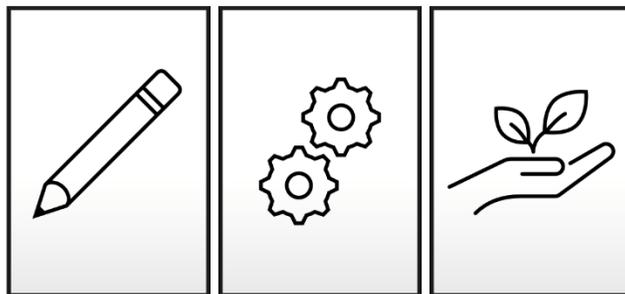


FAMILY TREATMENT COURT (FTC) BEST PRACTICE STANDARDS TOOLKIT



General Resources

Resource Link	Resource Description
<p>Family Treatment Court Best Practice Standards– https://www.cffutures.org/home-page/ftc-best-practice-standards-2019/</p>	<p>The FTC Standards reflect the rigorous research and rich practice experience from treatments courts, dependency court, child welfare, substance use disorder (SUD) treatment, mental health treatment, children’s developmental services, and related health, educational, and social services. The eight FTC standards are interdependent and intended to be followed in whole as much as possible.</p>
<p>Family Treatment Court Planning Guide– https://www.cffutures.org/fdc-tta/planning-guide-2018/</p>	<p>The FTC Planning Guide is designed to provide step-by-step instructions for a team planning to implement an FTC in their community. No matter what your role in the system is, and no matter where you are in the process of pursuing the institution of a FTC, this guide will be a valuable resource in accomplishing your goals.</p>
<p>Practice Academy (PA) Introduction to FTCs– https://www.cffutures.org/ftc-practice-academy/putting-the-pieces-together/?portfolioCats=120</p>	<p>This <i>Practice Academy</i> course discusses key components of a family-centered, behavior-focused, problem-solving approach in FTC pre-court staffing and court hearings. This course makes the abstract concepts concrete, illustrating how teams can apply these principles at FTC pre-court staffing and court hearings to improve outcomes for families in all FTC models (integrated, parallel, and hybrid).</p>
<p>Advancing a Family-Centered Approach – Prevention and Family Recovery (PFR)– https://www.cffutures.org/advancing-a-family-centered-approach/</p>	<p>A series of resources that updates the original nine PFR lessons published in 2017. FTC teams and stakeholders can approach the lessons as a complete package or view each one individually to focus on a specific topic. A companion video highlights key takeaways from the lessons.</p>
<p>Annie E. Casey FTC Briefs– https://www.cffutures.org/publication/ftc-strategy-brief-series-strong-families/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Brief 1</i>: https://www.casey.org/family-treatment-courts/ • <i>Brief 2</i>: https://www.casey.org/ftc-brief-two/ • <i>Brief 3</i>: https://www.casey.org/ftc-brief-three/ 	<p>A series of three briefs on family treatment courts (FTCs). These briefs provide information to child welfare and other key stakeholders about the FTC model and best practices evidence and strategies to improve outcomes for all families affected by a parent’s substance use disorder.</p> <p>The first brief provides an overview of the FTC model including necessary components, outcomes, and model types. Brief 2 examines practice-level strategies and evidence to ensure comprehensive service delivery and improved outcomes for child</p>

	welfare affected by a parent’s substance use disorder. The third brief highlights FTCs as a catalyst for systems change by outlining strategies to integrate FTC best practices into larger systems of care.
Budgeting and Program Sustainability– https://ncsacw.acf.hhs.gov/collaborative/budgeting-program-sustainability.aspx	Access a full range of technical assistance funding resources including toolkits, briefs, state and local examples, and strategies to develop multi-year stability for innovative approaches.

