

*Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Center for Substance Abuse Prevention
Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Center for Excellence*

Building FASD State Systems (BFSS) Conference
Arlington, Virginia • May 1-3, 2012

***“We’re Glad You’re Here”
BFSS First-Time Attendees Session***

**Callie B. Gass
Project Director
FASD Center for Excellence**



**SAMHSA
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SAMHSA FASD Center for Excellence

- SAMHSA—Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
 - Agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
 - Established the FASD Center for Excellence in 2001
- Within SAMHSA, the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) oversees and directs the work of the FASD Center for Excellence



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Mission Statement

Facilitate the development and improvement of FASD prevention, treatment, and care systems in the U.S. and its territories by providing national leadership and facilitating collaboration in the field.



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Origins of the FASD Center for Excellence: The Children's Health Act of 2000

- The Children's Health Act of 2000 authorized programs to improve mental health and substance abuse services for children and adolescents.
- The legislation provided six mandates defining the work to be done by various Centers for Excellence (of which we are one).



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Children's Mental Health Act of 2000: The Six Mandates

1. Study adaptations of innovative clinical interventions and service delivery improvement strategies for children and adults with an FASD and their families.
2. Identify communities with exemplary comprehensive systems of care for such individuals so that they can provide technical assistance (TA) to other communities.
3. Provide TA to communities that do not have a comprehensive system of care for such individuals and their families.



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Children's Mental Health Act of 2000: The Six Mandates (Continued)

4. Provide training to community leaders and relevant service providers across systems and on the implications of FASD and early identification of and referral for such conditions.
5. Develop innovative techniques for preventing alcohol use by women in childbearing years.
6. Perform other functions, to the extent authorized by the Secretary, after consideration of recommendations made by the National Task Force on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS).



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SAMHSA FASD Center for Excellence Leadership

- Jon Dunbar-Cooper, M.A., CPP, is a Public Health Analyst for CSAP's Division of Systems Development
- Patricia B. Getty, Ph.D., is Branch Chief of CSAP's Division of Systems Development
- They are Contracting Officer Technical Representatives (COTR) for the FASD Center



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What Does the SAMHSA FASD Center for Excellence Do?

- Provides technical assistance and training on FASD
- Coordinates the efforts of 23 subcontractors using innovative approaches to preventing and treating FASD
- Produces a variety of print and online publications
- Operates an information resource center, a web site, and a toll-free phone number
- Facilitates communication and networking among States



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History of the Building FASD State Systems (BFSS) Conference

- The first BFSS conference was held in 2003
- The BFSS conference supports the Center's goals of:
 - Advancing the field of FASD
 - Facilitating the development of comprehensive systems of care for FASD prevention and treatment (particularly at the State level, as stressed by legislation)
 - Making current science and resources available **to** the field (Science-to-Service)
 - Helping gain recognition and validation for successful approaches **from** the field (Service-to-Science)



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This Year's Theme:

Capitalizing on Awareness: Bringing the FASD Message to the Forefront

- Purpose of BFSS:
 - To facilitate the creation and enhancement of local comprehensive systems of care for FASD
- Why You're Here:
 - To connect with people from your State
 - To learn more about what's working in the field
 - To learn more about the latest research
 - To use this information so you can improve your local FASD system of care



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Conference Participants

- Members of the FASD Center Expert Panel and the American Indian/Alaskan Native/Native Hawaiian Panel
- Members of the Birth Mothers Network (BMN) and the Self-Advocates with FASD in Action Network (SAFA)
- Members of the National Association of FASD State Coordinators (NAFSC)
- Local, State, and juvenile court subcontractors working on FASD prevention, diagnosis, and intervention programs
- State and U.S. territory government employees involved in policymaking who work on FASD issues
- Representative from SAMHSA and other Federal coordinating agencies



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Other Groups Meeting This Week

- Our partners in creating comprehensive systems of care:
 - Our 23 subcontractors
 - NAFSC
 - BMN
 - SAFA
 - The FASD Center's Expert Panel
 - The Expert Panel for the Native Initiative



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FASD Center Subcontractors

- Twenty three (23) local, State, and juvenile court subcontractors.
- The subcontractors are integrating one of two components into their programs:
 - FASD Prevention
 - FASD Diagnosis and Intervention



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National Associations of FASD State Coordinators (NAFSC)

- Established in 2003 with seven members
- Goals are to:
 - Share evidence-based practices
 - Exchange information among States
 - Provide peer-to-peer technical assistance
- Currently, 33 members from 28 States, the District of Columbia, and the Navajo Nation
- Continues to work to increase membership by mentoring States that lack coordinators



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Birth Mothers Network (BMN)

- Established in 2005 to support and serve birth families affected by FASD
 - **Vision:** To become a strong national network that mentors women struggling with addiction and with the issues of having children with an FASD
 - **Mission:** To increase understanding and support for birth mothers and to strengthen recovery for women who drank during their pregnancies, as well as to support their families
 - **Goals:** (1) improve and strengthen the lives of birth families, (2) provide peer support for birth families, and (3) decrease the stigma, blame, and shame that birth families may experience



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Self-Advocates with FASD in Action (SAFA)

- Established in March 2011 to be a self-advocacy network for young adults with FASD (ages 18+)
- Goals include ensuring that young adults with FASD have a voice in discussions about treatment and prevention, and providing a venue to discuss their common challenges and experiences
- Thirteen charter members
- SAFA's coordinators and liaisons are members of the FASD Center Expert Panel, where SAFA was conceived



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FASD Center for Excellence's Expert Panel and the Native Expert Panel

- **The Expert Panel:**
 - Consists of eminent professionals with expertise in the field in addition to individuals with FASD
 - Responsible for guiding all of the Center's efforts
- **The Native Expert Panel:**
 - Consists of Native providers and families affected by FASD
 - Guides outreach to tribal and community leaders



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Conference Overview

- Three Primary Aspects of the Conference:
 - Plenary (whole group) sessions conducted by leading experts on a variety of FASD-related topics
 - Small group breakout sessions that allow you to learn more about topics of your choosing
 - Poster exhibits and displays showcasing FASD programs, curricula, sources, and accomplishments



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Tonight's Preliminary Sessions

- “I Am Me,” a mini-training on Person-First Language with Dan Dubovsky and Julie Gelo from 4:45 pm to 5:30 pm in Regency Ballroom E-F.
- Self-Advocates with FASD in Action (SAFA) Network meeting from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm in Potomac Room 4 (for SAFA members and support persons **only**)
- Opening Poster Sessions from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm in Regency Ballroom C-D.



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Questions?

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