

SFP research has also demonstrated the following programmatic outcomes, which directly impact the target population's needs described in the needs statement:

- Decreased use and intention to use alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.
- Enhanced children's protective and resilience factors by improving children's social and life skills, peer resistance, and communication skills.
- Improved parent/child attachment and family relations, communication, and organization.
- Improved adults' parenting skills, reductions in excessive punishment or lax discipline and improvements in parenting self-efficacy,
- Reduced youth behavior problems (i.e., substance use, conduct disorders, aggression, violence, and juvenile delinquency) as well as reduced emotional problems such as depression and psychosomatic disorders.

III. **Project goals:**

A. Goals of the proposed project: The goals of this program are to enhance the capacity of Lowndes County Juvenile Court systems ability to reduce risk factors and strengthen protective factors for at-risk youth through the implementation of Strengthening Families Program. Further, the County's goal is to ensure that SFP will be implemented and delivered in full fidelity of the SFP model. These goals will be obtained through the following specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time specified objectives:

1. Lowndes County Juvenile Court will continue to use Peaceway Counseling and Mediations Services, who was previously selected as a qualified EBP purveyor through a competitive proposal process, to provide continued SFP programming.
2. The selected provider will have a minimum of a 75% completion rate for all youth and families enrolled in the SFP program.

In regards to specific SFP outcomes and SFP's ability to reduce risk factors and strengthen protective factors, a multi-method and multi-informant assessment strategy will be used for the process and outcome evaluation and includes three primary interview instrument batteries measuring: 1) parent, 2) child, 3) therapist/trainer report to improve outcome validity. The process evaluation includes at least two forms: the Family Attendance Form, including the attendance, participation, and homework completion for each session for each participant, and 2) a Group Leader (trainer or therapist) Session Rating for each session that documents any changes that the leaders made in the sessions, their satisfaction with the session, how well the families understood the material, and any suggestions for improvement. Parents and children attend a Pre-Program Enrollment and Pre-test Session, prior to beginning Session #1. This session begins