Joint Session with CBCAP/PSSF/SLO/CJA

Alternative Response in Child Welfare[1]

Snapshot of the States

State	Agency: CBCAP PSSF SLO	Table Info Accurate re: ARS	If Not, Describe	Table Info Accurate re: CPS Innovations	If Not, Describe	Involvement with ARS and/or CPS Innovation	Describe Involvement	Ways to Become/ Expand Involvement –Individual/ Collective	Technical Assistance & Support Needed
AL	CBCAP	NO	Designate certain cases as "Prevention" cases. Has not risen to the level of concern for the Child's Safety. Called "assessment," not investigation.	NO	DHR refers to Family Resource Centers (aka Family Services Centers. Here children and families are eligible for prevention services/program at not charge and also other community services available.	Collaborative efforts among CBCAP, PSSF, SLO, CJA to understand and assist in strengthening families and protecting children.	"CAPTA gang" continues to stay in close communication to be able to work together. Frequent meetings are held to share information about prevention activities. Relationships build trust & lead to more collaborative efforts & partnerships in providing services.	No response	Work with Alicia Luckie to learn best practices in other states. Communication with AL Network of Family Resource Centers in order to provide services to children & families. This is a priority of AL Governor – to establish family services center in every county.
AL (2)	SLO	We have different response but does not meet core definition– thus 'other innovation in CPS'.	Prevention cases when does not rise to level of abuse/neglect handled as prevention assessment. Both 'investigation' and prevention are conducted as assessment. Family focused policy of not using investigation term.	NO	Referrals to family resource centers and other community resources.	We meet as "CAPTA gang" to improve collaboration and improve services.	We want to work more on this to improve services	No response	Use of FRIENDS and another National Resource Center such as Org Improvement to facilitate and bring examples of other states that Regional Federal Rep can use to help facilitate the dialogue as done previously.

[1] The principle source of information provided in this table comes from the *National Study on Differential Response in Child Welfare* published by the American Humane Association and the Child Welfare League of America in November 2006. Source data was provided by states in Spring 2006. Supplemental information is captured from CBCAP applications. Highlighted states did not provide information for the study and thus, information is needed.

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AK	SLO CBCAP PSSF CJA	YES		N/A; YES		No Response; NO CJA: Coordinator of CJA-Task Force and coordinator of our 3 differential response grants.	No Response CJA: Wrote first proposal and grant requests, reports, and helped with development of first AR program for state (affiliated with CAC in community) as well as assisting with evaluation study by U of Alaska on effective-ness. Now just provide informational consults for local AR staff on medical questions and training. CJA: Monitor DR grants and offer TA. Training to get all 3 grantees on same page with their programs. Asking grantees to do safety assessments and meet weekly w/ OCS.	Sara Gray with CJA is involved with AR program.	No Response
AZ	PSSF CJA SLO	YES	Do not have AR currently. However, wide variety of services are offered to families during and after investigation, regardless of the finding.	YES	The person most knowledgeable did not attend this workshop.	No Response; Somewhat; NO	No Response; Multidisciplinary Team member.	Start with education– for agency to let all departments and allied professionals know what is happening; Drafting of statutory authorization, development of policy and procedures for implementation, engaging broader community re: service provision and support of families.	How do you assess success? CFSR implications for services only cases – specifically visitation and case management requirements.

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AR									
CA[2]					Differential Response				
CO	CJA	YES		YES	Child Welfare and TANF Implementation for Prevention Purposes.	NO		Training Technical Assistance	Would need a policy management change that ARS was going to be incorporated into practice. This would drive rules, public comment and ultimately training for all involved in investigation and assessment of referrals.
CT					Hartford Community Partnership				
DE	CBCAP SLO	YES		YES		NO		Bring back protective service units to address issues related to neglect	Need additional financial resources

[2]California Department of Social Services has established three pathways that are implemented by the county child welfare agencies. None of these pathways correspond to the definition of differential response (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2003). Therefore, although the pathways have some of the essential criteria, the approach is characterized as an innovation.

