



16th October 2015

St Patricks College, Drumcondra

FamiliBase

- FamiliBase is a merged organisation of Familiscope and The Base
- Work on the a merger commenced in October 2012 as a survival strategy for both organisations
- This culminated in the merger which was formalised on 30th March 2014

Familiscope-background

- URBAN Ballyfermot, the Ballyfermot Drugs Task Force, Ballyfermot Partnership Education programme and the then South West Area Health Board. Common needs identified as part of local development work 2002-2004.
- Statutory commitment at URBAN Board level i.e. DES, HSE, Local Government
- URBAN commissioned research piece 2003, Downes' report published 2004. Qualitative study with large focus on education personnel at all levels and the voices of children and adolescents.
- Familiscope established 2004
- Child Welfare wrap around model commenced development in 2006

Context for Familiscope development

- Lack of access to/successful participation in education at all levels, a key indicator for intergenerational drug use, criminal activity, poverty, long term unemployment
- Remove the social, economic-related, emotional and psychological barriers to access & participation (in education and other support initiatives/services)
- Importance of child centred delivery
- Importance of supporting/up-skilling key adults in child's life
- Importance of challenging/thinking critically about current systems and structures—challenge deficit thinking around those unable to access/participate—maybe it's the system/structure with the deficit?

Equality doesn't mean Justice



This is Equality



This is Justice

Some of the assumptions underlying the FamiliBase philosophy

- Inequalities in education are unjust and must be changed
- The school-family and school-community relationship is a cornerstone of addressing that inequality
- The school-family and school-community relationship does not always operate as it needs to, to do this;
- School can carry a dual role in perpetuating existing inequalities or in being a transformative mechanism depending on how it interacts with the community, families children and young people

Current Policy Context

Department of Education

- Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools(DEIS)

Department of Health

- National Drugs Strategy/ National Substance Misuse Strategy

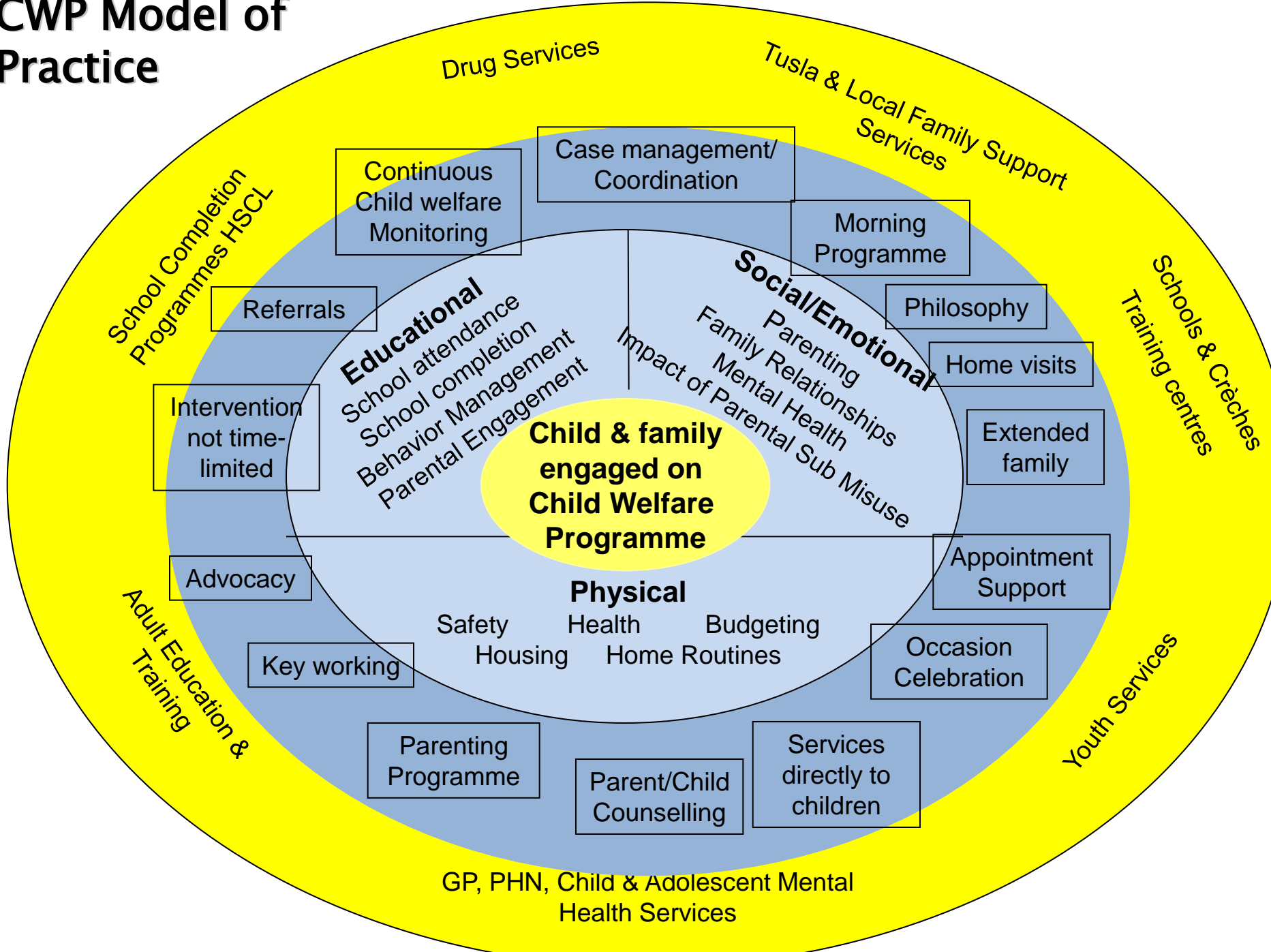
Department of Children and Youth Affairs

