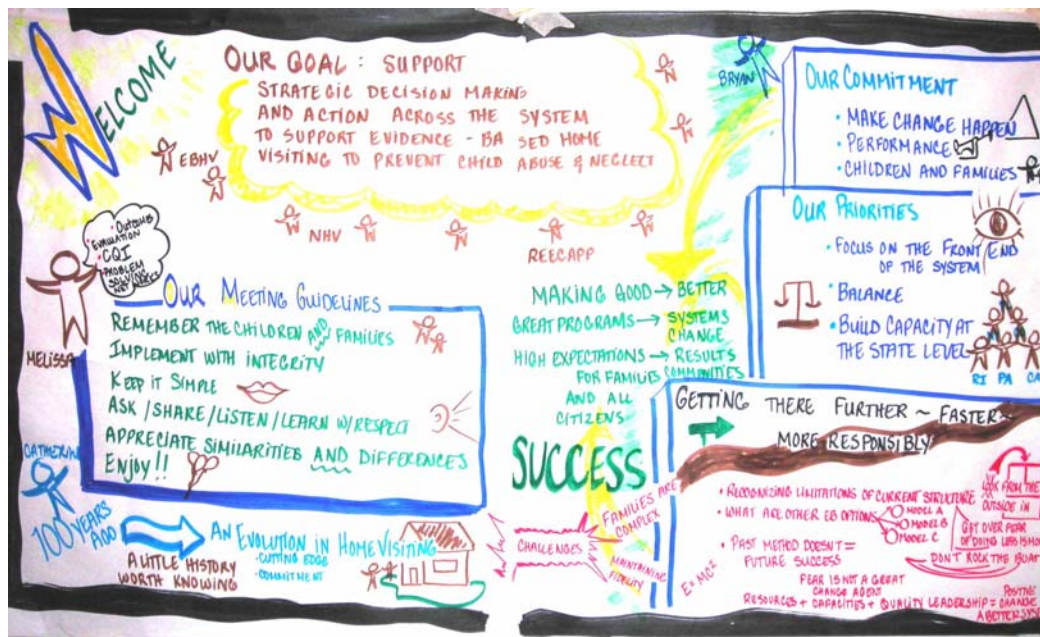
istration on Children, Youth and Families. Commissioner Samuels focused on the commitment to creating change for children and families through priorities that reflect a focus on the front end of the system, and building capacity. He encouraged attendees to develop a shared vision on strategies for success that focus on high

expectations through high quality programs. These strategies are important to prompting system change resulting in positive outcomes for families and communities.

The state of home visiting was explored by John Schlitt, PEW Center on the States. John described a progressive initiative that is shaped by data on brain development, high quality home visiting, and tools for a winning campaign. He highlighted recently funded research projects, and the need to change the spending curve to meet what the data indicates. He

encouraged future planning that involves accountability via “prove it or lose it” and having more State and local programs share information to shape Federal policy. Participants contributed to an open discussion about the impact of decisions and actions by exploring questions such as: How do we make decisions? Changes? How do we move forward?

Are we looking at best practices that are not a part of systems? How will implementation be supported by policy? How will technical assistance be provided?



Attendees added their thoughts and perspectives during the presentation by the Mathematica and Chapin Hall evaluation team who described emerging and initial findings of the cross-site evaluation. Under the primary headings of Goals and Staffing, participants were encouraged to think about universal data, the need for a follow up survey with multi-tier questions, and pushing the envelope in a way that ultimately identifies what needs to happen in order to support a fundamental shift.

Jim Wotring, National Technical Assistance Center for Children’s

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## Cross-site Evaluation News

### Mathematica Policy Research and Chapin Hall

During the August EC2010 meeting in Washington, DC, two members of the Mathematica Policy Research/Chapin Hall evaluation team, Deborah Daro and Russell Cole, participated in a session titled, "Implementing and Sustaining Evidence-based Home Visiting Programs." Deborah Daro, from Chapin Hall, provided an overview to session attendees on the promises and challenges of expanding evidence-based home visiting programs. Russell Cole, from Mathematica, presented preliminary findings from a web-based survey Mathematica conducted in spring 2010 of the 17 EBHV grantees and their partners.