**Standard One:
Organization and Structure**

<p>FTC Planning Guide Worksheets– https://www.cffutures.org/fdc-tta/planning-guide-2018/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning, Steering, and Operational Teams, <u>Worksheet #4, Pages 108-112</u> • Vision, Mission, Goals and Objectives, <u>Worksheet #8, Pages 121-124</u> • Structural Program Design, Target Population, and Eligibility Criteria, <u>Worksheet #10, Pages 129-133</u> • Community Partnerships and Cross-Training, <u>Worksheet #19, Pages 153-154</u> • Ensuring System Accountability: Legal Mandates, Ethics, and Confidentiality, <u>Worksheet #7, Pages 119-120</u> 	<p><u>Worksheet #4:</u> Use the form to identify the members of your planning team, their agency affiliations, and their roles and responsibilities. Also determine if you have all necessary planning team members or need to add others.</p> <p><u>Worksheet #8:</u> The purpose of this worksheet is to help you discuss your family treatment court’s core values and to develop targeted vision and mission statements as well as statements of goals and objectives. These various statements provide the team with an opportunity to clarify its group philosophy and combine the essential elements of the FTC design with the directional elements required for action.</p> <p><u>Worksheet #10:</u> This activity guides the planning team to determine the structural program design of the family treatment court and identify a FTC target population as well as develop the FTC eligibility criteria.</p> <p><u>Worksheet #19:</u> Review sample memorandum of understanding (MOU) documents to assist the planning team and/or operational team to draft the FTC formal MOU authorizing each agency, outlining the roles, responsibilities, duties, and tasks of the partnering organizations. This worksheet also guides the planning team to develop a plan to further educate partnering agencies and community leaders to ensure long-term sustainability of the family treatment court.</p> <p><u>Worksheet #7:</u> Use this guide to conduct a roundtable discussion, where each team member identifies the legal mandates, confidentiality requirements, and ethical considerations and issues</p>
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	<p>that will affect their work in family treatment court. Further, it will help identify how the team can assist each team member in complying with ethical standards and confidentiality requirements.</p>
<p>Key Lessons for Implementing a Family-Centered Approach - Prevention and Family Recovery (PFR)– https://www.cffutures.org/files/PFR_Brief2_Final%20Print%205-3-17.pdf</p>	<p>This second PFR brief provides nine key lessons that other jurisdictions can apply in their own efforts to implement and integrate evidence-based parenting and children’s interventions and move to a comprehensive family-centered approach. These lessons, which fall into three domains, can help inform the field as FTCs seek to institutionalize best practices and systems reform for families affected by parental substance use disorders and child maltreatment.</p>
<p>Guiding Principles for Establishing a Family-Centered Approach in FTCs and Beyond – Prevention and Family Recovery (PFR)– https://www.cffutures.org/files/pfr/pfr2_webpage_data/PFR2_Guiding_Principles_for_Establishing_FCA.pdf</p>	<p>This resource expands on PFR Lesson 7 by outlining 10 guiding principles that help operationalize a family-centered approach. This resource also includes key questions for each guiding principle that FTC teams can discuss to assess and build their family-centered capacity.</p>
<p>Cross-Systems Collaboration, Governance and Leadership– Prevention and Family Recovery (PFR)– https://www.cffutures.org/files/PFR_Brief3_Print%20Final%206-19-17.pdf</p>	<p>This brief in the PFR series expands on three closely linked features—cross-systems collaboration, governance and leadership—which make up the trifecta that embodies all the other PFR lessons. In short, collaboration, governance and leadership are the bedrock of effective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic FTC operations and core practices • Evidence-based service implementation, integration and sustainability • Performance monitoring and data-driven decision making for continuous program improvement • Systems changes that improve outcomes for all families affected by parental substance use disorders and child maltreatment
<p>Practice Academy: Applying a Family-Centered, Problem-Solving Approach to Family Treatment Court Staffing and Court Hearings– https://www.cffutures.org/ftc-practice-academy/putting-the-pieces-together/?portfolioCats=120</p>	<p>This <i>Practice Academy</i> course discusses key components of a family-centered, behavior-focused, problem-solving approach in FTC pre-court staffing and court hearings. This course makes the abstract concepts concrete, illustrating how teams can apply these principles at FTC pre-court staffing and court hearings to improve outcomes</p>

