

IDAHO'S 6TH ANNUAL RESOURCE FAMILY CONFERENCE 2007 REPORT



Let the Games Begin:

New Strategies for Working with Youth

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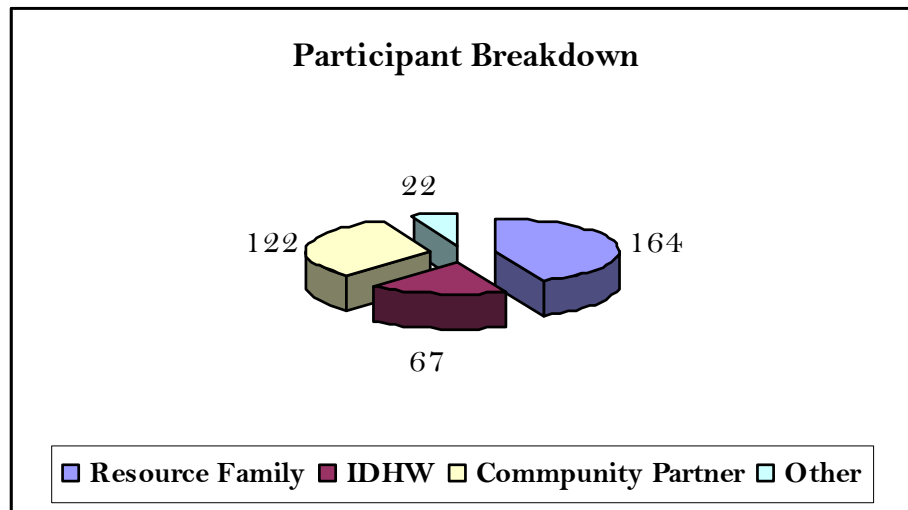
Introduction	<p>This year's successful conference took place in three locations; Pocatello, Post Falls and Nampa. The Resource Family Training Consultants took a major role in the decision making process and implementation of the conference. The steering committee set the objectives for the conference and the criteria for various tracks. The Resource Family Training Consultants identified potential presenters that could offer workshops to meet those objectives and tracks. They were also responsible for a location to hold the conference, selecting the meals, making sure the workshops would hold an interest for both resource families and social workers alike, invite community partners as vendors to show what resources are available in different areas and find ways for these folks to network together.</p>
Conference Objectives	<p>The objectives for this years conference were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ to explore new opportunities to network with others involved in the child welfare system; ▪ increase one's understanding of why it is important to work as a team member with youth, families, IDHW staff and community partners; ▪ increase one's ability to utilize non-threatening activities and fun to engage youth; and gain knowledge and ▪ skills that will help one be more effective in his/her role as part of a Resource Family Team. <p>From the evaluations that were gathered the mean score was found to be above average in all objectives. A chart of each objective is located on page 4 - Appendix A. A likert scale of 1 to 5 was used to obtain this information: 1 being not at all successful and 5 being highly successful.</p>
Objective 3 / Keynote Speaker	<p>With the above mentioned objectives in mind a game theme was selected for the conference with the intent that participants would increase their ability to utilize non-threatening activities and fun to engage youth. The keynote speakers were then selected for their expertise on this subject. Dr. Janine Jones in Pocatello and Post Falls and Dr. Trista Huckleberry in Nampa gave great presentations on Filial Therapy. They shared with the participants the importance of interaction through a process of using games and play to engage children. Clinical CEU's were given for this presentation.</p>
Objective 1	<p>Simply Fun was invited to help participants learn new strategies to work with children. Friday evening participants were given an opportunity to practice this concept. By exploring game play, participants had an opportunity to network with others involved in the child welfare system while getting to know other team members through the use of play.</p>
Objectives 2 & 4	<p>A number of workshops were dedicated to the 2nd and 4th Objectives. A complete list can be found in Appendix B page 5-6.</p>

Breakdown of Participants attending the Conference

3231 Registration Flyers were mailed to families and community partners inviting them to join us at the conferences. Of that number 396 registered with 375 attending the conferences. The breakdown of attendance per location is as follows:

Pocatello 84 Post Falls 130 Nampa 161

The breakdown also shows that of these 375 participants, 164 of them were Resource Families, 122 Community Partners, 57 IDHW Staff and 22 Others attending this year's conference, giving a rounded mix for networking and team working together. "Others" included students and participants that did not disclose the role they felt best described their interest in this conference. Below is a chart showing the breakdown of attendance. A more in-depth breakdown is located in Appendix C page 6



Resource Family Program Assessment

During the conference a Resource Family Program Assessment was given to families. In this survey we were looking at the satisfaction rate of resource families, whether they felt like a valued member of the team and what the likelihood was that they would continue as a resource family in the future. Results of this survey will be forthcoming from Dr. Rick Phillips, Research Director.

