



CAPTA Innovation Project: Origin and Objective

The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) provides grants for states to focus on identifying, preventing, and responding to child abuse and neglect. At Children's Friend, we have historically served families referred through CAPTA via First Connections, a short-term home-visiting service. First Connections' current funding structure does not sufficiently provide for the services and supports needed by high-risk families such as those referred through CAPTA.

Children's Friend began the CAPTA Innovation Project (IP) in 2017 to pilot a new procedure and process of serving Rhode Island's most vulnerable young children using effective assessment of CAPTA families and ensuring connection to an appropriate level of services and supports.

An Innovative Model for High-Risk, High-Needs Families

Key elements of the CAPTA Innovation Project include:

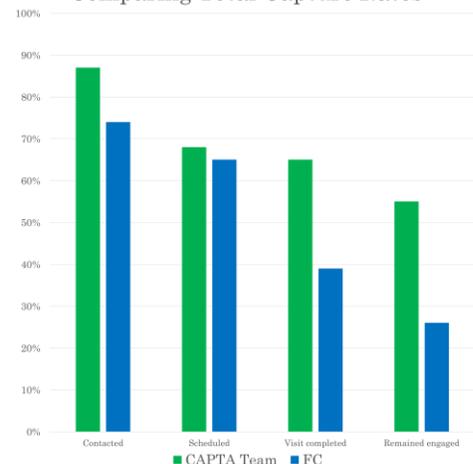
- **Multidisciplinary, multi-dimensional, cross-agency team:** The CAPTA Innovation Project Team is composed of direct service staff and leadership from a cross-section of agency programs. Two-person teams (a social worker and a nurse) make weekly home visits, and leadership members assist and facilitate in making urgent connections and supporting referrals. Weekly team meetings are held to discuss each case and determine appropriate objectives and courses of action for each client.
- **Six-stage intensive intervention process:** High-intensity triage, care coordination, service delivery, and emergency response is provided through (1) prescreening, (2) robust outreach, (3) assessment, (4) goal-setting, (5) connection, and (6) follow-up
- **Ongoing monitoring/quality improvement:** Qualitative data is collected on the experience of the program from the family and staff perspective in order to identify opportunities for improvement. Quantitative data, including demographics and process variables, is analyzed for capture rates and patterns of engagement.

Results

Better Total Capture Rates: Comparing the CAPTA Innovation Project model to the traditional First Connections model, we find increases in client capture rates at (1) initial contact and (2) visits scheduled, as well as *major* improvement in (3) visits completed and (4) continued engagement past first visit.

Better Retention Between Contact and Visit: In addition (not shown in graph), the CAPTA Innovation Project showed greater success in overall client retention with a very significant increase in clients retained between the moment in which a first visit was scheduled and when that visit was completed.

Comparing Total Capture Rates



Data from 2017-2018 Cycle