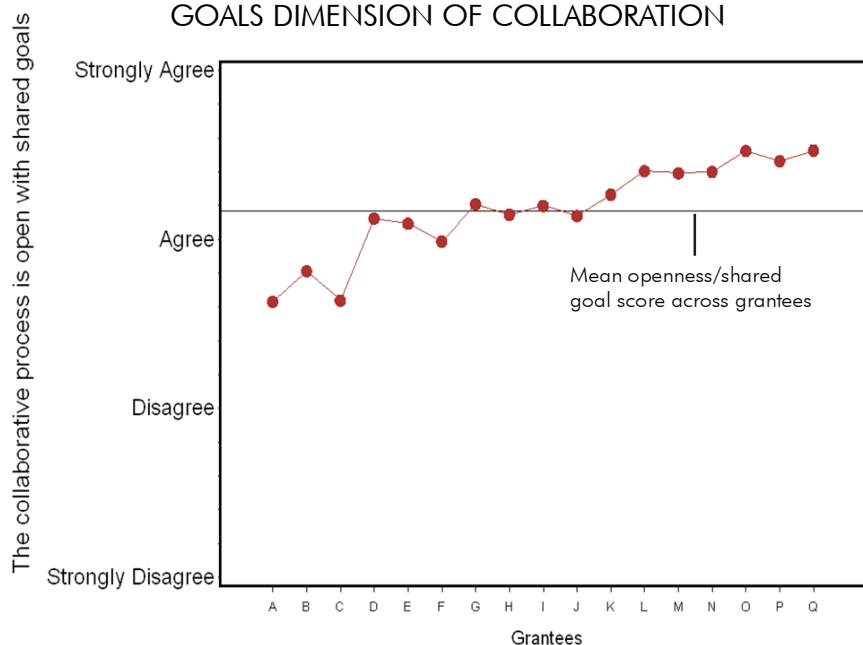
Grantees have engaged various organizations as partners in building infrastructure to support evidence-based home visiting in their states or communities. The baseline survey was designed to examine (1) the characteristics of partners' organizations, (2) the nature of the collaborative relationships, and (3) the structure of each partnership. Staff members at each grantee site identified up to 25 organizations they worked with on their EBHV grant (the average number of partners named was 17). In total, the survey was e-mailed to 303 people; 242 completed the survey, for an overall response rate of 80 percent.

One goal of the survey was to measure the quality of the collaborations among grantees and their partners. To do this, Mathematica included questions from the Working Together Survey, a standardized tool

designed to measure issues known to be important to the effectiveness of collaborative processes. The survey assessed five dimensions of collaboration: (1) purpose/priority,

degree to which grantees and their partners agreed about the quality of the openness of the collaborative process (that is, the respondents indicated that they agreed with

GRANTEES' LEVELS OF AGREEMENT ON THE OPENNESS/SHARED GOALS DIMENSION OF COLLABORATION



Source: 2010 EBHV Partner Survey, Mathematica Policy Research.

(2) rules/norms/roles, (3) trust/effort, (4) openness/shared goals, and (5) achieve goals (see box for examples of the items within each dimension; the survey asked respondents to express their agreement or disagreement with these statements).

Although there was statistically significant variation among the grantees, overall the partners rated their collaboration very favorably. For example, for the "openness/shared goal" dimension, most grantees agreed that this aspect of the collaborative process was positive (see graph). In the graph shown here, the y-axis represents the

statements such as, "divergent opinions were expressed and listened to"); the x-axis includes each of the 17 grantees (identified by letter, to protect their privacy). The brown dot for each grantee indicates the average score recorded for all partners of that grantee who responded to the survey. Higher scores represent greater overall quality of the openness of the collaborative process. The average openness/shared goal score across grantees is displayed as a horizontal line in the graph.