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DC	CBCAP CJA SLO	CBCAP: NO SLO: YES	There is a formal pathway for screened out reports. They are referred to the collaboratives for case management and service provision. (Check in 3rd column under *DR/CW in Development, pg 7of Learning Tool*)	No Response SLO: YES	Community Collaboratives. Families are able to assess services through their community collaborative.	No Response; SLO: Meet with collaborative staff monthly; would like to create a community based child protection system	Innovations: Use of Family Team Meetings and mediation for all accepted cases. Use of FTM on the community level for families as a preventive measure. SLO: CFSA fund the collaborative. Has contracts with collaborative that identify the type of services to provide.	Need AR for under-age youth who are living on their own. They do not want CPS involvement & don't' want their families charged but want services. Going back/returning home or being placed in foster or congregate care is unacceptable for them (2005 study).	What models exist for vulnerable youth/disconnected youth? What models exist to assist parents who have youth with challenging behaviors? Assistance needs to be provided before situation escalates to allegations/ incidents of child maltreatment. SLO: CPS Administration is very interested in developing an AR to investigations. CFSA is very much in need of technical assistance.
FL	SLO CJA	NO	ARS in development		Neighborhood Partnerships for Protection of children [Community based care initiative]	No Response	FL is piloting 2 AR models at 3 different sites with implementation to occur mid-summer. FL has contracted with CWI to facilitate safety and family assessments, instrument design, staff training, and data evaluation components for piloted sites.	FL Family Safety Program Office is responsible for arranging funding and providing technical support to field operations. Project management is employed out of this office.	None at this time.

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GA	CBCAP PSSF	NO	"Diversion Response" is statewide alternative response to GA CPA intervention. There is not uniform state policy; each of 159 counties develops/implements its own protocol for assessment and referral.	YES – Strategy is limited to 8 county neighbor-hood based collaborative.	Community Partnerships for Protecting children	Other Innovation	• Family Support & Preservation Service Network of Agencies. • Funding for PSSF FS and Diversion Services & CPPC. • Title IV B Subpart 2 Training (strength based/family centered practice skills) for staff and providers. • Network of PSSF Family Support Agencies that are serving at-risk families before or with no CPS involvement.	Formal protocols for coordination and referral to community based services funded through PSSF and CBCAP.	TA Requested: • Assessment of current community capacity to support differential response system • o Development of protocols to facilitate service coordination, delivery and reporting on outcomes to AR.
HI	CBCAP	YES		Don't Know		NO	CBCAP not involved; However, service providers who provide AR sometimes receive CBCAP funding.	Many ways that CBCAP and CTF could be involved. Will look at how to be more involved.	No Response
ID	SLO CJA CBCAP	YES	There is an informal referral system from health and welfare to several of our CBCAP programs.	YES		NO	We have prevention school programs and community prevention resources that families are referred to when they do not meet criteria of a child abuse or neglect referral.	More conversations with PSSF and H&W to strengthen knowledge of what we could do & how best to collaborate.	State funding & resources.
IL	No Response	No Response		NO	IL Child and Youth Intervention Teams – designed to look at Placement issues, Placement stability. Integrated Assessment Program – *Not noted by respondent.*		Family group conference tried about 4-5 years ago, Maybe time to try AR.		Expressed concern re: accountability and AR.

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IN	CBCAP PSSF SLO CJA	YES	Not pure AR system– It is for families at risk of CAN. Referrals are verbal and can be made by any partner including CPS that may have contact with these families. Secondary prevention and voluntary participation.		• One separate state agency – huge reform initiative began two years ago – new administration push for "community response". • Option to move forward – hiring 800 new workers over 4 years. • Money available for training. • Vision for screened out reports, but not happening in practice. • Able to give start up funds – statewide regional allocations based on 6 million. • Encouraged to raise funds for local unique needs – use IV-E savings for start-up. • Beyond April 1 collecting Data. Community Partners for Child Safety – *Not noted by respondent.*	YES	Provision of whatever services the family thinks they need. Start up $$ provided. Service delivery just begun; data collection just begun. Family functioning assessment used statewide. Data system checks whether case is substantiated in 12 month period.	In any ways requested.	NRC Availability helpful.

