

Name of Lead	Mendocino County Health and Human Services Agency, Social Services
Location	Mendocino, CA
Title of Project	Mendocino County Family Dependency Drug Court
Program Option	Five-Year plus 2-Year Extension
Geographic Area and Congressional District Served	Rural 001-Congressional District
Brief Program Description	<p>The Mendocino County Health and Human Services Agency (HHS), Social Services Department, Division of Family and Children's Services (DFCS) was awarded and served as the lead agency for a RPG I grant in 2007. DFCS partnered with the Alcohol and Other Drug Programs (AODP) partnered with the Mendocino County Superior Court to create the Mendocino County Family Dependency Drug Court (MCFDDC). The goal of MCFDDC was to coordinate, integrate and deliver intensified services to address barriers facing families whose children's safety and well-being are threatened by their parents' substance use disorders. The program was designed to address the goals of safety, permanency and well-being for children within the context of a recovery-oriented system of care that offered family-centered, strength-based strategies, supportive services to address individual needs and immediate access to intensive treatment services coupled with intensive judicial review, incentives and sanctions.</p> <p>The grantee was awarded a Two-Year Extension grant in 2012 to continue to build their program, adding services that focused on the well-being of the child and family, ensuring all services were more trauma-informed and focus on evaluating the effectiveness of the program and planning for sustainability. The MCFDDC also increased their capacity from 25 to 40 adults served at any one time with their extension grant.</p>
Target Population	The MCFDDC serves families involved with the dependency court due to abuse or neglect of their child and meet the following eligibility criteria: reside in Mendocino County; not incarcerated for more than 45 days after jurisdiction/disposition hearing, have alcohol and other drug use as a factor in the petition or an issue at disposition; no history of violent offenses; is pregnant or parenting; is ordered into family reunification or maintenance services at the disposition hearing; does not possess a valid medical recommendation for medicinal marijuana (or agrees not to use despite having one); and is at least 18 years of age.

Participants Served	Children: 274 Adults: 182 Families: 158
Major Goals	<p>RPG I Goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Manage grant effectively and ensure contracts are renewed 2. Manage program effectively 3. Ensure system capacity and sustainability 4. Increase adult well-being <p>RPG Two-Year Extension Goals were added to the existing RPG I Goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure child well-being <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Support the safe and timely reunification or permanent placement of abused and neglected children b. Assess and address the developmental needs of children ages 0-5 2. Improve adult well-being <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Increase number of parents with AOD disorders and open child welfare cases who participate in intensive case management and treatment b. Increase substance abuse treatment retention and completion rates c. Assess and address needs for ancillary support services d. Provide continuing care supportive services 3. Improve family well-being <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Increase services to strengthen families 4. Increase collaboration, integration, and coordination between the Court, Child Welfare Services, and AODP <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continue to develop review, and revise policies and procedures to build collaborative capacity b. Build staff and partner capacity to incorporate trauma-informed strategies into all services c. Ensure program sustainability
Major Program Services	<p>Case Management and In-Home Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensive/Coordinated Case Management • “Regular” or “Traditional” In-Home Services

Parenting/Family Strengthening

- Standard Parenting Skills Training/Education or Parenting Classes
- Evidence-Based Parenting or Family Strengthening Program – Triple P

Visitation Services

- Supervised Visitation
- Supportive Supervised Visitation
- Therapeutic Visitation/Therapeutic Supervised Visitation

Mental Health and Trauma Services for Adults

- Psychiatric Care Including Medication Management
- Trauma-Informed Services
- Trauma-Specific Services – Seeking Safety

Substance Abuse Treatment for Adults

- Non-Intensive Outpatient or Other Step-Down
- Aftercare/Continuing Care/Recovery Community Support Services

Specialized Outreach, Engagement and Retention

- Cognitive/Behavioral Strategies
- Organizational – Staffing practice includes dedicated Alcohol and Other Drug Staff present at case conferences

Substance Abuse Prevention Services

- Prevention Education
- Alternative Activities

Screening and Assessment – Child Welfare and Other Children’s Issues

- Screening and Assessment for Child Welfare Issues

Screening and Assessment – Substance Use and Other Adult Issues

- Screening and Assessment for Substance Use Disorders

Housing Services

- Housing Support Services
- Transitional, Interim or Temporary Short-Term Housing

Cross-Systems Collaboration

- Clinical and Program Training
- Cross-systems Policies and Procedures
- Regular Joint Case Staffing Meetings
- Cross-systems Information Sharing and Data Analysis

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner Meetings – Regional Partnership and Program Management <p>Family Treatment Drug Court/Dependency Drug Court</p> <p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation
<p>Partner Agencies and Organizations</p>	<p>Child Welfare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS, Social Services, DFCS <p>Substance Abuse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS Alcohol and Other Drug Programs (AODP) • Residential treatment programs in other Northern CA counties <p>Courts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mendocino County Superior Court <p>Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement, Legal and Related Organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mendocino County Counsel • Children’s Attorneys • Parent’s Attorneys <p>Other Community and Child and Family Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redwood Children’s Services • Tapestry Family Services <p>Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ford Street Project (FSP) • Project Sanctuary <p>Mental Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mendocino County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services • Oertner Management Group • Redwood Quality Management Company <p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First 5 Mendocino • School of Performing Arts and Cultural Education (SPACE) <p>Other Evaluation and Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and Family Futures Evaluator
<p>Evaluation Design and Comparison</p>	<p>Quasi-experimental</p> <p>Historic, Matched Case-Level; Usual Child Welfare/Substance Abuse Services</p>

Group Type	
Performance Indicators	<p>Safety</p> <p>Recurrence of child maltreatment: The 12-month rate of recurrence of maltreatment was 2.1% among MCFDDC participants, compared to 14.9% for Mendocino County DFCS.</p> <p>Recovery</p> <p>At the end of the first five years of the program, 148 parents had participated in the FDDC, with 30 continuing on into Year 5. Of the remaining 118 participants, 41.2% graduated, 29.1% were terminated and 9.5% withdrew from FDDC.</p> <p>Permanency</p> <p>Re-entry into foster care: The 24-month rate of re-entry into foster care among MCFDDC children was 3.8% compared to 17.3% for Mendocino County DFCS as a whole.</p> <p>Well-Being</p>
Sustainability Status	<p>The Strategic Planning Committee, comprised of the grantee and all partners in the MCFDDC, identified essential components they wanted to sustain, completed a sustainability matrix, prioritized components and potential sources of funding and completed a cost analysis. The following components are expected to be sustained post-grant funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parenting program • AODP counselors assigned to MCFDDC • The Parent Mentor Program • Drug Testing • Some percentage of time for the Specialty Court Manager • Some evaluation services <p>DFCS is working with AODP to co-locate substance abuse counselors in the CWS facility.</p> <p>While all partners agreed that transitional housing is critical, no other funding has been identified to sustain this program.</p>