Assessing the Impact of OKLEND Graduates through Tracking

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Limitations and Challenges of the Current Tracking System

- Limitations when follow-up surveys end at 10 Years.

- Challenge of maintaining contact with former trainees with the current funding.

- Challenge of graduates understanding the definitions and concepts.

- Limitations to exclusive quantitative assessment.
Limitations when follow-up surveys end at 10 Years.

Follow-up surveys miss the impact beyond 10 years.

- Most LEND programs have many graduates that are beyond the 10 year survey: young program

- We miss graduates being Recognized and Awarded and in important positions who are beyond the 10 years.
Oklahoma Fellows Beyond 10 Years Follow-Up

Fellows Location Based on 10 Survey

Fellows Current Location

Discipline
- Audiology: 10
- Dentistry: 1
- Education/Special Education: 1
- Education: General Education: 1
- Family/Parent/Youth Advocacy: 1
- Health Administration: 1
- Medicine: General: 2
- Medicine: Pediatrics: 6
- Nursing: 7
- Nutrition: 1
- Occupational Therapy: 3
- Other: 1
- Physical Therapy: 8
- Psychology: 6

Count
- Public Health: 4
- Social Work: 8
- Speech-Language Pathology: 9

Challenge of maintaining contact with former trainees.

OKLEND RESPONSE RATES

99%

Required Data Orientation meetings

Data coordinator attends classes

End of LEND Year: Exit survey

Ongoing Contact

Funding is not feasible for adequate follow-up needed to measure the impact of the program.
Challenge of graduates understanding definitions and concepts.

- Misinterpretation of the questions by fellows
- Changes in questions limit understanding
  - Definition of MCH & interdisciplinary
  - Difference between hospital and non-profit?
  - Difficulty capturing long term impacts
  - Difficulty with longitudinal comparisons

- Employment questions do not capture the impact graduates are making in their communities.
  - Example “Do you regularly work with MCH populations?”
  - Example “Employment” question
2007-2009
2. Are you currently working in a field related to Maternal and Child Health (MCH)/ disabilities/persons with special health care needs?
   __ yes  __ no

If not, why not?
   __ position not available
   __ better opportunity in another field
   __ interests have changed
   __ family/personal reasons
   __ salary not competitive
   __ not adequately trained
   __ enrolled in further education
   __ retired
   __ other: please specify:________________

2010-2011
2. Does your current work relate to MCH Populations and/or people with disabilities?
   ______Yes  ______No

2012-2015
2. Does your current work relate to Maternal and Child Health (MCH) populations (i.e. women, infants and children, adolescents, and their families including fathers and children and youth with special health care needs)?  __ Yes  __ No

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**Does your current work relate to MCH populations?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>YR1</th>
<th>YR5</th>
<th>YR10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>61%</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>9%</td>
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The chart shows the percentage of respondents indicating whether their current work relates to MCH populations over the years YR1, YR5, and YR10.
Survey answers do not always match what we know about that individual.

- Example for the employment question:
  - One family perspective trainee put “hairstylist”

- Actual former trainee’s activities
  - Started a foundation to raise money for special education needs in her rural district.
  - Brought resource fairs to her county.
  - Advocated in local rural district to improve the quality of education to students on an IEP: eliminated the county special education cooperative.

- May not capture the essence of the program
In depth interviews with OK LEND program graduates
- Ranged from 1 to 16 years since program graduation

Themes from the study demonstrated that influences of the LEND learning experience extend well beyond the program year.

“Themes from this qualitative study demonstrate that the influences of the LEND learning experience extend well beyond the program year.

- “A lot of work but rewarding work”
- “This experience gave me a better understanding”
- “The family is the focus”
- “I really do think about things differently now”
- “The relationships I built”
- “It just really helped shape me”