	for families in all FTC models (integrated, parallel, and hybrid).
Practice Academy: Collaborative Partnerships for Improved Family Outcomes– https://www.cffutures.org/ftc-practice-academy/beyond-a-program/	This Practice Academy course provides “FTC 101” basics for interested jurisdictions, new FTC team members, and teams that want to revisit foundational FTC concepts.
PLC Interview Video– Standard 1 - Organization and Structure: Peer Learning Court, King County Family Treatment Court, WA	The Program Supervisor of the King County FTC in Washington shares the process and rationale for shifting to a three-tiered governance structure. This video also highlights King County FTC’s focus on using data to drive practice changes and ensure equity and inclusion.
Standard Two: Role of the Judge	
Drug Court Judicial Benchbook– https://www.ndci.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Judicial-Benchbook-2017-Update.pdf	This judicial benchbook brings together the breadth and depth of the information on important and relevant topics, including but not limited to substance abuse treatment, community supervision, drug testing, judicial ethics, and constitutional law.
MAT Benchcard– https://ncsacw.acf.hhs.gov/files/mat-benchmark-508.pdf	This judicial benchcard provides an overview on Medication-assisted treatment (MAT), an evidence-based treatment for opioid use disorders (OUDs), and to help courts and their collaborative partners improve systems and services for families affected by substance use disorders (SUDs).
Reasonable and Active Efforts, and SUD– https://cff-cav56vrdcl.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Reasonable_Active_Efforts_ToolKit-1.pdf	The Reasonable Efforts, Active Efforts and Substance Use Disorders Toolkit helps address some of the challenges presented in making reasonable and active efforts and related judicial findings in cases involving substance use. The toolkit provides definitions, statutory requirements, examples of reasonable and active efforts, and a resource guide for further reading.
Judge’s Role in Plans of Safe Care– https://www.cffutures.org/qic-main-page/qic-ccct-judgewalker_video/	This video provides practical, experience-based guidance that professionals from child welfare, courts, substance use disorder treatment and other family-serving agencies can use to improve the health and well-being of infants and their families affected by substance use disorders.

<p>PLC Interview Video– Standard 2 - Role of the Judge: Peer Learning Court, Grant County Family Recovery Program, IN</p>	<p>Judge Dana Kenworthy shares her role in family treatment court staffing and strategies to engage parents and families.</p>
<p>Standard Three: Ensuring Equity and Inclusion</p>	
<p>FTC Planning Guide Worksheets– https://www.cffutures.org/fdc-tta/planning-guide-2018/ Cultural Competence, <i>Worksheet #6, Pages 116-118</i></p>	<p>Use this worksheet to guide a team discussion. Your responses can be used as a method to assess the cultural needs of your family treatment court program.</p>
<p>Practice Academy: Ensuring Equity and Inclusion in Family Treatment Courts– https://www.cffutures.org/fdc-learningacademy/equity_and_inclusion/</p>	<p>This 30-minute introductory video corresponds with a Team Discussion Guide to help facilitate conversations amongst FTC practitioners. A Café Conversation webinar recording features a discussion between practitioners from two FTC programs and a Tribal Law Specialist from the Tribal Law and Policy Institute. They share their experiences and expertise in ensuring equity and inclusion in their communities. A Call-to-Action Guide is provided to support viewers taking important next steps.</p>
<p>Key Considerations for Applying an Equity Lens to Collaborative Practice– https://ncsacw.acf.hhs.gov/files/equity-lens-brief.pdf</p>	<p>This brief helps collaborative teams formally assess existing policies to determine whether, and to what extent, they contribute to disproportionate and disparate outcomes for the families being served.</p>
<p>PLC Interview Video– Standard 3 - Ensuring Equity and Inclusion: Peer Learning Court, Travis County Family Drug Treatment Court/Parenting in Recovery Program, TX</p>	<p>This video highlights strategies to address disproportionality and ensure equity and inclusion in the Travis County FDTC/PIR and larger child welfare system.</p> <p>Judge Aurora Martinez-Jones and Susana Castillo-Littlejohn, Parent Attorney, discuss their teams' efforts to use data to identify barriers and improve services and supports with a culturally informed lens.</p>
<p>Standard Four: Early Identification, Screening, and Assessment</p>	
<p>FTC Planning Guide Worksheets– https://www.cffutures.org/fdc-tta/planning-guide-2018/</p>	<p><u>Worksheet#11:</u> Complete this activity to determine who will conduct the screening and assessment and</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screening and Assessment, <u>Worksheet #11, Page 134</u> • Family Treatment Court Entry Process, <u>Worksheet #12, Page 135</u> 	<p>what instruments and information will be used to identify families that meet the eligibility criteria.</p> <p><u>Worksheet #12:</u> Use this flowchart to document the entire entry process, from initial contact with child welfare to first appearance in family treatment court.</p>
<p>Practice Academy Early Screening and Assessment – https://www.cffutures.org/2016/early-screening-and-assessment-how-effective-family-drug-courts-match-service-to-need/?portfolioCats=86</p>	<p>This virtual classroom course will identify the most pressing challenges in screening and assessment, including the barriers that keep families that need FTCs the most from connecting with your program. Participants will explore strategies and protocols that successful FTCs have implemented to link clients with appropriate services and levels of care.</p>
<p>Drop Off Analysis– http://www.cffutures.org/files/publications/Drop-off%20Analysis.pdf</p>	<p>Complete a Drop-off Analysis to determine the points in the process where your program must create or modify interventions to better engage parents and families.</p>
<p>Understanding Screening and Assessment of SUD– https://ncsacw.acf.hhs.gov/files/tips-screening-assessment-508.pdf</p>	<p>Practice tips for child welfare professional to enhance understanding of screening and assessment of substance use disorders.</p>
<p>Engagement Tips– https://ncsacw.acf.hhs.gov/files/tips-engagement-families-508.pdf</p>	<p>Practice tips for child welfare professional to improve engagement of families affected by substance use disorders.</p>
<p>PLC Interview Video– Standard 4 - Early Identification, Screening, and Assessment: Peer Learning Court, Pima County Family Drug Court, AZ</p>	<p>Pima County FDC Program Supervisor and Intake Coordinator talk about using an objective referral process and their strategies to engage every parent with a substance use disorder and open child welfare case, at the earliest point possible.</p>