- Better Outcomes Brighter Futures
- High level Policy Statement on Supporting Parents and Families

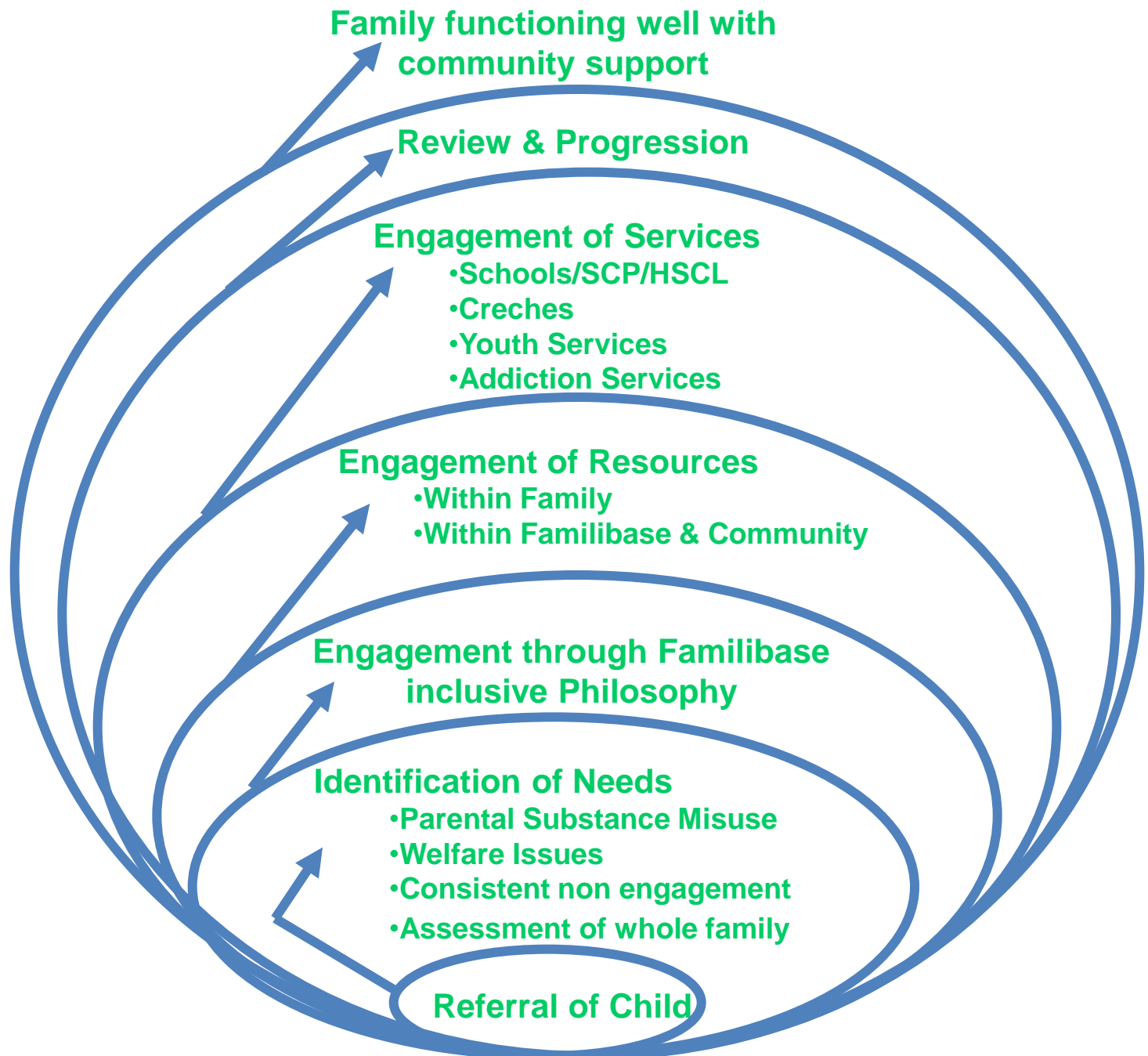
TUSLA – Child and Family Agency

- Education Welfare
- Child Protection and Welfare
- Meitheal
- What Works in Family Support
- Youth Strategy

