

CCIDS- Research on the Use of Seclusion, Restraint and Isolation

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NH-ME LEND
PROGRAM

Background of Project

-Data has shown that within Maine and on a national scale, children who have disabilities or special healthcare needs are more often restrained, secluded, and isolated. This is unfortunate as research demonstrates that these incidents are often quite ineffective, harmful, and potentially fatal.

-There has been a number of intervention methods used to reduce restraint, isolation, and seclusion. Therapeutic Crisis Intervention (TCI) has been deemed promising in reducing these incidents, reducing staff injuries, and as legitimate crisis management approach.

-The Developmental Disability Council approached the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies at the University of Maine, Orono in researching the effectiveness of TCI. They were interested in whether providing increased support and training to staff in the use of TCI in schools and residential settings would reduce incidents of isolation, seclusion, or restraint.

Description of Project Methods

-The research is being conducted at two sites with both residential and private school settings. One site serves as a control where there is no additional support in the use of TCI. The other is receiving ongoing support a team from Cornell University, the institution where TCI was originally developed.

-The information collected will include the (1) total number of restraints, seclusions, and isolations at each site, (2) restraint techniques used in each case of restraint, (3) the duration of each case of restraint, isolation, or seclusion, (4) times and dates of each restraint, isolation, and seclusion, and (5) copies of incident reports for each incident of restraint, isolation, and seclusion.

-Monthly data is also collected on the number of worker's compensation claims, and time lost to injury for staff. Staff retention data is also collected every six months.

-All data will be entered into SPSS and continually analyzed.

-The Brayfield-Rothe Job Satisfaction Index is also being used to measure workers job satisfaction. It is administered initially within a week of signing the consent forms, again in nine months, and lastly 18 months after intervention has begun.

-Using a post-Incident Survey of Staff, Inter-Reporter Reliability form CCIDS staff will administer a short survey to participants once a month who were involved in four randomly selected incidents of restraint, seclusion, or isolation (one incident at a residence program and a day program for each site).

Summary of Activities

-Data on the use of restraint, isolation, and seclusion in residential and school settings was collected in both intervention and non-intervention settings.

-We collected data on staff injury, time lost to work, job satisfaction, and staff retention.

-There were a number of obstacles including: inconsistencies in the data, difficulties obtaining timely data, and difficulty obtaining information about the daily census.

-Overall findings so far; reduction in restraints and isolations, a slight decrease in job satisfaction.

-There's a need for additional data to sort out the differential effects of Covid-19 and the TCI intervention on the apparent reduction on the use of restraint and isolation

-Covid-19 reduced the number of students served at a given time. This change in student population due to the pandemic makes it impossible to determine the effects of the intervention until we receive further data about the daily census.

Conclusion/Next Steps

-Analyzing the data collected will help policymakers infer whether further supports being available for TCI will reduce harm to children in these settings or not.

There will be:

-Continued collection of data on the number of worker's compensation claims, time lost to injury, and staff retention at each site.

-Continued meetings with administrators at least every other month to review changes in the QIFAP intervention. CCIDS collects data on four random incidents, one from each site. CCIDS conducts four brief reliability interviews, one at each location with staff who were involved in the most recent incidents of restraint, seclusion, or isolation.

-Collection of data on individual student start and end dates that will allow us to do conduct a survival analysis.

-July 2021 -September 2021: A third round of job satisfaction surveys will be administered. Agency will share six months of job turnover data. Researchers will analyze all data for the project and will complete the final report on the project.

Total Amount of Restraints and Isolations Between Regions October 2019- July 2020