Standard Five:

Timely, High-Quality, and Appropriate Substance Use Disorder Treatment

<p>Family-Centered Approach— https://ncsacw.acf.hhs.gov/topics/family-centered-approach/fca-modules.aspx</p>	<p>To help communities move toward family-centered care, the National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare (NCSACW) prepared a series of companion modules on implementing a family-centered approach. This series is designed for state, county, and agency-level collaborative partners that are working together to improve systems, services, and outcomes for children and families affected by SUDs. The series includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Module 1: Overview of a Family-Centered Approach and Its Effectiveness• Module 2: On the Ground—Family-Centered Practice• Module 3: Collaboration to Support Family-Centered Practices at the County and State Level
<p>Understanding SUD Treatment— https://ncsacw.acf.hhs.gov/files/understanding-treatment-508.pdf</p>	<p>This TA tool is designed to equip professionals who refer parents to SUD treatment with a fundamental understanding of treatment. The tool includes a list of questions child welfare or court staff can ask treatment providers to ensure effective linkages are made. With the knowledge gained, professionals will be able to make informed referral decisions to make informed referral decisions for services that are a good fit to meet the parent and family’s needs.</p>
<p>Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) Guides – Clinician, Team Member, Participant— https://www.nadcp.org/moud-guides/</p>	<p>These guides were created by NADCP and the American Society of Addiction Medicine to provide up-to-date, evidence-based information to support optimal outcomes for justice-involved individuals living with opioid use disorder. Guides are available for clinicians, treatment court team members, and participants to help better understand MOUD.</p>
<p>MAT Benchcard— https://ncsacw.acf.hhs.gov/files/mat-benchmark-508.pdf</p>	<p>This Benchcard provides an overview on Medication-assisted treatment (MAT), an evidence-based treatment for opioid use disorders (OUDs), and to help courts and their collaborative partners improve systems and services for families affected by substance use disorders (SUDs).</p>

