

Partnering for Change

Assessing Engagement Among Rewiring Stakeholders

Successful engagement between Rewiring partners, communities, and stakeholders is critical to creating systems change. Tennyson Center for Children, in partnership with the Colorado Health Institute (CHI), conducted a brief survey to understand partner and stakeholder engagement with Rewiring. Twenty-one Rewiring partners responded to the survey. They included: County departments of human services (9); community-based service providers (7); other (4), and school (1).

Key Takeways:

- Half of county human services department respondents are neutral about their **confidence** that Rewiring will achieve its goal of changing system funding flows to provide prevention services.
- Just 50% of county human services department respondents reported that Rewiring’s **expectations** were realistic or extremely realistic.
- As Rewiring kicks off its inaugural year, **satisfaction** during the implementation phase is high among partners.

Confidence in Rewiring Goals

Rewiring has outlined three key goals of the multi-county collaboration.

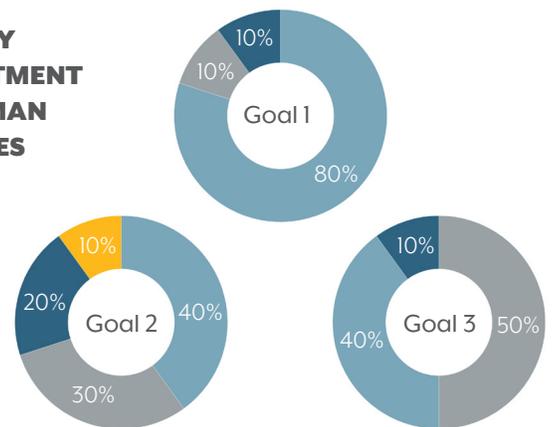
- **Goal 1:** Reduce the number of children and families entering the child welfare system by providing prevention services early before children need them.
- **Goal 2:** Improve the quality of child welfare services for children and families who need them.
- **Goal 3:** Change funding flows to ensure that primary and secondary prevention interventions can be sustained for those who need them.

Partners are more confident about Rewiring’s impact on the families served than they are about changes to the system. All but two respondents report confidence in Rewiring’s ability to reduce the number of families entering the child welfare system. But just two-thirds of respondents have confidence in Rewiring’s second and third goals. Notably, half of respondents from county human services departments are neutral about the third goal of Rewiring.

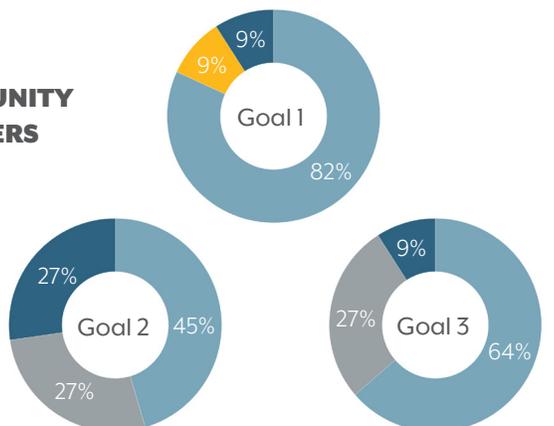
There is an opportunity for Rewiring to increase confidence in these goals by clearly communicating each partner’s role and the specific actions needed to achieve these goals.

Level of Confidence in Achieving Rewiring Goals, Reported by Partners

COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



OTHER COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Q | What is the biggest strength of Rewiring?

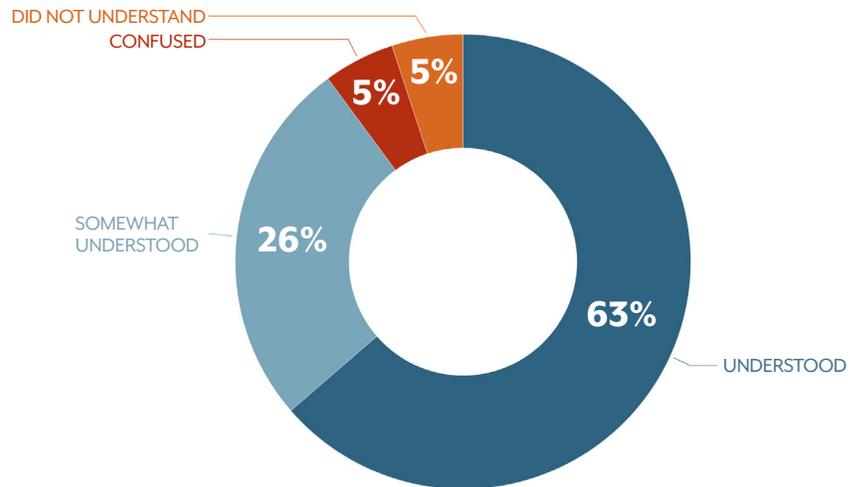
“The staff, the collaborations, the meeting facilitation, the strategic lens, the common goals, the positive energy, and the ability to think differently and creatively about what is possible.”

