



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Office of Family Assistance

Tribal TANF 2014: Addressing the Needs of Children

TANF Children Endangered by Drug Use



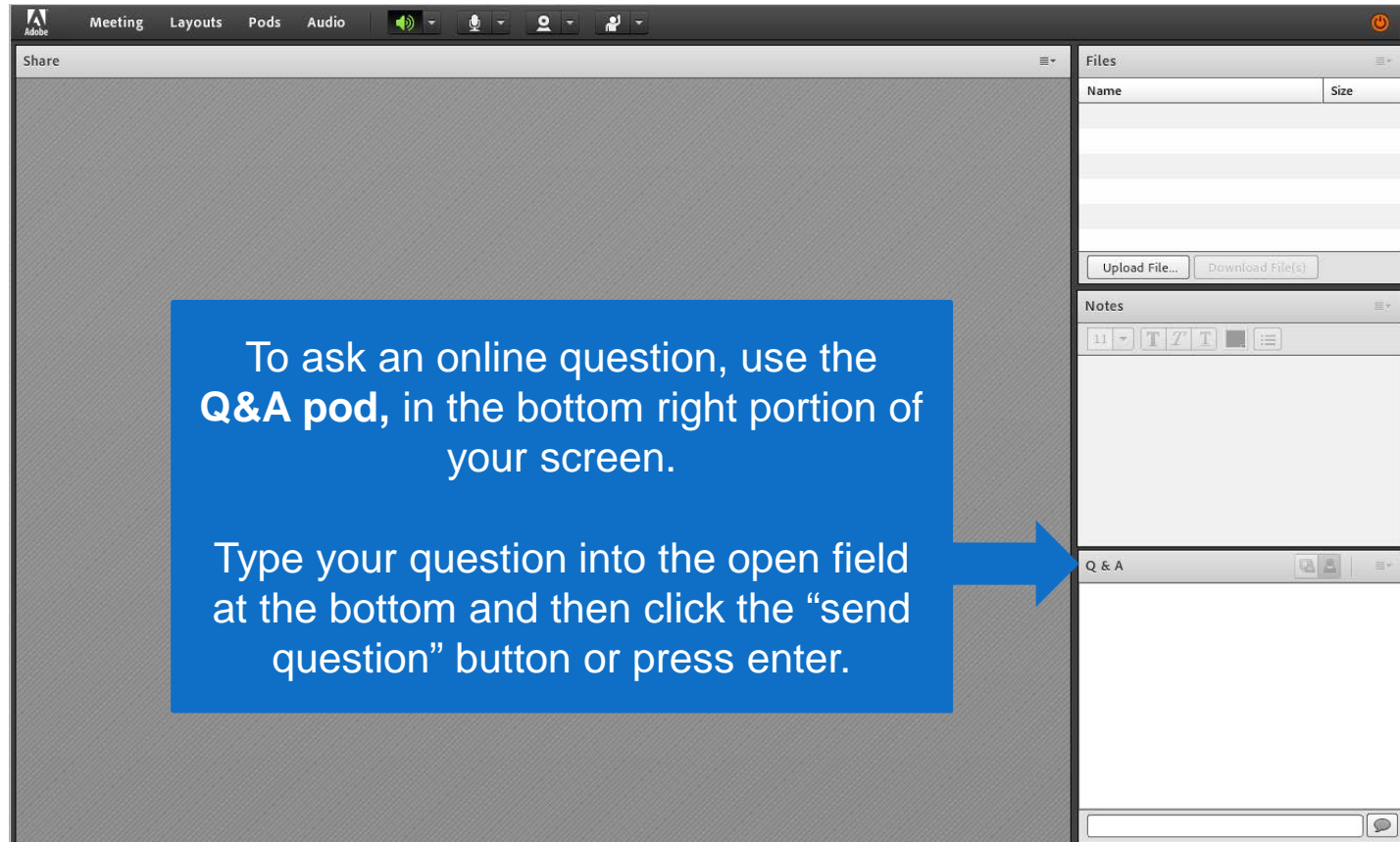
August 12, 2014 | 2 p.m. EDT

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Participant Phone Number: 1-888-510-1767

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Asking a Question



The screenshot displays the Adobe meeting interface. At the top, there is a menu bar with options: Meeting, Layouts, Pods, and Audio. Below this is a toolbar with icons for audio, video, and chat. The main area is a large grey rectangle with a textured background. On the right side, there are several panels: a 'Files' panel with a table for file names and sizes, an 'Upload File...' button, and a 'Download File(s)' button; a 'Notes' panel with a text area and a toolbar; and a 'Q & A' panel with a text input field and a 'send question' button. A blue callout box is overlaid on the main area, containing instructions on how to ask a question. A blue arrow points from the callout box to the 'Q & A' panel.

