

Family Participation in Out-of-Home Care

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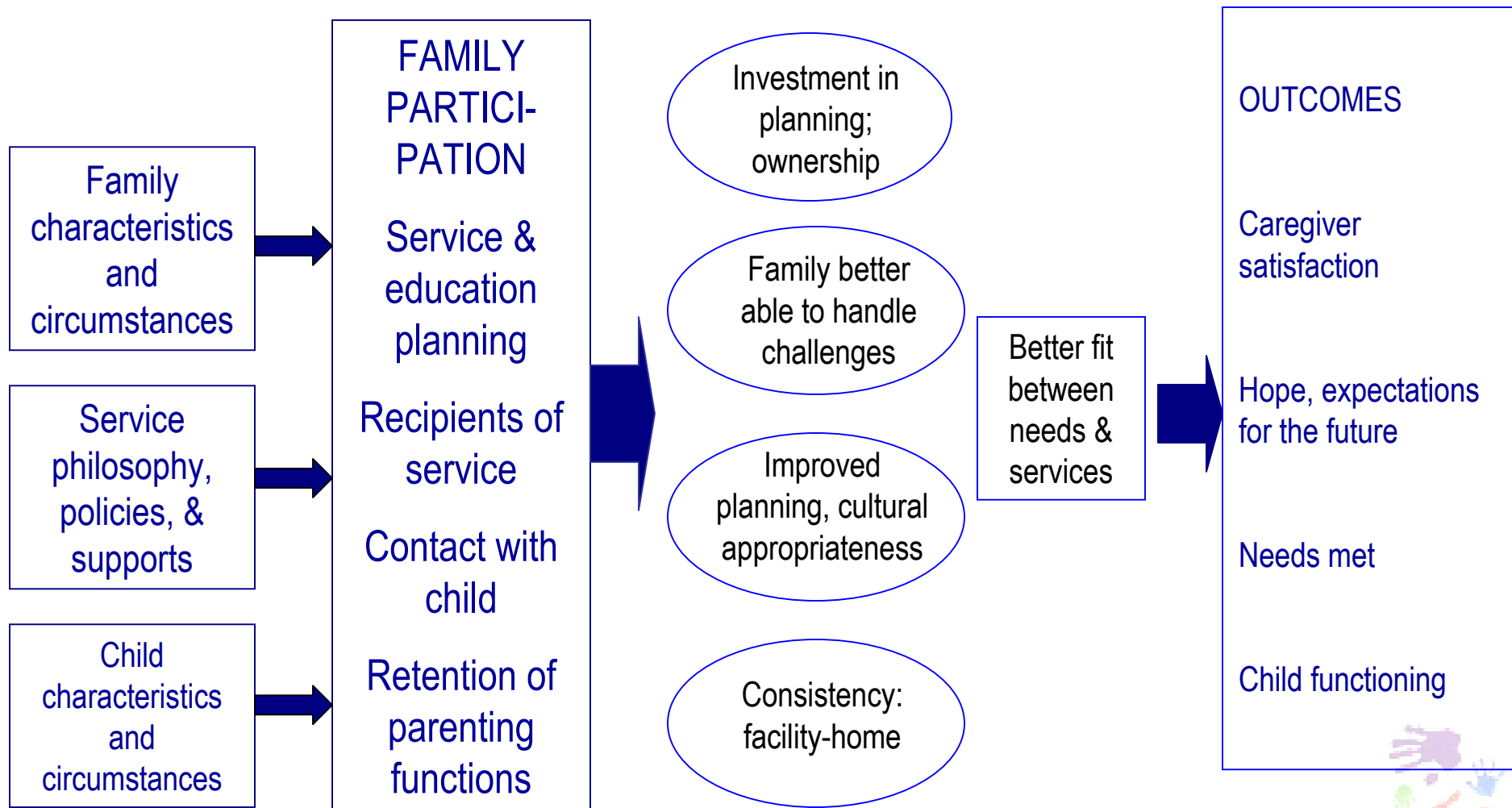
Lessons Learned from Previous Research

- Participation as compliance, contact, and family services.
 - What other ways can we measure participation?
- Child and Family characteristics influence participation.
 - What treatment practices influence participation?