PRIDE Core Trainings

Participants were asked for input on Core trainings they would like to see offered in their respective regions. Each participant was asked to select two Core trainings that they want offered. The results of that questionnaire can be found in Appendix D page 7.

Recognition Awards

In addition to the wide array of workshops and networking opportunities offered, the committee added another feature to the conference. They decided to recognize Resource Families and Social Worker's who have "gone above and beyond" in working with children

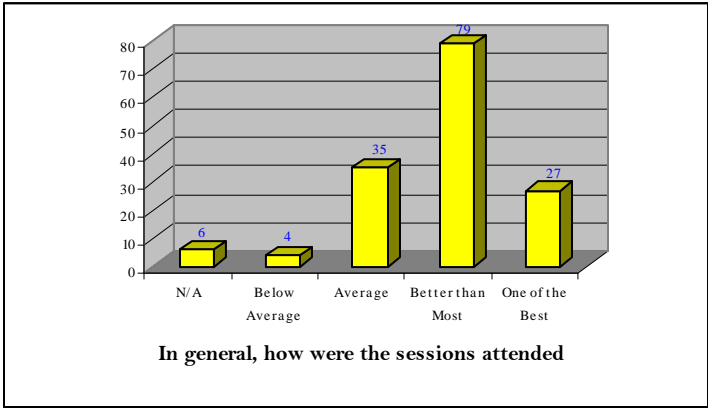
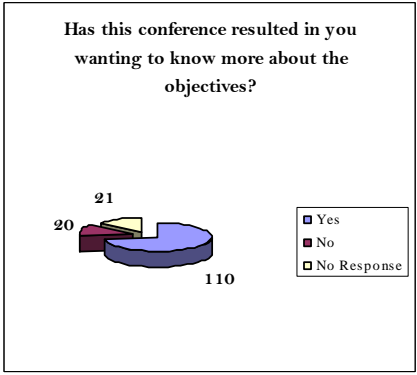
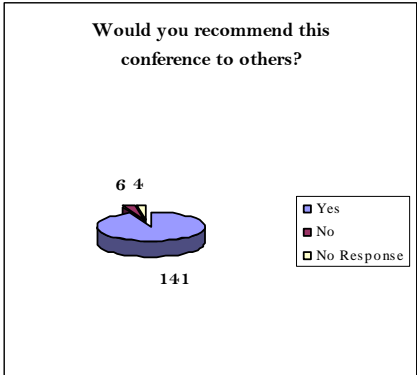
and acknowledge their achievements during the event. Nomination letters were sent out to both resource families and social workers asking them to name someone that they thought deserved this award. The criteria for nomination were based on how well the nominee's embraced the 5 competencies in their work with children. Note: Region 3 and 4 held their appreciation event at an earlier date, but recognized their award winners again at the conference. The recipients of these prestigious awards are listed in Appendix E page 7.

Participants satisfaction of Conference

This year the committee decided to try a new process for collecting evaluations. Participants were asked to go online and fill out an evaluation form. After the conference ended an email was generated with a link to the website as a reminder. For those who did not register online a paper copy was provided at the registration table. Of the 375 attendees, 151 chose to go to the website for the evaluation and 18 filled it out on paper.

