

FTP Improves Parenting Skills & Saves the County Money

Here's How:

1. FTP is a non-profit organization that offers in-home services to the entire family system at a fraction of the cost typically associated with the placement of a single child in foster homes, group homes, residential and/or correctional facilities.
2. FTP has a documented history of keeping families in-tact with its parenting services.
3. Statistics have proven that children who were in out-of-home placements prior to FTP's involvement have a significantly higher likelihood of being returned home with FTP intervention.
4. Children are able to live with their families during FTP's involvement when they would otherwise not be able to as FTP's physical presence provides additional safeguards and supervision while the family is learning better coping and parenting techniques.
5. To avoid out-of-home placements, FTP has developed an emergency response component which has FTP staff meeting with newly referred families who are in crisis within an approximate time span of 24-48 hours.
6. FTP helps to break the cycle of out-of-home placements and has a very high success rate in keeping younger siblings in their parents care even when the system may have found it necessary to placing an older brother or sister prior to receiving FTP's services.
7. FTP provides a unique teen mentoring approach which is offered in conjunction with its parenting program. This type of mentoring incorporates valuable information about specific family dynamics that might be contributing to the acting-out behaviors of the teen. This component has been proven to keep teens in their homes, has reduced the length of time spent on court supervision, has offered a mentoring option without incurring the expense of another mentoring service and has been successful even when parental figures are resistant to changing their behaviors. Teen mentoring breaks destructive, generational cycles of behavior and save the county money in the prevention of alcohol/drug abuse, truancy, runaways, unwanted pregnancies, law violations and volatile parent-teen interactions.
8. Time and money spent by the county on Case Management duties can be reduced when FTP is involved as FTP has a 30 year history of addressing AODA issues, Mental Health difficulties, Cognitive Delays, Sexual Abuse/Incest, Relationship Issues/Marital Discord, Domestic Violence, Law Violations, Unemployment, Homelessness/Sanitation Issues, Addictive Behaviors/Gambling, Juvenile Delinquency, Child Abuse/Neglect themes. FTP identifies and addresses these issues when they are perceived to be having a negative impact on parenting needs and effectiveness.

9. FTP provides on-going crisis intervention which results in fewer case manager/social worker trips to family homes to respond to the emergency phone calls and can also result in a reduced need for Shelter Care, Respite and Detention Placements.
10. FTP provides coverage for supervised visitations when it coincides with our weekly meeting. FTP can provide re-inforcers or connect with other agencies to provide hard services such as: clothing, food, furnishings, etc.
11. FTP attempts to employ individuals who are bi-lingual and able to save the county on interpretation expenses/fees.
12. FTP's documentation can be used in ways that save county time and expense when establishing a baseline report on families that are new to the area, when writing court reports and when determining risk-levels, visitation schedules and/or placement options.
13. FTP is a separate entity from DHS and does not have the authority to remove children from their home, as a result; families are sometimes willing to allow FTP into their home and will work on family issues/parenting needs when they are not, otherwise willing to do so with county staff.
14. Although FTP works closely with DHS, our status as a separate agency can serve as a valuable check and balance system to the county and provides the courts with a second opinion that is objective, professional and effective when needed.
15. FTP's documentation and testimony can be subpoenaed to demonstrate reasonable/diligent effort and/or to resolve difficult cases that might otherwise require on-going services (when it is evident to all involved that nothing is going to change).
16. In the interest of cost effectiveness, FTP monitors its cases very closely and does not stay in families unless we are making a difference that can be clearly defined in our submitted documentation.
17. It is very cost effective for Departments of Health and Human Services to have FTP involved with families who move from county-to-county and end up settling in an area where FTP has trained staff available. FTP is currently located in the following counties:
 - Brown
 - Fond du Lac
 - Calumet
 - Green Lake
 - Outagamie
 - Sheboygan
 - Winnebago