— County Department of Human Services Respondent

Rewiring Expectations

A majority of respondents believe Rewiring’s expectations are realistic, yet, 36% reported being confused or not understanding, or only somewhat understanding the expectations for participation. Only half of county human services department respondents reported that Rewiring’s expectations were realistic or extremely realistic, compared to 100% of community-based service providers and other respondents.

Two-Thirds of Rewiring Partners Understood Expectations



Q | What is the biggest opportunity for improvement in Rewiring?

“More engagement with the community early on, to have them engaged and a part of the planning process.”

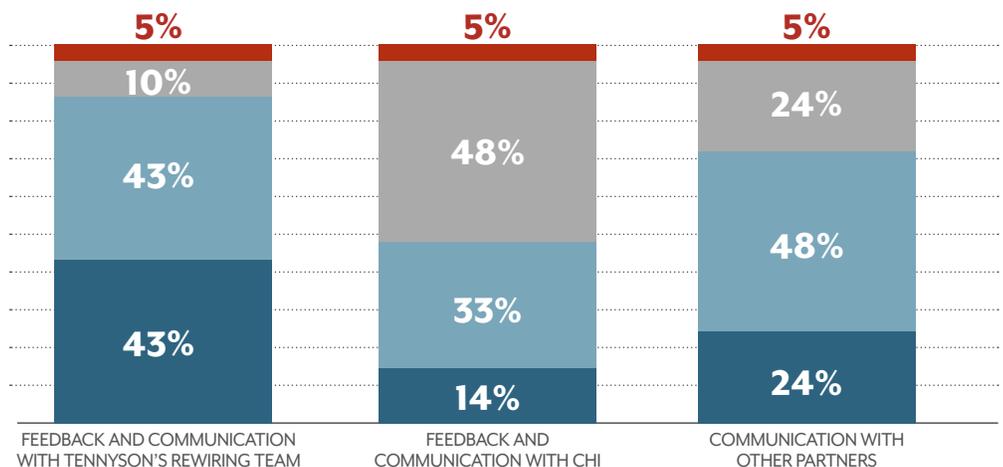
— County Department of Human Services Respondent

Satisfaction With Rewiring

As Rewiring kicks off its inaugural year, satisfaction during the implementation phase is high among partners. The vast majority (90.5%) of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with their organization’s involvement in Rewiring.

Overall Satisfaction with Rewiring Is High

■ Very Satisfied ■ Satisfied ■ Neutral ■ Dissatisfied ■ Very Dissatisfied



What is 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, late-stage interventions to lower-cost, early stage supports will strengthen children and families and save money.

Tennyson Center for Children (TCC) is partnering with the Colorado Health Institute (CHI) to evaluate the ongoing efforts of [Rewiring](#) and to inform pathways to transforming public dollars based on outcomes.

Successful engagement between Rewiring partners, communities, and stakeholders is critical to creating systems change. To assess this engagement, TCC and CHI conducted a brief survey in August 2019 to understand partner and stakeholder engagement with Rewiring.

Translating Evaluation to Action:

The TCC team has shared the following reflections and actions after reviewing the survey findings presented in the following pages:

- We understand there is some skepticism around the ability to meet Rewiring's three goals. We believe it is a healthy skepticism and also to be expected, given the complications and challenges around change in this field. It is helpful data to have.
- We hear that we can improve clarity around expectations, and we will do that.
- Some of the data suggested concerns about how to get families to engage with prevention services. We are committed to learning and addressing this crucial need.
- The data also show possible concerns about the ability to demonstrate impact and to scale. This will be prioritized in strategic conversations with counties.
- We are committed to continuing to measure progress, impact, satisfaction, and feedback through surveys so partner feedback can be regularly addressed and incorporated into Rewiring.

Please contact Megan Vogels, Rewiring Chief, at Megan.Vogels@tennysoncenter.org with questions or to learn more about Rewiring.