

S.E.N.S.E. Program

Substance-Exposed Newborn Safe Environment

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What Makes S.E.N.S.E.?

- Families with substance-exposed newborns agree to participate in SENSE program, offered by DCS after a report was made.
- SENSE is a multi-disciplinary approach to ensuring children's safety and needs are met while remaining in home with their parent(s).
- Parents are provided with an array of coordinated services to address safety issues and risks.
- Up to 5 in-home visits per week made by service providers and DCS for 120 days.



A.R.S. 13-3620



- A.R.S.13-3620e - the requirement that health care professionals report substance exposure in infants to DCS.
- A.R.S.13-3401 lists 150+ possible substances.
- SFY 2015 the Child Abuse Hotline received 3,594 reports with a tracking characteristic of SEN, SFY 2016 reports were up to 4,059 received w/SEN tracking characteristic, and SFY 2017 increased to 4,234.

Substance Exposed Newborns- Increased Risk

- Impaired fetal growth
- Prematurity
- Neurobehavioral impairment (NAS)
- Regulatory impairment
- Behavioral changes
- Developmental delays
- SIDS
- Child abuse

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

- **NAS** may occur in a baby exposed to drugs or meds, usually **opioids** such as heroin, methadone or RX.
- Withdrawal signs usually appear 1-5 days after birth but can appear later and last 1 week to 6 months
- Symptoms vary but may include diarrhea, fever, poor feeding, sleep problems, tremors, stiffness, high pitched cry, irritability, and difficulty consoling.