To ask an online question, use the **Q&A pod**, in the bottom right portion of your screen.

Type your question into the open field at the bottom and then click the “send question” button or press enter.

Welcome and Introductions

Larry Brendel

Regional Program Manager, Region VI
Administration for Children and Families,
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



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TANF Children Endangered by Drug Use



Stacey Read

Director of DEC Network Development

National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children



Drug Endangered Children: Building a Successful Collaborative Response

Stacey Read, Director of DEC Network Development

National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children

A photograph of three young children sitting on a wooden bench outdoors. The child on the left is a girl in a pink patterned dress, the middle child is a boy in a grey shirt, and the child on the right is a girl in a brown t-shirt. They are all smiling and appear to be eating. The background is a wooden wall with a lattice structure.

Our Goal:

Healthy, Happy & Safe Children

100%

Understanding Risk



2.1 million children
in the United States live in homes
where a **parent uses** illicit drugs

SOURCE: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration,
Office of Applied Studies, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2007.

Understanding Risk



9.2 million children
in the United States live in homes
where a **parent or other adult uses**
illicit drugs

Understanding Risk



American Indians and Alaska Natives
have the **highest rate of**
current illicit drug use.

Understanding Risk



Children whose parents abuse alcohol or drugs are:

- 3 times more likely to be verbally, physically or sexually abused
- 4 times more likely than other children to be neglected

Understanding Risk



Children of parents with substance use disorders have a higher likelihood of developing substance use problems themselves.

Understanding Risk



child-friendly
Initiative

Defining Drug Endangered Children (DEC)



The National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children defines drug endangered children as children who are at risk of suffering physical or emotional harm as a result of illegal drug use, possession, manufacturing, cultivation, or distribution.

They may also be children whose caretaker's substance misuse interferes with the caretaker's ability to parent and provide a safe and nurturing environment.

Understanding Risk



Children + Drugs = RISK

Understanding Risk



Risk (n.): The chance of something going wrong; the danger that injury, damage or loss will occur.

-Encarta Dictionary of North America

Understanding Risk



- All drug endangered children are at risk
- How much risk and risk for what varies

Understanding Risk



- Risk of Physical Abuse
- Risk of Neglect
- Risk of Exposure to Illegal Activities
- Other Risks
 - Exposure to violence
 - Overlay deaths
 - Exposure and ingestion
 - Sexual abuse
 - Emotional Abuse
 - Loss

Postnatal Risks

- Risk of Physical Abuse
 - Erratic discipline
 - Increased irritability
 - Irrational rage



Postnatal Risks

- Risk of Neglect
 - Lack of supervision
 - Lack of necessities
 - Lack of safe and nurturing environment
 - Dangerous home
 - Incapacitated caregiver



Lack of Necessities and Safe Environment



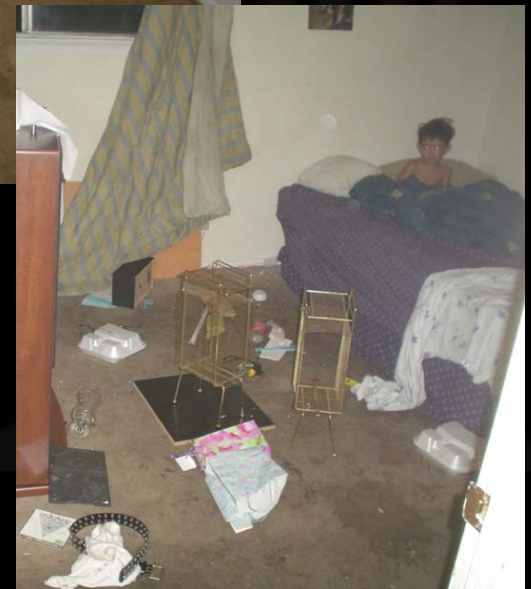
Dangerous Home



Incapacitated Caretaker



- Example:
 - Salt Lake City, UT
 - “Rocking up” crack cocaine
 - Officers entered discovered these two children behind closed doors



