

## Well-Being Learning Lab Overview

Children's Mental Health and Well-Being  
Workgroup 11.3.16

## What is TotalChild?

•Four Oaks has been operating an innovative, collaborative system of care (SOC) called TotalChild in Cedar Rapids since 2011.

•This comprehensive SOC was developed to address the fragmented funding, service delivery and results for too many children and families were experiencing.

•TotalChild enrolls children ages 3-17 who have many challenges, and works to help them reach stability in all areas of their life, and maintain those gains until age 18.

•More specifically, it is a System of Care model that is child-focused and family-driven - coordinating services and supports by all providers, as informed by a comprehensive assessment and using a single case plan.

## How Does TotalChild Work?

•The TotalChild approach works to achieve stability across the multiple systems that are involved in a child and family's life: child welfare, substance abuse, mental health, etc.

•But TotalChild goes further: it adds support for additional critical components such as parenting, housing, education, transportation, employment and other family needs for success and stability.

•In the short term, TotalChild strives to achieve stability across all domains within a year (*short-term*). It is more cost-effective by keeping kids and families out of crisis.

•Once the child and family have achieved and maintained stability, TotalChild follows the child and the family to maintain stability, through age 18 (*long-term*).

## Mental Health and Well-Being Case Example

Payton, age 8, and his brother Phillip, age 4 were at risk of foster care placement because of safety concerns related to the lack of parental supervision and unsanitary and inadequate housing. Payton was struggling in school and Phillip was not on track to be school-ready.

The parents had a very difficult time finding housing due to poor rental history and an assault charge. They were under continual stress, have challenging mental health concerns, which impacted their parenting.

Coordinating services among several providers and the family's support network - the single plan focused on:

- maintain safe and sanitary housing
- improve enrichment activities and supervision for the children
- trauma-informed mental health treatment for the parents and children
- academic and afterschool support
- medical treatment for physical health concerns
- help with food, clothing, and shoes

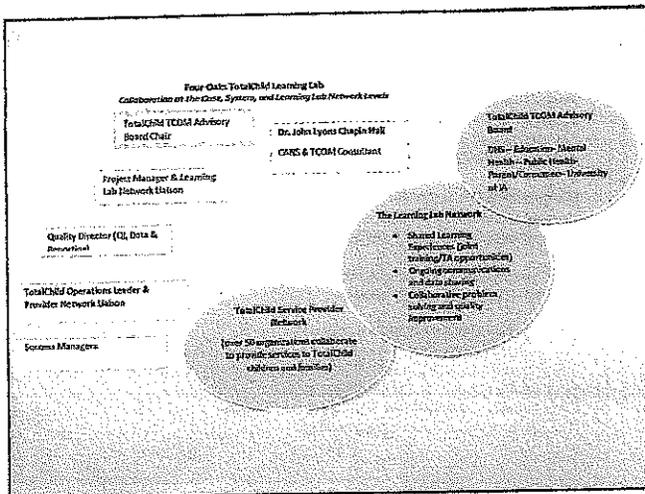
## What are the TotalChild Results?

July 2011 – September 2016

- 1070 children enrolled in Linn County
- Of those enrolled for a year, 96% reached stability
- Following more than 600 until age 18
- Nearly 90 have reached age 18 and are still stable
- Expanded TotalChild SOC model to Mason City and Davenport

## TotalChild Learning Lab

- Select 80 TotalChild children and their families.
- Partner with Dr. John Lyons, a Senior Policy Fellow at Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago. Dr. Lyons is the developer of result management tools, such as *Children and Adolescent Needs and Strengths* assessment (CANS) within the context of an outcomes management approach for all human services called Transformational Collaborative Outcomes Management (TCOM).
- Dr. Lyons will work with the TotalChild Learning Lab team to review and enhance current assessment and case planning processes to further broaden our focus and strengthen our collaborative approach at the case level.
- Create formal mechanisms to advance system-level collaboration with a shared vision and sustainable support for well-being for children and families with multi-system needs. Develop formal MOUs with the Learning Lab Network and a new TCOM Advisory Board.



## Children's Mental Health and Well-Being Collaboration

We are excited by the opportunity to partner with the other Learning Labs, share our data and promising approaches, and engage in collaborative problem-solving and quality improvement when we identify common barriers or areas of concern that cross Learning Labs.

We will invite other Children's Well-Being Learning Labs and the Children's Mental Health Crisis Planning projects to attend our community training events (such as the kick off meeting facilitated by Dr. John Lyons) and we will gladly participate in joint training events that are planned by the other projects.