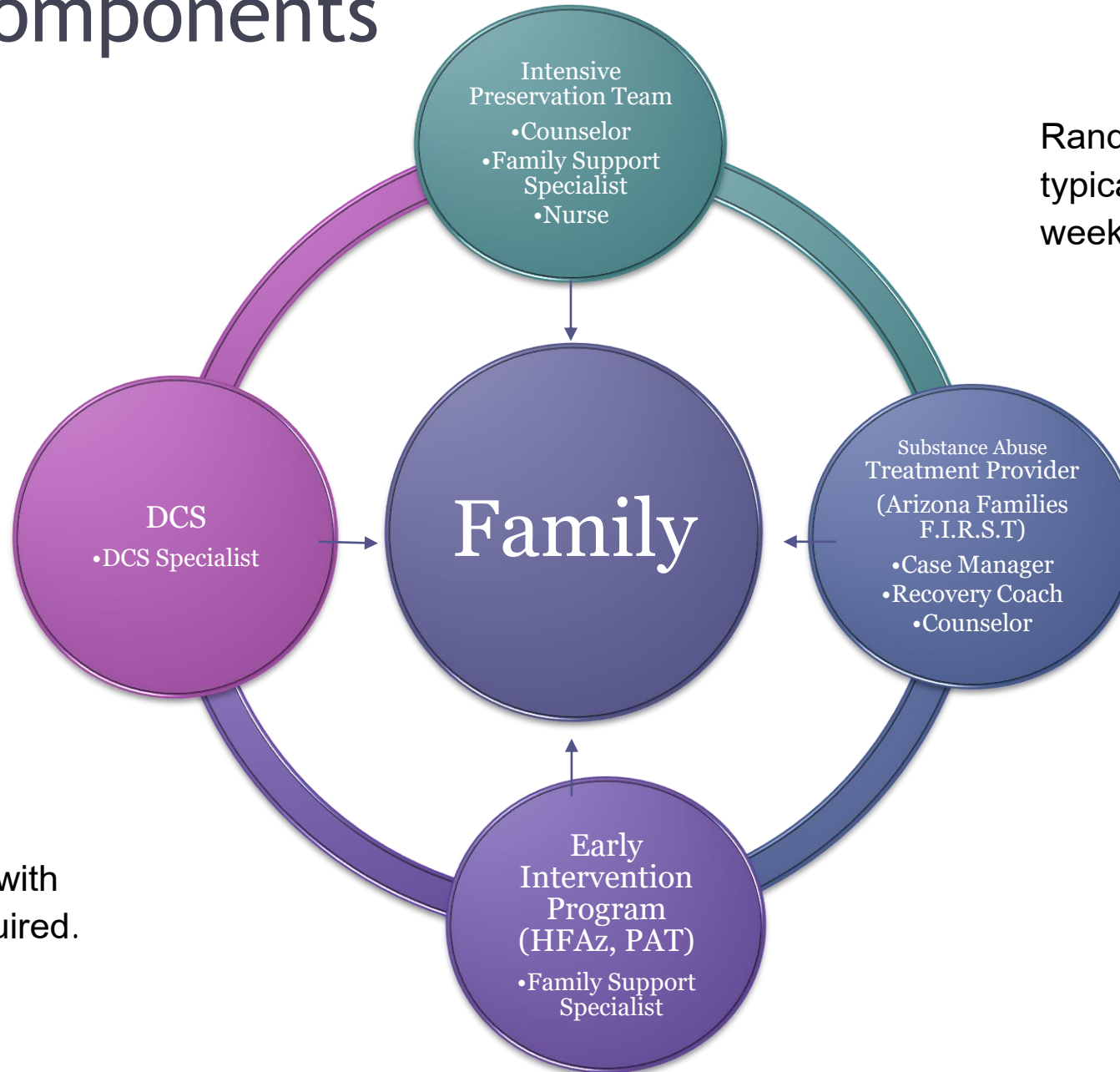


S.E.N.S.E. Eligibility

- Any newborn exposed to substances prenatally
- The SEN was reported to DCS as a report
- The baby is going home with parents.
- Parents agree to services and have a safety plan in place



S.E.N.S.E Components



Random drug testing is typically required 2x per week.

Safety Monitor stays with family as long as required.

Service Array

Individual, family,
and couples
counseling

Parenting skills
education

Home management,
budgeting, nutrition
and safety

Child development
education

Periodic
developmental
assessments of
children

Medical and
developmental
consultation

Coordination of
services and
treatment

Community resource
and referral

Emotional support &
encouragement

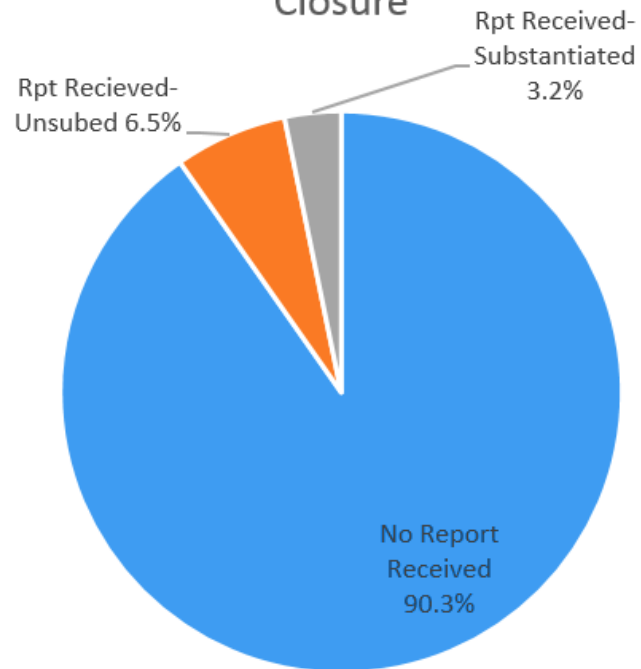
Substance abuse
treatment and
support

Case management

Concrete resources –
assistance with
housing, food boxes,
childcare and
transportation (DCS)

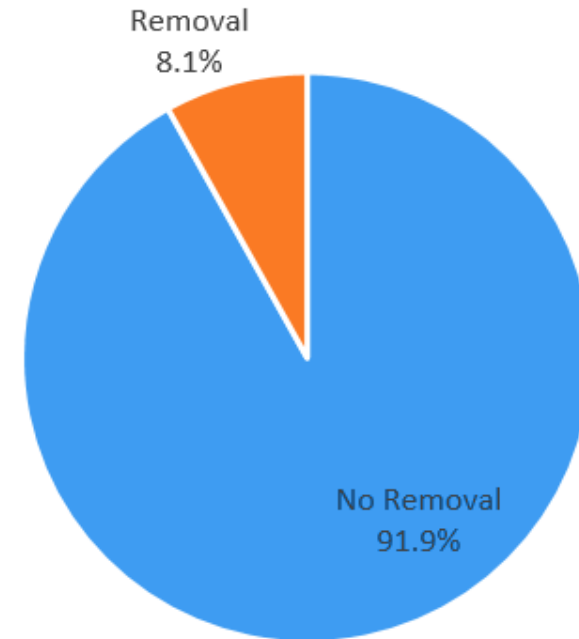
S.E.N.S.E. Data

Report Received within 6 months After Service Closure



SFY 2014 and 2015

Removal within 6 months After Service Closure



SFY 2014 and 2015

Questions?