Postnatal Risks

Risk of Exposure to Illegal Activities

- Exposure to violence/Domestic Violence
- Drug dealing
- Drug transporting
- Kidnapping
- Home invasions



Drug Transporting



- Father and girlfriend arrested for distribution
- Father transported his two children from California, through Iowa, and on East and back two weekends in a row with a truck bed full of marijuana
- Father arrested in Midwest; children taken into protective custody
- Children spent many hours in car

Postnatal Risks



- Other Risks

- Overlay deaths
- Exposure and ingestion
- Sexual abuse
- Emotional Abuse



Exposure and Ingestion

Example:

- Heroin-using couple
- 14-month-old baby
- 2nd degree burns from stove
- Broken hypodermic needle in the baby's buttocks
- Baby's hair was falling out from malnutrition



Medical



- Over 113,000 ED visits for *accidental ingestion* of drugs, 77,000 involved children that were age 5 and under
- This is 25 times higher than the rate for adults.



How do we get to 100%?

- Understand the long-term needs of drug endangered children
- Implement appropriate and efficient intervention strategies



Understanding the Long-Term Needs of DEC



- **Children growing up in drug environments:**
 - Are denied the fundamental developmental experiences required to self-regulate, relate, communicate and think
 - Experience neglect, daily chaos, a lack of safety, poor communication, violence, and disorganization
 - Disruption of parent/child relationship, child's sense of trust, belonging

Understanding the Long-Term Needs of DEC



- **Consequently, children growing up in drug environments experience:**
 - Emotional problems
 - Behavioral problems
 - Cognitive problems



Understanding the Long-Term Needs of DEC



- Some Examples of Emotional Problems
 - Attachment Disorders
 - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
 - Anxiety
 - Depression
 - Complex Emotions

Understanding the Long-Term Needs of DEC



- Some Examples of Behavioral Problems
 - Interpersonal Problems
 - Inappropriate Sexual Behaviors
 - Low Threshold for Stimulation
 - Eating Disorders

Understanding the Long-Term Needs of DEC



- Some Examples of Cognitive Problems
 - Difficulty talking and listening
 - Difficulty paying attention
 - Difficulty remembering
 - Trouble reading, especially learning to move from left to right
 - Often do not learn from mistakes or experiences
 - Trouble picking up on social cues

Collaborative Mindset





COLLABORATION:

[E]xchange of information, altering of activities, sharing of resources, and **enhancement of the capacity of another for the mutual benefit of all** and to achieve a common purpose.

Collaborative Mindset



The expertise and resources of *multiple professionals, agencies*, and *communities* combine to *improve interventions* for children and families



What is the DEC Approach



Approach is based on *collaboration and changing the status quo* of how disciplines respond to the needs of drug endangered children:

- *common vision*
- *insight* about our partners
- *commitment to change* our practices



MORE INFORMATION

=

MORE INFORMED DECISIONS

=

BETTER OUTCOMES

Collaborative Mindset



- What we know already:

Collaboration is challenging

- What we may not know:

WHY collaboration is challenging

Collaborative Mindset



WHY collaboration is challenging:

- Competing goals
- Relationship issues
- Control issues
- Differing values
- Helplessness
- Un-channeled passion/energy



Jenny Rojas Video





By collaborating, we increase
the likelihood of success for the
good of children and families






Do we let children accept this reality?



Or do we change the status quo?




We ALL have an
intervention &
prevention
role to play

Diaphane '00



Changing our
attitudes &
beliefs

Diaphane '00



**Believe in the
future and
create the
reality**

Diagnose '00

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Healthy, Happy & Safe Children

100%



You are not alone:
National DEC supports
State and Tribal DEC Alliances

Introduction



Being part of the DEC movement:

- Makes you part of the larger solution
- Connects you to other professionals working on the same challenges
- Helps you advocate more effectively on behalf of children and families

National DEC

Formed in 2003 by passionate state leaders and incorporated in 2006 as a charitable nonprofit to help make a difference in the lives of drug endangered children



National DEC



- What is National DEC?
 - State Alliances
 - DEC Leader Network
 - Training & Resource Center
 - National Conference

How National DEC Supports You



- Access to the National Training & Resource Center
- Training and Education on DEC topics
- Technical assistance for capacity-building and developing more responsive state systems
- Development and sharing of best practices to help drug endangered children
- Updates on emerging research issues in the field
- Monthly DEC Connect Calls to connect the network
- Monthly community-focused and practitioner-based webinars