<p>Practice Academy: Empowering Families to Build Recovery Capital for Sustained Recovery and Family Wellness Resources– https://www.cffutures.org/ftc-practice-academy/beyond-compliance/</p>	<p>This <i>Practice Academy</i> course provides FTC teams with information about recovery capital and protective factors and offers strategies to teams that wish to build upon these concepts to promote sustained recovery, child safety, and family wellness. This course will highlight FTCs that integrate recovery capital and protective factor approaches into their phase structures, as well as teams that help create a community that is welcoming and supportive of people seeking recovery.</p>
<p>PLC Interview Video– Standard 5 - Timely, High-Quality, and Appropriate Substance Use Disorder Treatment: Peer Learning Court, Jefferson County Family Integrated Treatment Court, CO</p>	<p>Jefferson County FIT Court team discusses their shift to serve with a family-centered approach, assess and serve the whole family unit, not just the participant. This video also focuses on their evidence-based parenting education and strategies to engage fathers, providing all participants with culturally responsive, gender specific treatment, that includes MAT services, peer support, and trauma-informed care.</p>
<p>Standard Six: Comprehensive Case Management, Services, and Supports for Families</p>	
<p>FTC Planning Guide Worksheets– https://www.cffutures.org/fdc-tta/planning-guide-2018/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Service Delivery for Parents, Children and Families, <u>Worksheet #14, Pages 139-142</u> • Case Management, Community Supervision, and Drug Testing, <u>Worksheet #15, Pages 143-145</u> 	<p><u>Worksheet #14:</u> Use this worksheet to identify community services and treatment approaches and models currently available in the community, as well as the opportunities to build new partnerships to enhance supports for families.</p> <p><u>Worksheet #15:</u> A critical part of the planning process is for team members to discuss the case planning and treatment planning expectation, process, mandates, and time frames within each agency. Use this guide to discuss the elements of effective case planning and develop protocols for collaborative case planning.</p>
<p>Recovery Capital Worksheets– https://www.ndci.org/resource/recovery-capital/</p>	<p>NDCI’s Dare to Dream Recovery Capital Worksheets are designed to assist treatment court practitioners as they help clients build recovery capital. These worksheets are designed serve as a blueprint for clients to identify where they want to be in the future. They are meant to be completed as a joint effort between the case manager, probation officer, and treatment provider working with each client. The worksheets cover practical topics, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Family

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Financial stability 3. Housing 4. Problem solving 5. Health and wellness 6. Prosocial activities 7. Transportation
<p>Practice Academy: Harnessing the Power of Parenting Time to Strengthen the Parent-Child Relationship and Support Reunification Efforts in Your Family Treatment Court— https://www.cffutures.org/ftc-practice-academy/putting-the-pieces-together-harnessing-the-power-of-parenting-time-to-strengthen-the-parent-child-relationship-and-support-reunification-efforts-in-your-family-treatment-court/?portfolioCats=120</p>	<p>This Practice Academy course discusses quality parenting time as well as how to objectively measure and track progress in strengthening the parent-child relationship to support the family and inform decisions about parenting time expansion and reunification. Hear how to implement this approach from FTC team members who provide frequent, quality parenting time to strengthen and heal the parent-child relationship while informing reunification decisions.</p>
<p>Family-Centered Approach— https://ncsacw.acf.hhs.gov/topics/family-centered-approach/fca-modules.aspx</p>	<p>To help communities move toward family-centered care, the National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare (NCSACW) prepared a series of companion modules on implementing a family-centered approach. This series is designed for state-, county-, and agency-level collaborative partners that are working together to improve systems, services, and outcomes for children and families affected by SUDs. The series includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 1: Overview of a Family-Centered Approach and Its Effectiveness • Module 2: On the Ground—Family-Centered Practice • Module 3: Collaboration to Support Family-Centered Practices at the County and State Level
<p>Evidence-Based Program Implementation within the FTC Context Prevention and Family Recovery (PFR)— https://www.cffutures.org/files/PFR_Brief4_Email.pdf</p>	<p>This brief focuses on the experiences of the PFR grantees to highlight lessons about evidence-based program selection and early implementation, specifically within the context of FTCs and broader-based collaborative efforts.</p>
<p>Practice Academy: Empowering Families to Build Recovery Capital— https://www.cffutures.org/ftc-practice-academy/beyond-compliance/</p>	<p>This Practice Academy course provides FTC teams with information about recovery capital and protective factors and offers strategies to teams that wish to build upon these concepts to promote sustained recovery, child safety, and family wellness. This course will highlight FTCs that integrate</p>

	recovery capital and protective factor approaches into their phase structures, as well as teams that help create a community that is welcoming and supportive of people seeking recovery.
PLC Interview Video– Standard 6 - Comprehensive Case Management, Services, and Supports for Families: Peer Learning Court, Baltimore City Family Recovery Program, MD	Dr. Jocelyn Gainer, FRP Executive Director, and David Sifford, FRP Coordinator highlight the comprehensive services and supports they provide to families, including housing and recovery services plans, peer support connections, parenting education, and family-centered programming.