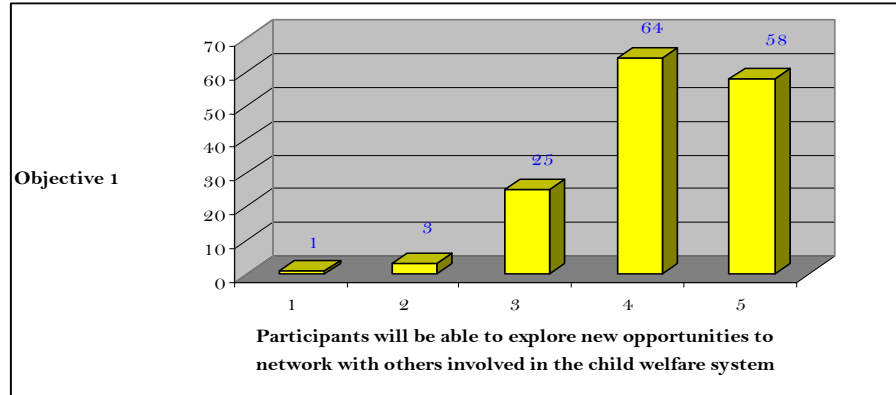
The evaluation included questions regarding participants' satisfaction and their ratings as to how well they felt the conference went. Results were charted and are shown below:

Satisfaction Rating:

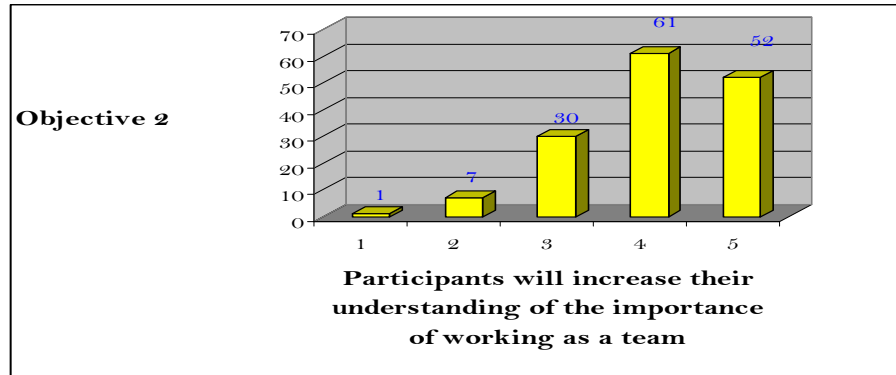


Appendix A

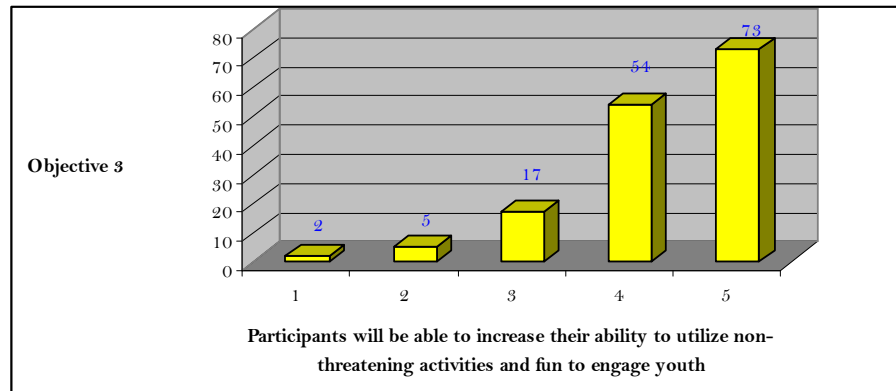
Mean Score / 4.16



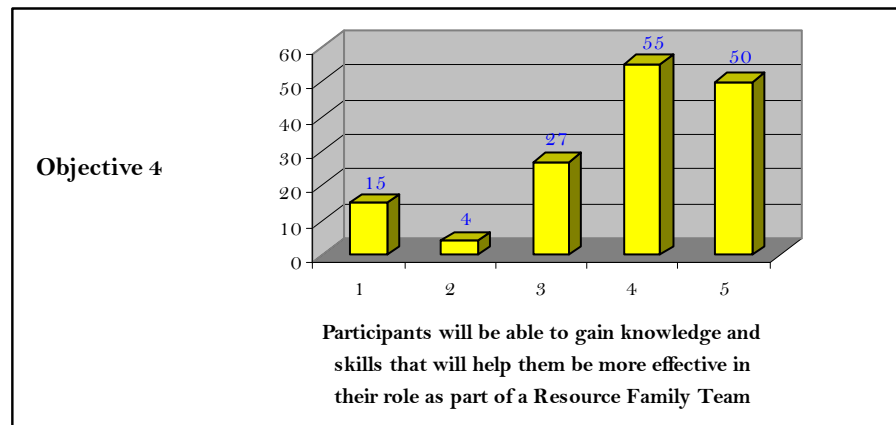
Mean Score / 4.03



Mean Score / 4.26



Mean Score / 3.80



1 = Not Successful at All to 5 = Very Successful

Appendix B
Workshops and Presenters

Pocatello:

- The Impact of Substance Abuse on Youth and What We Can Do To Help Fran Lands
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Yesterday... Today... and Tomorrow Emily Hoyt
- Playing with a Purpose: Using Games and Play to Engage Youth, Build Teamwork, Improve Communication and Strengthening Relationships Keith Orchard
- Substance Abuse / Addiction and Treatment Liz Lovell
- Disaster Planning Lori Yellen
- Fostering Trauma Brett Judd
- Parenting Challenge Stephanie Hadley
- Do I have to go? – Promoting Visitation Kim Fordham
- Helping Youth Succeed Using the Casey Life Skills Tools Lisa Van Voorhis
- Encouraging Creative, Imaginative Play Staci Jensen-Hart
- The Spirit of Play Evin Fox
- Head Starts Role in Serving Families and Children in the Foster Care Christine Cox System
- Louise Gill
- Marti Wiser
- Jay Hildebrandt

Post Falls:

- The Basic Neurobiology of Addiction: Why Recovery Doesn't Happen Overnight Carla Dvoracek
- Concurrent Planning David Hansel
- Brian Pope
- Roxanne Printz
- An Introduction to F.A.M.I.L.Y Rules: Positive Parenting with a purpose Karen Weppner
- QPR for Gatekeepers Ben Camp
- Helping Youth Succeed Using the Casey Life Skills Tools Kelli Loftus
- Worth a Thousand Words Marti Wiser
- Jay Hildebrandt
- Stephanie Hadley
- Parenting Challenge Keith Orchard
- Playing with a Purpose: Using Games and Play to Engage Youth, Build Teamwork, Improve Communication and Strengthening Relationships Kim Fordham
- Do I have to go? – Promoting Visitation Robert Hayes
- Bridging the Gap Between Foster Parents and High Risk Kids Maggie Morrison
- Foster Parent Burnout Trisha Thorson
- Lasting Memories: Creating a Lifebook with Your Foster/Adopt Children Olisa Bomley
- Disaster Planning Lori Yellen

Nampa:

Pre Conference

- Family Centered Practice on Child Welfare Team Kathy Tidwell
- Dana Kelly
- The 9 Laws of Winning Communication Terry Shaffer
- Powerful Families: Advocates and Financial Consultants Robin Sanchez

Conference

- Disaster Planning
- Self Care and Burnout Prevention

- Benefits of the Workforce Investment Act for Youth and Adult Employment and Services Available for Job Search and Employment
- Mommy What Were You Thinking? Why Parents Use Drugs!
- Anxiety in Children
- Helping Youth Succeed Using the Casey Life Skills Tools

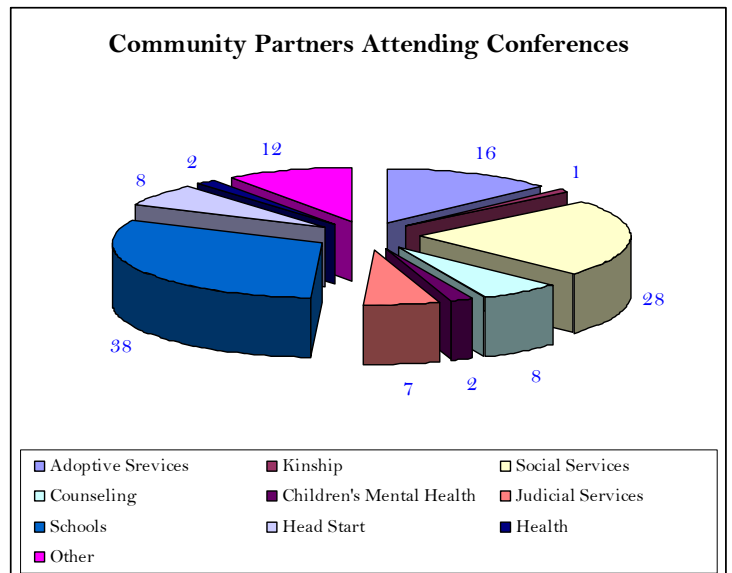
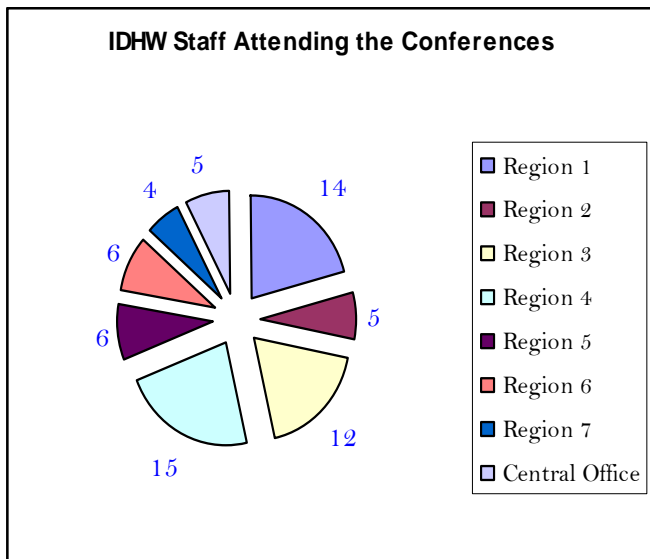
- Kinship Collaboration: Supports and Services that Empower Kinship Families Learning from Kinship Caregivers and Agencies who Serve them
- Parenting Challenge
- Domestic Violence 101
- Child Abuse as Seen Through the Eyes of the Child
- Fostering Trauma
- Men’s Role in Ending Intimate Partner Violence
- Worth a Thousand Words