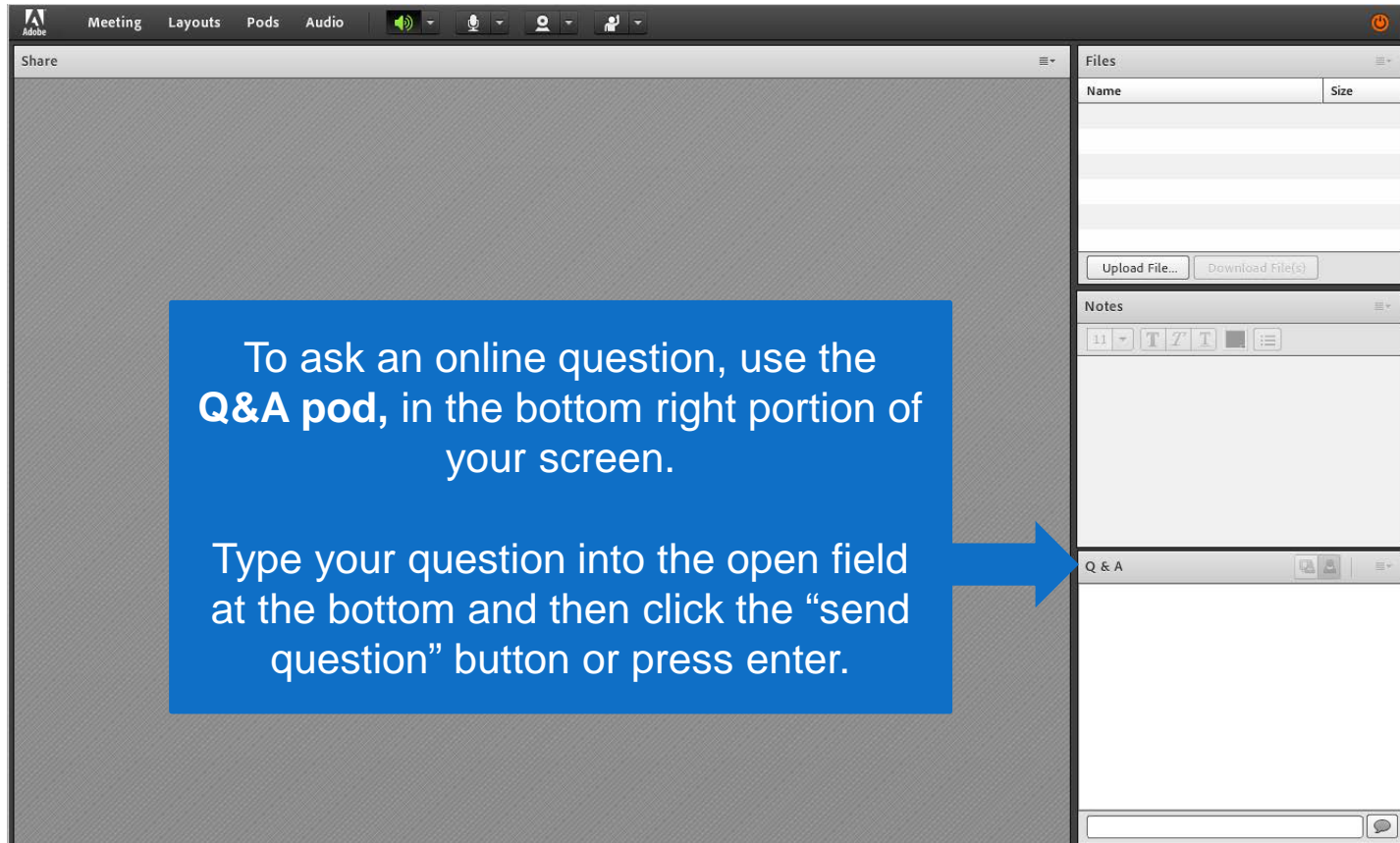
Thank You



SOARING EAGLES Pow-wow Dance Workshops, 2008 • Sponsored by SCAIR www.scair.org

www.nationaldec.org

Q and A



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Survey

Thank you for attending
today's Webinar!

Materials from today's Webinar will be posted to the
Peer Technical Assistance Network in the coming
weeks.