Rethinking Our Approach

FUNDAMENTALLY RESHAPING OUR RESPONSE TO CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT
Speakers

SPEAKER
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Three-Part Series: Putting the Pieces Together

1. Digital Dialogue—Workforce Wellbeing: Centering Yourself to Better Support Others

2. NCCAN Conference—The Human Need for Belonging: Moving from Harm to Healing

Imagining a new system

Archaic
About PROPERTY

Inhumane
About PLACE

Child-saving
About INDIVIDUALS

Instead...
About THEIR FAMILIES and COMMUNITIES

When you know better, you must do better.
Fundamentally rethinking our purpose:
How do we keep children safely \textit{with} their families, not \textit{from} their families?
What would it take?

To keep every child safely at home or safely in their own family?

To help families who are struggling?
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Social Return on Investment Study

Foster care “well done”
$1.00 invested = -$3.64*

Foster care “typically done”
$1.00 invested = -$9.55*
Evolution of a System

“YOU NEVER CHANGE THINGS BY FIGHTING THE EXISTING REALITY. TO CHANGE SOMETHING, BUILD A NEW MODEL THAT MAKES THE EXISTING MODEL OBSOLETE.”

- BUCKMINSTER FULLER
How might we redesign a better child welfare system?
Traditional Child Welfare System

Current child welfare approaches often undermine the family system.

BLAME

PUNISHMENT

The current system adds more pressure on families in times of challenge, which undermines family wellbeing and healthy childhood development.

An UnSystem

UnSystem approaches BUILD
family wellbeing and support healthy child development.

Whole family at the center

Natural community supports

Value and build rather than disconnect family ties

Focus on building resilience, joy, wellbeing, and health

Family-driven, culturally-specific supports

Local resources delivered immediately

Supportive, consistent connection

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Guiding Principles

- Protect relational connections as sacred
- Nurture the capacity for joy
- Insist on racial equity and radical inclusion
- Dare to share power
- Commit to intergenerational well-being
- Trust the wisdom of children and families to design their own futures
- Do what love would do
Alia Unsystem Innovation Cohort

Cass County, ND
Population: 178,000

Washington County, MD
Population: 150,000

Eau Claire County, WI
Population: 104,000

Eastern IA Service Area
Population: 500,000

Waupaca County, WI
Population: 52,000
Innovation Cohort Case Studies and Early Data

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ALIA UNSYSTEM INNOVATION COHORT
Family connections are always preserved and strengthened
CASE STUDIES AND EARLY DATA

Rethinking Our Approach • July 9, 2019 • PREVENTION PLANNING
Other Reports Coming Soon:

Research Brief on preserving families & placing with kin

SROI: Keeping children safely at home or placing with kin

Year One Innovation Cohort Outcomes

The social return on investment impacts of racial bias for youth in care (pending)

www.aliainnovations.org
What to Expect

Old way | Scaling down

New way | Scaling up

Mayhem
Resources

- www.aliainnovations.org
- 10 of 10 for Kids video: https://www.aliainnovations.org/10of10forkids/
- Early Cohort Publication & Ecotone SROI Report: https://www.aliainnovations.org/resources/
- Amelia’s TEDx Talk: The Human Need for Belonging https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-r-ci4iybt8&t=323s
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Discussion

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Participant Feedback

Thank you for your participation!

How useful was this session?

Additional Comments: hello@CANTASD.org