CWP Model of Practice



Familibase CWP System



CWP – Case Study 1



Engagement through Familibase Inclusive Philosophy

- Persistent work with Drug Services to Engage Mam
- Integrated Practice
- Time Allowed to build relationship with Mam
- Development of Trust within Family

Identification of Needs

- Mam active in addiction
- Ryan has serious behavioural difficulties in school
- Ryan has ADHD and non verbal learning difficulty
- Family have history of sporadic engagement with services
- Mam and Ryan's relationship under stress
- Ryan has two younger siblings and one older

Referral of Ryan Dunne
Age 9
by Drugs Service

CWP – Case Study 1



Within Familibase & Community

‘Wrap Around’ Support coordinated by CWW

Morning Programme

Afterschool's activities

Key working - incentivised plan for positive behaviour in school

Support to CAMHS appointments

Coordination of and advocacy at professional meetings

Parenting support individual and group

Support for Mam to access treatment

Various supports for Ryan's siblings

Within Family :

- Harnessing Mams Strengths

- Working with extended family, Uncle, Nanny

Engagement of Resources & Services

CWP – Case Study 1

Review and Progression

- Ryan is now in 1st year of St Johns College
- Mam has accessed residential treatment
- Ryan is engaging well with Youth Work Programme
- Mam and Ryan's relationship improved
- Mam completed two parenting programmes
- Two younger siblings doing very well in school
- Older sibling in 1st Year of PLC course

Family ready to progress from CWP



Demonstrating effectiveness...

2015

- 22 families and 68 children currently engaged on the Child Welfare Programme (CWP) Age ranges of the children are;
- 0-5yrs = 19; 6-11yrs = 18; 12-15yrs = 20; 16+yrs = 11
- All children and young people on the CWP have been retained in education, 4 young people completed Leaving Certificate, 2 progressed to Further Education in College
- 9 children and young people receiving counselling or play therapy
- All young people are supported by key workers to develop coping strategies to deal with the challenges of parental substance misuse
- 8 Parents completed a Parenting Programme
- 20 Parents accessing treatment and rehabilitation supports
- Of the 11 families receiving a social work intervention, the children of 10 of these families remain living at home

School Days Absent

Pre Familiscope Intervention 2007-2008: 89	Pre Familiscope Intervention 2006 -2007:121	Pre Familiscope Intervention 2008 – 2009: 56	Pre Familiscope Intervention 2006-2007: 72
Post Familiscope Intervention 2008- 2009: 36 2009 to Feb 2010: 10	Post Familiscope Intervention 2007- 2008: 38 2008 – 2009: 42 2009 to Feb 2010: 9	Post Familiscope intervention 2009 to Feb 2010: 3	Post Familiscope intervention 2007 – 2008: 35 2008-2009: 25 2009 to Feb 2010: 10

Education element of FamiliBase/relationship to Education

In general terms:

- Integral to all that we do
- Underpins all of the work
- FamiliBase, and Familiscope before it, is a product of the recognition for the need to integrate services and respond holistically, to the whole person and in some cases a whole family to ensure positive educational outcomes.
- Education is recognised as being a key predictor of positive life choices and chances

Education element of FamiliBase/relationship to Education

More tangibly:

- Capacity to facilitate interventions which impact attendance figures
- Capacity to work with parents and to shift what can be a negative dynamic between parents and schools following a pattern of negative behaviours/negative experiences. This work can also be at the level of parental confidence.
- Capacity to work with children/young people/parents/teachers around behavioural management/emotional difficulties/early language skills/literacy development

FamiliBase's Emerging Continuum

A Continuum of Care, Intervention & Service Delivery across the Life Cycle

Early Years / Childcare	Arts Programmes	Youth Work	Youth Person Substance Misuse Programme	Child Welfare Programme	Teen Parent Support Programme	Parenting
Age range 0–4 & Parents	Age range 6–25 & parents	Age range 10–25 & siblings & parents	10– 25 & Parents	Age range 0–18 & family	Up to 21 & family	All Parents
Prevention/Early Intervention	Prevention/Early Intervention	Prevention/Early Intervention	Harm Reduction	Child-Centred Case Management	Case Management for Young Parents	Incredible Years
Education	Informal Education	Informal Education	Intervention	Intervention	Information sharing	Parents Plus
Care	Experiential learning in Arts methodologies	Social Care	Counselling	Harm Reduction	Relationship Building	Strengthening Families
Child development	Social Care	Social/Recreational	Personal Development	Care	Informal Education	
Parent/carer partnership	Social/Recreational	Personal Development	Informal Education	Relationship Building		
	Personal Development	Intervention		Parent/Carer partnership		
	Intervention	Developing social and critical thinking/				

TO END

“An education that privileges one child over another is giving the privileged child a corrupted education as it gives him or her a social or economic advantage. The issue of social justice is not an add-on; it is fundamental to a good education.”

Connell (1995), p57

ANY
QUESTIONS
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