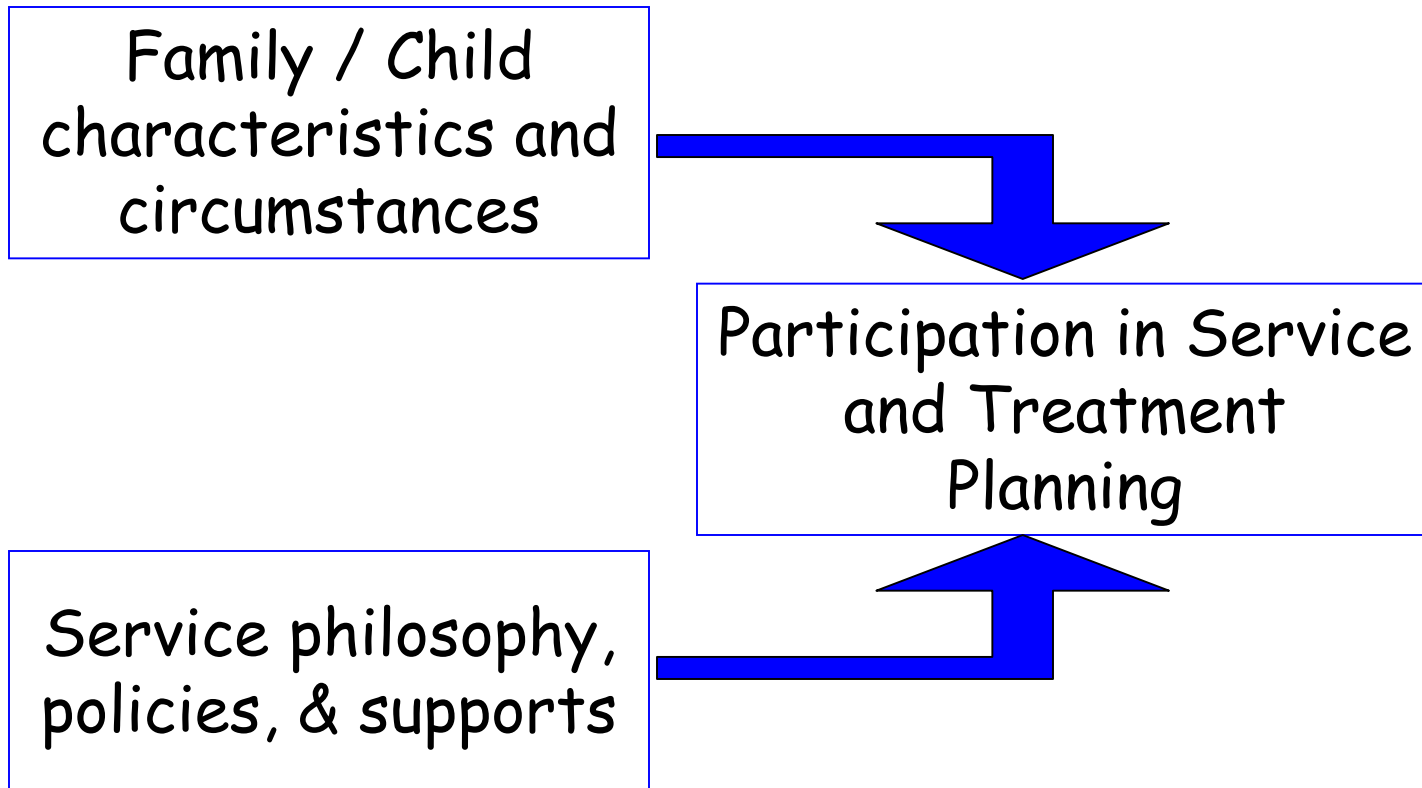


Family Participation Conceptual Framework





Logic Model





Hypotheses:

- Child and family characteristics impact participation.
- Placement characteristics impact participation.
- Placement characteristics uniquely influence participation over and above demographic factors.





Sample

- Respondents with children receiving out-of-home treatment services
 - Residential treatment, psychiatric hospital/unit or group home only
 - N=105





Demographics - Child

Race	White	80.2%		
	Black	8.9%		
	Hispanic	3.0%		
	Native American	2.0%		
	Multiracial	5.9%		
Sex	Male	73.1%		
		Mean	SD	Range
	Age	16 yrs.	3.4	3-23
	Onset age	6 yrs.	3.8	1-16
	Age Received 1 st Svcs.	7 yrs.	3.7	2-16
	Number of diagnoses	3.8	1.99	1-9
	Severity Index	13.6	4.9	5-25





