

Handout #1

Small Tests of Change: Using the Model for Improvement

Agency/Site _____

A key challenge to enhancing our family-centered practice with children and families

Overall strategy being tested to address this challenge _____

Now it is time to turn this strategy into one or multiple small tests of change that can be accomplished by "Next Tuesday." The tests begin as very small tests of change, typically involving one child, family, caseworker, or clinician.

Individual Tests

PLAN Who is going to do it?

What is going to do be done?

Where will it be done?

When will it be done?

Hypotheses (What do we expect to happen? What data will we use?)

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DO

What did we do?

Who did it?

When was it completed?

STUDY

Use the DATA, reflect and ask yourself:

- What happened?
- Did what you expect to happen actually happen?

ACT/ADJUST

What did you learn?

- What needs to be adjusted and how for your next small test cycle?
- If the small test worked, how will you test it out again, more broadly?
 - With a different audience?
 - With multiple clinicians?
 - With multiple clients?

Create a new small test of change based on what you have learned from this test by going through the Plan, Do, Study, Act cycle again. How can the test be larger or spread?