**Standard Seven:
Therapeutic Responses to Behavior**

FTC Planning Guide Worksheets– https://www.cffutures.org/fdc-tta/planning-guide-2018/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing Your Family Treatment Court Phase Structure, Worksheet #13, Pages 136-138 • Responding to Behavior, Worksheet #16, Pages 146-150 • Graduation from the Program/Termination from the Program, Worksheet #17, Page 151 	<p><u>Worksheet #13:</u> As a team, use this tool to develop a phase structure that will address the comprehensive needs of the parents, children, and family, and identify specific benchmarks for completion of each phase relative to the child welfare, court, and treatment requirements.</p> <p><u>Worksheet #16:</u> This worksheet will help your team develop a continuum of incentives and sanctions for responding to participant behavior. As a team, use this guide to define positive behaviors as well as negative behaviors you would like to address.</p> <p><u>Worksheet #17:</u> An integral part of the family treatment court program is determining the requirements for successful completion. Use this guide to define expectations of a parent who has successfully completed versus behavior that will result in termination from the family treatment court program.</p>
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Practice Academy: Checklist to Change (FTC Phases)– https://www.cffutures.org/fdc-learning-academy/changechecklist/?portfolioCats=108	<p>This <i>Practice Academy</i> explores the innovative, yet meaningful approach FTCs have adopted to better assess and prepare families for successful recovery and reunification. Viewers are encouraged to have conversations with their team and partner agencies to define what “success” means for participant families, identify what families need to be successful, and how they will maintain strong relationships to ensure a flow of communication.</p>
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Practice Academy: The Top 5 Challenges in Responding to Participant Behavior in FTCs (and How to Solve Them)–	<p>This <i>Practice Academy</i> explores key considerations on responding to participant behavior and the wide range of responses available. Understand the unique challenges of FTCs in responding to participant</p>
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<p>https://www.cffutures.org/fdc-learning-academy/responding_to_participant_behavior_challenges/?portfolioCats=108</p>	<p>behavior and the importance of being family-centered and therapeutic in its approach. Learn from other FTC professionals how they are creatively and thoughtfully responding to participant behavior.</p>
<p>Practice Academy: Why Quality Legal Representation Matters for Families Affected by Substance Use Disorders– https://www.cffutures.org/fdc-learning-academy/quality-legal-representation/</p>	<p>This <i>Practice Academy</i> explores the attributes of quality legal representation for parents involved in child welfare proceedings. Although all legal professionals serve an important role on a family treatment court (FTC) team, parent attorneys play a critical role to ensure reasonable efforts are made on behalf of families affected by substance use disorders to have access to quality services to prevent removal and support timely reunification and permanency. Viewers learn how FTC teams and their parent attorney partners can work together toward a shared vision of accountability for families involved in the FTC and child welfare system.</p>
<p>Drug Testing in Child Welfare– https://ncsacw.acf.hhs.gov/topics/drug-testing-child-welfare.aspx</p>	<p>Drug testing is one tool that can be used to determine if a parent is using substances and to facilitate decision making with families affected by substance use disorders. The most effective way to identify a substance use disorder or determine if a child is at risk for maltreatment or neglect is to use a combination of screening and assessment tools. This link provides several resources for child welfare agency policymakers and workers to consider for their drug testing policy used in child welfare practice.</p>
<p>Standard Eight: Monitoring and Evaluation</p>	
<p>Data Capacity– PFR2 Data Capacity Building Resource.pdf</p>	<p>This brief describes how FTC teams can assess their cross-systems data capacity, use their data to improve their programs, and communicate their successes to various audiences.</p>
<p>PLC Interview Video– Standard 8 - Monitoring and Evaluation: Peer Learning Court, Tompkins County Family Treatment Court, NY</p>	<p>Judge John C. Rowley and Deana Bodnar, Department of Social Services Supervisor, highlight their data collection, and how they use the information to evaluate and improve program policy and procedures.</p>