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- ***Types of Implementation Supports Offered***
- ***Description of Types of Methods Used***
- ***Typical Costs and Duration of Different Types of Services***
- ***Communities or Programs Worked With***

Constance Burgess is a family member, consultant, keynote speaker, and provider of training and technical assistance in the area of Wraparound systems change nationwide. She is a seasoned trainer and advocate for families specializing in teaming, cultural competence, leadership, and family-centered and strength-based practice. Recently she was accepted to the national advisory committee on National Wraparound Initiative (NWI), a project of the Portland Research and Training Center to develop national standards for Wraparound. As for the past ten years, she assists agencies and counties in developing interagency collaboration, strategic planning, leadership skills, cultural competence, and planning processes for systems change.

As a family member having raised a child with severe emotional challenges and special education needs, Connie has spoken at Legislative Hearings, helped to develop service standards for SB163, the only state-legislated family-centered standards in the entire country. She is a highly sought-after consultant providing training and technical assistance in communities across the country in many areas including: leadership, systems change, cultural competency, disproportionate minority confinement, and she contributed to the initial research published by the caring for California Initiative, a strong public agency-academic consortium set to improve the quality of care for California's children with serious emotional and behavioral issues. Connie also participated in developing the California Department of Social Services train-the-trainer Wraparound curriculum, a comprehensive training program for public/private health and human services providers and others interested in learning the Wraparound philosophy and practice, and she participates in Federal Government policy discussions in Washington, DC. These experiences have helped Connie to stay abreast of innovative approaches and promising practices activities around the country, including expanding her knowledge about lessons learned.

Across the country Connie's talents and skills are often contracted by private service providers and other governmental agencies, including the Administration for Children Youth and Families (ACYF), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) where she participates as a seasoned reviewer in grant peer review committees and as chairperson. She has participated on more than 40 grant review committees ranging from homeless persons with co-occurring disorder/dual diagnosis programs to targeted capacity expansion to systems of care initiatives. She has also participated in SAMHSA community site visits to evaluate the progress of system of care project implementation. While demonstrating a high knowledge and regard for the unique needs presented by rural, urban, and small and large city communities, Connie exhibits a firm grasp of system of care development. This level of understanding helps her to provide a constructive community voice, family perspective, balance, and meaningful discussion to the grant review process.

References and Contact Information:

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