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IA[3]	CBCAP PSSF SLO CJA	YES		NO	IA Provides Community Care as an 'other innovations in CPS'. Community Care fits AR criteria except that finding is made prior to assigning to Community care provider. Child Abuse Assessment & Community Partnerships for Protecting children. *Not noted by respondent*	PSSF- Community Care	Community Care Program Manager	No Response	No Response
KS	CBCAP SLO CJA	NO	ARS in development; It will be statewide.	NO Response	Several Regions using a system where cases normally screened out, or a non-abuse/neglect or truancy case are referred to community service agency for prevention services.	SLO involved in prior column activity. CJA, CBCAP and SLO involved in development of MRS	Input on Program Design Possible funding, training and TA	CBCAP: funding and TA in providing primary/preventive service; TA on community collaboration & assessment. SLO: TA/assist with development of MRS. CJA: Funding of services or demonstration projects to address needs of families.	NRC-CPS - Continue TA/training in development of our MRS including design pieces of RFP for community services, cost of services, and quality assurance.
KY	X		X		Community Partnerships for Protecting children.				

[3] Iowa's response system, although not an alternative response, provides a formal pathway to refer the family to a community-based agency.

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LA	CBCAP PSSF SLO CJA	YES		YES		YES	CBCAP: none at this time. PSSF: Funding Services. SLO: Lead in implementation. CJA: Facilitating System Improvement.	CBCAP: help with community based services. PSSF: Education of providers. CJA: Education role.	Research and evaluation.
ME	CBCAP PSSF SLO CJA	NO	Need to include information about innovations in CPS.	NO		CJA provides training and information. CPS provides the Community Intervention Programs. CBCAP liaison on some projects.	Referral system in place for the last 5 years. There is a new ARS policy for low to moderate risk families. Some will be referred directly to the agencies or may be assessed by CPS and then referred to community agencies. The cases are not substantiated or indicated. Services are voluntary and determined by the district.	More discussion has started to happen in the last few years, but there could be more. May want to use the Child Abuse and Neglect Council with an expanded membership to include all relevant parties.	Need to have more information about what is happening since the State may be not aware. Need more discussions with other counterparts.
MD	CBCAP PSSF SLO	In development.		NO		YES	Setting up statewide advisory group, determine a pilot, involved with U of MD School of SW, completing a service array assessment throughout the State. Using Family Team Meetings.	Become part of workgroup; explore how PSSF can be used to support the pilot, invite CBCAP agency as a participant.	Plan to use NRC on CPS as consultant.
MA	CBCAP PSSF SLO	YES		NO	Add Patch and Community Connections. Connecting Families is actually on a more limited scale and is linked to Community Connections into areas. Connecting Families.	YES	PSSF: Funding, oversee T/Ta team and representation on WWFRFS & Structured decision making, family networks. CBCAP: Advisory group for WWFRFS. SLO: Decision and Support teams, oversee policy development statewide.	• Not enough time to sustain level of involvement. • Challenges in involving right number and right type of stakeholders on any particular issue.	Coordinated effort – or at least conversations- at local level to focus efforts to support families – e.g., family resource centers at libraries.

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MI	No Response	YES		NO	• Multiple site 'Great Start' public/private collaborations for 0-5years. • Strong families, safe children funded collaborative bodies. • Each county has a community collaborative but they may not have the above purpose. • Wrap around model – multicounty. • SDM: 5-category disposition.	YES	• Family Court Judge – Intervention. • Chairperson for Local Collaborative Body. • MI has strong public/private collaborations connected directly to local service delivery however it is rare to see any direct connection or focus on AR pathways.	No Response	No Response
MN	CBCAP PSSF SLO CJA	YES	Formal pathway for screened out reports is a pilot parent support outreach effort in about half of our counties.	YES		YES	CBCAP: Fund services to families not screened in. PSSF: Fund AR. SLO: Instituted and manages. CJA: Developed and supported screening guidelines and mandated reporters guide.	For all: Coordinate planning, reporting and resources to serve families as early as possible while protecting children using culturally competent approaches.	Need the federal government to support the front end of system to support families before crisis. AR is not sufficient.
MS									
MO	SLO CJA	YES		YES	Added new pilot example, includes an intensive response to Chronic Neglect cases (similar to FPS/115 model).	YES	SLO– provision of services, funding, training and TA. CJA– Accountability require state to report on how CPS is functioning.	CJA Agenda Item – Explore way to energize staff since we're doing AR for 12 years now.	Same as preceding column.
MT									