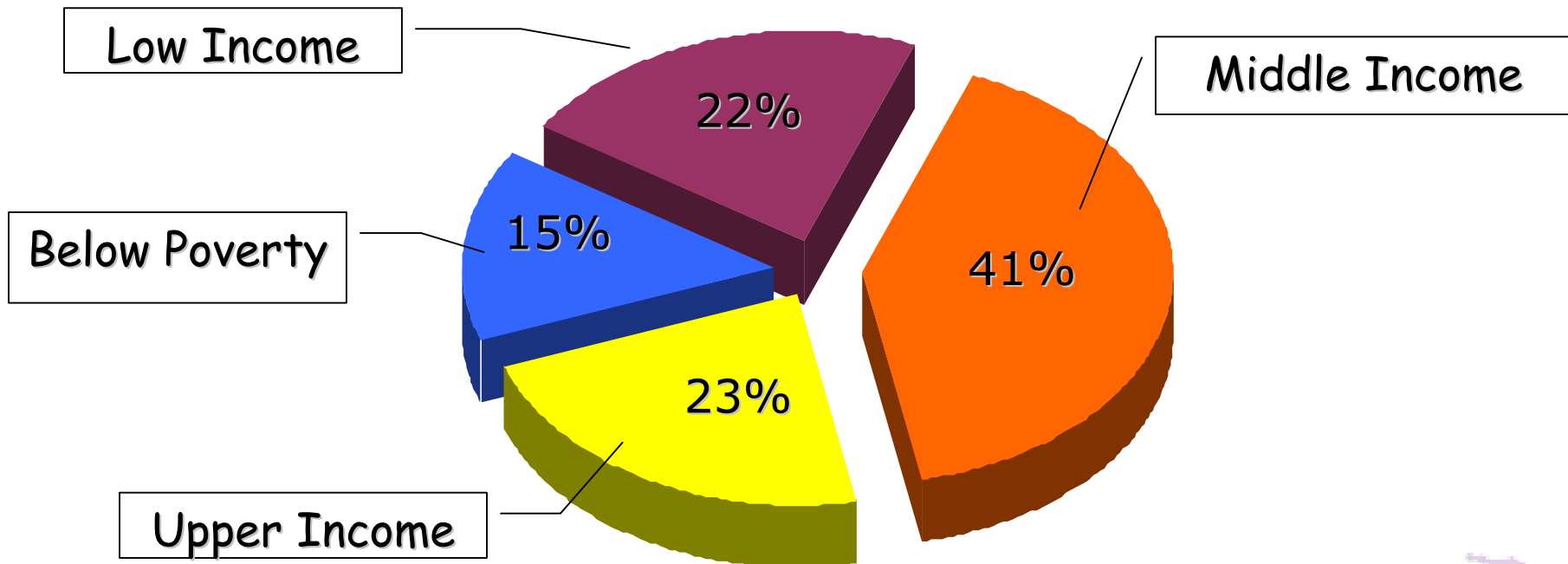
Demographics - Family

Age		Mean=45 (6.8)
Education	H.S. diploma or G.E.D	12.5%
	≥ College Degree	53%
Gender	Female	92%
Race	White	90.2%
	Black	7.8%
	Native American	2%
Marital Status	Married	62%
	Single	38%
Relatedness	Biological/Adoptive Mother	87.5%
Has Custody		79.8%
Household Size		Mean=3.4 (1.3)



Demographics - Family cont.

- Income
 - Median \$25,000 - \$34,000
 - Range: <\$5K - \$75K+





Outcome Variable

- Participation in Service and Treatment Planning
 - To what extent:
 - Able to influence planning
 - Family's needs/circumstances taken into account
 - Ideas valued in planning
 - Agreement with the plan
 - Staff listened to ideas during planning review
 - Family's values and culture taken into account
 - Staff made changes based on ideas in review





Predictor Variables

- Child and Family Characteristics
 - Child's Severity
 - Marital Status
 - Family Income
 - Custody at time of placement





Predictor Variables

- Placement Characteristics
 - Opportunities for participation
 - Contingencies for parental contact
 - Limitations on initial contact
 - Encouragement to participate





Bivariate Analysis

	<u>Participation</u>
Severity	<i>NS</i>
Income Status	<i>NS</i>
Marital Status	.260**
Custody	.208*
Activities Permitted	.360**
Contact Limited	<i>NS</i>
Contingency	<i>NS</i>
Encouragement	.571**

* $p < .05$ ** $p < .01$





Predictive Model

F=23.48 (1, 86) p<.001 Adj. R²=.359

Predictor	β	p
Severity	-.001	NS
Custody	.136	NS
Marital Status	-.206	.031
Income Status	.202	.039
Contingency	.069	NS
Activities Permitted	-.183	.051
Contact Limited	.098	NS
Encouragement	.474	.000





Conclusions

- Family participation in service and treatment planning is significantly influenced by both family characteristics and placement characteristics
- Placement characteristics influence levels of participation above and beyond those of family.*





Implications for Practice

- Out-of-home service provision should:
 - Include opportunities for parents' meaningful involvement in their child's treatment
 - Welcome and actively encourage family involvement in service planning and delivery





Implications for Policy

Legal guardianship should not be a determinant of parental participation, particularly for those families who temporarily and voluntarily relinquish guardianship so that their child may receive services.





Directions for Future Research

- Studies focused on placement/treatment facility practices and how they influence:
 - Family Participation
 - Outcomes for children
- Studies of participation with:
 - larger and more diverse samples
 - random or case control studies
 - barriers and supports to participation

