



## CHILDREN AFFECTED BY METHAMPHETAMINE PROJECT BUTTE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

**Lead Agency:**  
Butte County,  
Department of  
Behavioral Health  
Administrative Office  
of the Courts

**Geographic Area and  
Congressional  
District Served:**  
Butte County;  
Congressional  
Districts 2 and 4

**Federal Grant:**  
\$1.48 million/4 years

**Evaluation Design,  
Comparison Group  
Type and  
Treatment Received:**  
Pre-post design,  
treatment group only

**Proposed Number  
Served (4 years):**

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Children: | 124 |
| Adults:   | 96  |

### Project Description

The Butte County Children Affected by Methamphetamine (CAM) Project serves children and families participating in the Family Treatment Court (FTC) Program. The CAM Project's objectives are to expand and enhance services to young children and their parents or caregivers by creating a comprehensive family-centered approach. Key elements of the CAM Project include:

- ***Nurturing Parenting in Recovery Program*** - a 16-week evidence-based parenting program which offers parenting classes, parent modeling, and coaching, and involves the entire family as parents and children participate to learn skills to prevent future abuse and neglect; this program is co-facilitated by a child welfare social worker and a counselor from Alcohol and Drug Services and includes in-home coaching;
- ***Ages and Stages Questionnaires*** - ASQs are completed for all children as they enter the program; by implementing systematic ASQ screenings, the Project staff ensure children detect of developmental disabilities and receive needed early intervention services;
- ***Peer Mentor Support*** - FTC graduates work with participants as they enter the program to provide peer support throughout the family's participation in the Project.

### Target Population

Butte County is a mid-size rural county located in the northern Sacramento Valley with a total population of 220,000. CAM services are provided to families with children 0-5 who are participating in the Butte County's FTC. The FTC serves up to 20 families at any given time, with caseloads split between two service regions - Chico and Oroville.

## Major Project Goals

- Protect the safety and welfare of children by assessing children's needs and those of their caretakers and offering responsive, culturally sensitive, effective early intervention services to these children and their parents;
- Improve child well-being, safety, and permanency for FTC involved families;
- Improve family outcomes for families affected by substance abuse who are before the court on matters of child abuse and neglect and/or because the children are in need of services or supervision;
- Provide a FTC Family Enrichment and Support Team that is responsive to the needs of the participants and stakeholders.

## Partner Agencies and Organizations

The Butte County CAM Project includes the following partners:

### *Child Welfare*

- Butte County Department of Employment and Social Services, Children Services Division

### *Substance Abuse*

- Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs

### *Courts*

- Juvenile Court System
- Parents and minors' Counsel and County Counsel

### *Behavioral Health*

- Butte County Department of Behavioral Health

### *Other Evaluation and Training*

- University of California, Davis – Northern Training and Research Academy

## CAM Program Description

Children Affected by Methamphetamine (CAM) is a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) funded grant program focused on expanding and/or enhancing services to children and their families who are affected by methamphetamine use and abuse. The Public Health Service Act of 2000 Section 509 provided funding over a four-year period to 12 Family Treatment Drug Courts (FTDC) to improve the well-being, permanency, and safety outcomes of children, who are in, or at-risk of out-of-home placement as a result of parental methamphetamine or other substance abuse.

## Performance Indicators

CAM grantees are measuring their performance related to outcomes for children and adults.

The **Butte County CAM Project** bi-annually provides data on the following 18 performance indicators:

### Child/Youth Indicators

- Children remain at home
- Occurrence of child maltreatment
- Average length of stay in foster care
- Re-entries to foster care placement
- Timeliness of reunification
- Timeliness of permanency
- Prevention of substance-exposed newborn
- Connected to supportive services
- Improved child well-being

### Adult Indicators

- Access to substance abuse treatment
- Retention in treatment
- Reduced substance use
- Connected to supportive services
- Employment
- Criminal behavior

### Family/Relationship Indicators

- Improved parenting
- Family relationships and functioning
- Risk and protective factors