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NE	CBCAP PSSF SLO CJA	YES		NO	• Pilot project referring screened out reports to community agency for assessment. • Prevention partnership – statewide prevention plan developed that includes developing community based prevention systems for families. • Pilot projects that divert families from CPS and court systems. Services are provided by community based agencies.	YES	Funding, technical assistance, planning, support implementation efforts, training.	Remain active in current projects. Monitor pilot projects and support replication.	No Response
NV[4]	PSSF	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response	Not involved directly but others that are part of division contribute to ARS .	They provide feedback and support.	Individually, I could offer feedback and provide input. Collectively, NV CBCAP state lead, who is directly involved in pilot, emphasizes collaboration and I would enjoy working with her.	I am not too familiar with requirements and ongoing needs. I could communicate with state lead to gain more information.
NV[5]	CBCAP PSSF	NO				YES	We have pilot DR program that started in Feb 07 in 2 FRC's in Clark County. We have bill in NV legislature for funding to expand DR program statewide by SFY 2010.	We are very involved.	

[4] Nevada has enabling legislation that allows for statewide use of *formal* alternative response. There are no broad efforts to initiate the system and lack of organizational capacity has resulted in limited success. (*Reclassified for this table; National Study characterizes Washoe County, NV as having an ARS.)*

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NH	CBCAP: Karen PSSF: Bernie SLO CJA	NO	Have an ARS/CW statewide; Comprehensive Family Support.		Respite without CPS involvement.	YES	Funding, Technical Assistance, monitor and evaluation.	• Public Advocacy for funding for primary and secondary community based prevention programs. • Public awareness about availability of services for families in need.	• Building support to increase awareness for value of community based prevention programs. T & TA on doing PSAs, etc. • More qualified evidence based information re: success of AR programs.
NJ					Child Welfare Service/ Assessment.				
NM[6]	CBCAP PSSF SLO CJA	YES		NO	• Systematic referral to community or in-home services for substantiated and non-sub cases depending on risk and other factors. • Services and referrals may be provided during an investigation before a finding or after investigation.	YES	CBCAP: program & contract management. PSSF: same as above. SLO: program development. CJA: program and contact management.	Cross area collaboration and coordination between PSSF and CBCAP and the courts.	District Round Table Coordinating CBCAP and PSSF.
NY[7]					Differential Response				
NC	CJA CBCAP PSSF	YES		YES; Uncertain	• Court Improvement • System of Care • Community Collaborations	NO CBCAP & PSSF: YES	All community based programs: Provision of services to families and children thru CBCAP, PSSF, and state funds.	Better understand implications in using ARS, specific statutory authority behind it and research on its efficiency.	Question better suited to staff of state DHHS.

[5] Nevada has enabling legislation that allows for statewide use of *formal* alternative response. There are no broad efforts to initiate the system and lack of organizational capacity has resulted in limited success. (*Reclassified for this table; National Study characterizes Washoe County, NV as having an ARS.)*

[6] New Mexico's Differential Response is dedicated to meet the needs of families not screened in to the Child Protective Services System.

[7] New York's child abuse statute requires that a determination of suspected maltreatment be made and the perpetrator's name be entered into the central registry. Nonetheless, Westchester County is attempting to implement the other characteristics and elements of an alternative response county-wide.

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ND	CBCAP PSSF SLO CJA	YES	Some informal ARS practices but they don't fit into categories as provided.	YES It is reflective of current practice.	Safety Strength Risk Assessment.	YES	Funding, Training, Quality Assurance, Technical Assistance	Additional collaboration with service providers.	Substantial discussion spent reviewing what in our practice was ARS, how this will intersect with CFSR issues, and in-office issues about preparing for our upcoming CFSR.
OH	No Response				Development of AR is under public agency and court auspices CIP picking up some of this.		Piloting 10 counties; AHA & IAR involved; Trying to determine local funding. 2 year contract for 1.4million; TANF/CJA/ & Basic State Grants; SACWIS rolling out; Safety and risk assessment rolling out too.		
OK		YES – But limited due to resources		NO	• Need to be flexible so that services are pertinent to community (rural v urban). • Continued efforts with Child Death Review Board & DV Fatality Review Board in preventing neglectful deaths (i.e., hot cars, fires, drowning, unsafe sleeping). • Increase funds for prevention services across the state.	YES	SLO: Policy implementation of ARS statewide. PSSF: Some services for parenting circles. CBCAP: Health dept. in OK – trying to keep out of ARS; parallel to AR – more referral to services. CJA: Multi-disciplinary team training which includes CJA funds.	No Response	Just did big system change. Don't see need for TA.
OR	No Response	YES		YES	TANF with identified risk factors & CPS closed at screening, there is a voluntary referral to some community services. Family Support and Connections.	Family Support and Connections (TANF).	OR CPS/FBS technical assistance. Commission on Children and Families identifies 'at risk' families.	AR would provide less adversity.	Would like to have information about how other states are using AR.
PA	X								