Mathematica will be sending each grantee a personalized report from  
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## 2010 EBHV Grantee Meeting

Mental Health and Kay Hodges, Eastern Michigan University, discussed using data to inform practice and systems change. Quality and availability indicators were highlighted to illustrate how they impact strategies for success.

The final formal presentation of the day focused on evaluation research by an expert panel of EBHV evaluators, Jane Silovsky, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center; Rodney Hopkins, Social Research Institute, College of Social Work, University of Utah; and Anne Dugan, John Hopkins University. Participants considered how evaluation has been shaped by policy and practice, including what issues must be addressed, what we have learned and what lies ahead. The day was summarized with an open space discussion on issues and opportunities for EBHV facilitated by Glenda Eoyang. At the conclusion, participants were able to view the 25 foot mural of graphic symbols and words that captured and recapped the day's presentations and themes.

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## Cross Site Evaluation Update

the survey. On this and other measures, grantees can compare their own partners' average scores to the averages calculated across all grantees. A follow-up survey is planned to see how the partnerships evolve over time. The early results from the survey regarding collaboration quality suggest that, as a whole, grantees have a good foundation for moving forward with their partners.

### Sample Items of the Five Dimensions of Collaboration Assessed in the Survey

**Purpose/Priority:**

"Our collaborative effort was started because we wanted to do something about an important problem."

**Rules/Norms/Roles:**

"Our membership was not dominated by any one group or sector."

**Trust/Effort:**

"Members were more interested in getting a good group decision than improving the position of their home organization."

**Openness/Shared Goals:**

"Divergent opinions were expressed and listened to."

**Achieve Goals:**

"Our group was effective in obtaining the resources it needed to accomplish its objectives."

Please view the EBHV website at [www.supportingebhv.org](http://www.supportingebhv.org) to find out more information including a description of the grant program, specific grantee information, the cross-site evaluation, a copy of the EBHV Connector newsletter, and a variety of resources for those interested in home visitation.



## Resources

### **Affordable Care Act (ACA) Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program**

- HHS has now released over \$88 million in FY 2010 Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program funds to all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and 5 territories. On August 19, 2010, HHS issued a Supplemental Information Request outlining to States the requirements for completing and submitting a legislatively mandated statewide needs assessment for the home visiting program by September 20, 2010 in order to receive their FY 2011 Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant allotment.
- HHS issued a separate FY 2010 discretionary grant funding opportunity announcement for Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program grants to Tribes (including Consortia of Tribes), Tribal Organizations, and Urban Indian Organizations on June 24, 2010. Applications in response to this announcement were due July 28, 2010 and HHS will award \$3 million in grants under this program by September 30, 2010.
- On July 23, 2010, HHS issued a Federal Register Notice on proposed criteria for determining evidence of effectiveness of home visiting models. Public comments on the proposed criteria were due

to HHS by August 17, 2010, and final criteria will be published in a future Supplemental Information Request outlining to States requirements for submitting a State plan for responding to identified needs through an evidence-based home visiting program.

For a complete list of the State-designated contacts for the ACA program, please visit the EBHV website at [www.supportingebhv.org](http://www.supportingebhv.org).

The **Pew Home Visiting Campaign**, a project of the Pew Center on the States, partners with policy makers, advocates and donors to promote smart state policies, investments and research in quality, home-based programs for new and expectant families. This fall, Pew will present the nation's first comprehensive overview of home visiting funding, programming and policies in all fifty states and the District of Columbia. For additional information about the campaign and to learn more about Pew's

research agenda, visit [www.pewcenteronthestates.org/homevisiting](http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/homevisiting).

### **Home Visiting Services for Young Latino Families, Challenges and Choices Report**

The King County Children and Family Commission in Seattle, Washington recently released a report, *Home Visiting Services for Young Latino Families, Challenges and Choices*. The report is an extensive study of the needs and desires of Latino teen parents and their extended families residing in King County. It provides a snapshot of the relevant local and national data; highlights the challenges faced by young Latino families in King County through the perspectives of professionals serving this population; and provides recommendations for home visiting services for these families in King County.

The report is available at: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/child/cfc.aspx>

