FAMILY VISIT COACHING
IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY
FAMILY VISIT COACHING

VISIT COACHING IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Implemented September 2016

Goals:

- Expedite transition from supervised visitation to unsupervised visitation
- Promote timely family reunification
- Help visitation occur in a more natural setting
WHAT IS FAMILY VISIT COACHING?

- Reaches an agreement with the parent about the child’s needs
- Provides support to meet the child’s needs
- Prepares parents for their child’s reactions
- Plan with parents to give the child their full attention
- Appreciates the parents’ strength and provide coaching
- Helps parents cope with their feelings for consistent visits
FAMILY VISIT COACHING

FOUR PRINCIPLES OF VISIT COACHING

Empowerment

Empathy

Responsiveness

Active Parenting
FAMILY VISIT COACHING

THE COACHING STRUCTURE

- Visit Planning/Initial Meeting
- Pre-Visit Meeting
- Family Visit Time
- Post-Visit Debrief
- Partnering
SAN DIEGO IMPLEMENTATION

- Included in our Community Services for Families contract
- At least one FTE visit coach per region
- Goal was to have between 15-30 coached visits per family, as determined by the needs of the family
- Move more quickly from supervised visitation to unsupervised visitation to reunification
- Help visitation occur in a more natural setting
FAMILY VISIT COACHING

REFERRING FAMILIES TO VISIT COACHING

Families not eligible for visit coaching
- 300(e) cases, marked “High risk” for visitation, actively psychotic, etc.

Priority given to higher-need families
- Received supervised visits for 90 days or longer
- Between 6 & 12 month hearings and stuck on their case plan
- Resistant family – Parents making no progress in visits
San Diego Contracted with the National Center for Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) to evaluate the program. The evaluation sought to answer some of the following questions:

- Does FVC improve odds of successful reunification?
- Does FVC decrease time to reunification?
- What are the mechanisms by which FVC benefits families?
- Do parents participating in FVC improve their parenting skills over time?
ODDS OF REUNIFYING IN 18 MONTHS: HIGHER-NEED FAMILIES

Did not receive Visit Coaching: 29%
Received Visit Coaching: 40%
ODDS OF REUNIFYING IN 18 MONTHS: ALL FAMILIES

- Referred, but did not participate: 39.43%
- Participated, but did not complete: 47.03%
- Completed Visit Coaching: 85.71%
FAMILY VISIT COACHING

CORRELATION BETWEEN # OF VISITS AND ODDS OF REUNIFICATION

Number of visits

Odds of reunification

0 20 40 60

NCCD | National Council on Crime & Delinquency
FAMILY VISIT COACHING

NEXT STEPS

- Eligibility Criteria
- County’s Capacity
- Supervised Visitation
FOR MORE INFORMATION

- [https://www.martybeyer.com/content/visit-coaching](https://www.martybeyer.com/content/visit-coaching)

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