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RI									
SC									
SD					Initial Family Assessment				
TN	X		X						
TX	CBCAP PSSF	YES		Post Investigation referrals.	Community Partnerships for Strengthening Families – *Not noted on respondent's form.*	No response	CBCAP/PSSF Prevention– working to build on strengthening system for prevention/ community based services for screened out or closed CPS.	No response	Just did CPS renewal – working through those changes with focus on screening. Don't need more TA or support on this issue.
UT	CBCAP: Irv Kohlman	YES		YES	Domestic Violence Pilot Project.	NO		We would not want to redirect funding dedicated to primary and secondary prevention (CVCAP, PSSF, CTF, & Crisis/ Respite nurseries) to services for children with "open" CPS cases – a finding "supported". However, more alternatives are needed to court mandated services.	
VT	CBCAP CJA	DK YES		YES	"A bill is in legislature to change this." There are child protection teams empanelled in each district. Do not know if these fit definition. Created by statute.	YES, in development.	On committee that is drafting revisions to VT's juvenile proceedings statute which is re-examining dept and court policies. Also working with legislature on revisions to VT child abuse registry law.	Would love to be involved in any area deemed appropriate; Work toward further statutory reform of statutes related to investigation of CA and provision of services (CJA/CIP).	More info on current and proposed policies within DCF. This would be helpful in work with orgs in the community funded CBCAP and CTF; Training such as this, regarding particular approaches the dept may explore.

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VA	CBCAP SLO CJA	YES		YES	SDM being piloted	YES	Provision of Services Funding Training Technical Assistance	No Response	Need for increased funding from federal, state, and local government.
WA	CBCAP CJA	YES	WA ARS System is very basic. ARS cases are assessed low-risk or not screened in. All services are provided by contracted community based agencies. MN model may be adopted by WA.			CBCAP: YES, To a limited degree CJA: NO	We study ARS data and seek to understand the funding. We also have volunteered ourselves for the prevention expertise (i.e., family strengths-based engagement) that is relevant to ARS effectiveness. We are not impressed by outcomes being achieved by ARS system to date.	CBCAP: Increasing our investment in EBPs and discussion with CWS and TANF how referrals from these systems will be managed & prioritized. CJA: Encouraging task force to fund projects that will provide more community involvement.	Understanding that definitional problems experienced in WA are prevalent elsewhere is helpful; Continued encouragement to both CWS/PSSF and CBCAP agencies to cooperate/collaborate is also appreciated, esp. CWS/PSSF who tend to ignore prevention services (CBCAP).
WV	CBCAP	Not Certain		Not Certain		NO	N/A	Not Certain	More Knowledge
WI	PSSF SLO	YES		NO	Using term "Community Response" to distinguish between public and private roles. Uses FGC as part of Community Response (2-3 jurisdictions). • WI CTF offered grants to 6 county agencies to provide community based child protection on screened out reports/referrals thru a community response approach. • Not technically AR; Driven by Children's Trust Fund.	YES	Emerged out of 2 year planning process to develop comp plan to prevent maltreatment. Coordinating systems and services more effectively – this came up over and over. Pointed to Comm Response. State association promoting new approach. Staff person from DCFS is liaison. • Draft proposed legislation and policies as providing technical assistance. When legislation is enacted, training will be provided and policy procedures will be finalized.	Collaborating with community partners and child welfare stakeholders will be critical.	As WI proceeds with alternative response, we will see TA from the NRCCPS. Some staff fearful that investigative unit will become forensic in nature.

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WY	CBCAP PSSF SLO CJA	YES		No Response	Family Partnership Conf.	No Response	CBCAP: funding for community based services for prevention. PSSF: track in CPS. SLO: policy for change to make provision of services; assist with customer concerns. CJA: assist in training services.	CBCAP & PSSF: assist in letting county offices know of services and costs. SLO: passing info to appropriate staff/partner organizations. CJA: organize services/groups for state.	More funds for families/services; speakers for CW to learn; speakers for families/ conferences; TA model – how they help states.