- Letting Go Gracefully: Can it be Done?
- Teen Dating Violence
- Resource Parents: Yes You Can Work with the Education System

- Lori Yellen
- Travis Cronin
- Kelly Walker
- Keith Whiting
- Rachel Montgomery
- Delmar Stone
- Sandi Pierce
- Lori Yellen
- Falen LeBanc
- Robin Sanchez

- Stephanie Hadley
- Jeff Matsushita
- Jeanie Fowler
- Brett Judd
- Jeff Matsushita
- Marti Wiser
- Jay Hildebrandt
- Charlyn Hahn
- Angela Ahrens
- Sandi Pierce
- Kelly Walker

Appendix C



It is worth noting that the number of IDHW staff attending this year’s conferences was approximately a 25% increase from previous year.

Appendix D

Results of the PRIDE Core Training Questionnaire are as follows:

PRIDE Core Modules		Regions						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Module 1	The Foundation for Meeting Developmental Needs of Children at Risk	5	6	3	2	3	1	2
Module 2	Using Discipline to Protect, Nurture and Meet Developmental Needs	12	3	3	7	-	3	1
Module 3	Addressing Developmental Issues Related to Sexuality	5	1	1	1	1	1	-
Module 4	Responding to Signs and Symptoms of Sexual Abuse	6	-	-	1	1	2	3
Module 5	Supporting Relationships between Children and Their Families	8	-	1	1	1	3	1
Module 6	Working as a Professional Team Member	2	-	-	1	-	-	1
Module 7	Promoting Children’s Personal and Cultural Identity	2	2	1	1	-	1	-
Module 8	Promoting Permanency Outcomes	4		5		1	1	
Module 9	Managing the Foster Experience	3	3	6	1	1	-	-
Module 11	Understanding and Promoting Infant and Child Development	5	-	4	-	-	2	-
Specialized and Advanced Training	Teens in Care: Supporting Attachment	10	3	-	2	2	4	2
Specialized and Advanced Training	Caring for Children who have Experienced Domestic Violence	13	3	2	1	2	2	2

Appendix D

Recognition Awards

	<u>Resource Family</u>	<u>Social Worker</u>
Region 1	Shawn & Kim Nichols	Debbie McDermott
Region 2	Larry & Candance Borgelt	Tricia Klement
Region 3	Greg & Shannon Foust	Kim Buchholz Sarah Allen (King)
Region 4	Ben & Bridget Barrus Shannon Matchey	Kristen Nate
Region 5	Peggy Doshier	Patricia Kelley
Region 6	Lance & Debra Chapman	Danielle Hamilton
Region 7	Kevin Grimes	Bea Bonney

Information for this report was collected, compiled and written by Sue Amaral. For a copy of all information and data used or a copy of participant comments contact Kim Fordham at 208-676-1186 x222 or email at fordhamk@dhw.idaho.gov.