

## A Rewired System:

# A Measurement and Evaluation Framework for *Rewiring*

Rewiring is an audacious collaborative that seeks to ensure that families remain safely together and eventually reduce the number of children and families involved with the child welfare system.

Rewiring will strategically deploy public and private funds to ultimately create a system that prevents children and families from having to “get worse” before becoming eligible to receive the help they need. Shifting dollars from high-cost, low impact late-stage interventions to lower-cost, higher impact, early stage supports that strengthen families, save money and dramatically improve outcomes for kids, families, and society.

Rewiring will drive this radical system update through targeted programmatic and financial support to advance a system of child wellbeing that:

- Reduces the number of children and families entering the child welfare system by engaging early in ways that strengthen families before child welfare services are needed;
- Improves the quality of child welfare services for children and families who need them; and
- Reshapes the flow of local, state and ultimately national funding to ensure that the lessons of Rewiring are woven into future public funding streams and thus sustaining and replicating the work nationally.

Tennyson Center for Children is partnering with the Colorado Health Institute to evaluate the ongoing efforts of Rewiring and to inform pathways to transforming public dollars based on outcomes. The evaluation will provide a critical understanding of the impact of proactive prevention services on families. It also will allow rapid cycle response and learning to continue to meet the needs of families and children along the way. And finally, it presents a unique opportunity to understand how systems do or do not change, in order to enable Colorado and, ultimately, other states to serve future generations in transformative ways.



The evaluation plan seeks to operationalize the vision of Rewiring the system by providing specific research questions and measures that will allow Rewiring partners to track progress over the course of five years. The evaluation plan is structured into three tiers:

1. Tier One: The Impact on This Family. An evaluation of how children and families receive services through county human service agencies and their community partners.
2. Tier Two: The Impact on This Generation. An evaluation to identify opportunities for real-time change, scalability, and replicability for achieving the Rewiring goals.
3. Tier Three: The Impact on Future Generations. An evaluation of institutional structures, specifically the flow of funding in the human services system, to identify opportunities to reallocate dollars towards prevention efforts. This includes identifying barriers to changing the financing of the human services system and identifying opportunities to demonstrate lasting commitments to funding prevention.

Though these analyses are described as distinct, the assessment of these three tiers together will be used to measure progress toward a rewired system. In other words, these three tiers are connected — the findings of a community's evaluation tiers must be viewed together, not in isolation.

To learn more about Rewiring please contact:

**Tiffany Perrin**

Accelerator Chief, Tennyson Center for Children  
Tiffany.perrin@tennysoncenter.org

**Megan Vogels**

Rewiring Chief, Tennyson Center for Children  
Megan.vogels@tennysoncenter.org

**Colorado Health Institute**

Jalyn Ingalls, Policy Analyst  
Rewiring@coloradohealthinstitute.org

