

FAMILY VISIT COACHING IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY





VISIT COACHING IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Implemented September 2016

Goals:

- Expedite transition from supervised visitation to unsupervised visitation
- Promote timely family reunification
- Help visitation occur in a more natural setting



WHAT IS FAMILY VISIT COACHING?

- Reaches an agreement with the parent about the child's needs
- Provides support to meet the child's needs
- Prepares parents for their child's reactions
- Plan with parents to give the child their full attention
- Appreciates the parents' strength and provide coaching
- Helps parents cope with their feelings for consistent visits



FOUR PRINCIPLES OF VISIT COACHING

Empowerment

Empathy

Responsiveness

Active Parenting



THE COACHING STRUCTURE

- Visit Planning/Initial Meeting
- Pre-Visit Meeting
- Family Visit Time
- Post-Visit Debrief
- Partnering





SAN DIEGO IMPLEMENTATION

- Included in our Community Services for Families contract
- At least one FTE visit coach per region
- Goal was to have between 15-30 coached visits per family, as determined by the needs of the family
- Move more quickly from supervised visitation to unsupervised visitation to reunification
- Help visitation occur in a more natural setting



REFERRING FAMILIES TO VISIT COACHING

Families not eligible for visit coaching

• 300(e) cases, marked "High risk" for visitation, actively psychotic, etc.

Priority given to higher-need families

- Received supervised visits for 90 days or longer
- Between 6 & 12 month hearings and stuck on their case plan
- Resistant family Parents making no progress in visits



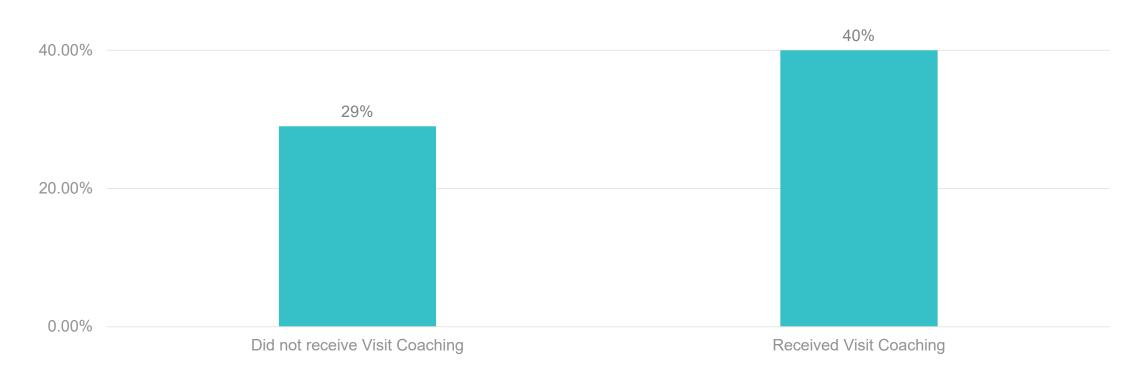
EVALUATION AND OUTCOMES

San Diego Contracted with the National Center for Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) to evaluate the program. The evaluation sought to answer some of the following questions:

- Does FVC improve odds of successful reunification?
- Does FVC decrease time to reunification?
- What are the mechanisms by which FVC benefits families?
- Do parents participating in FVC improve their parenting skills over time?



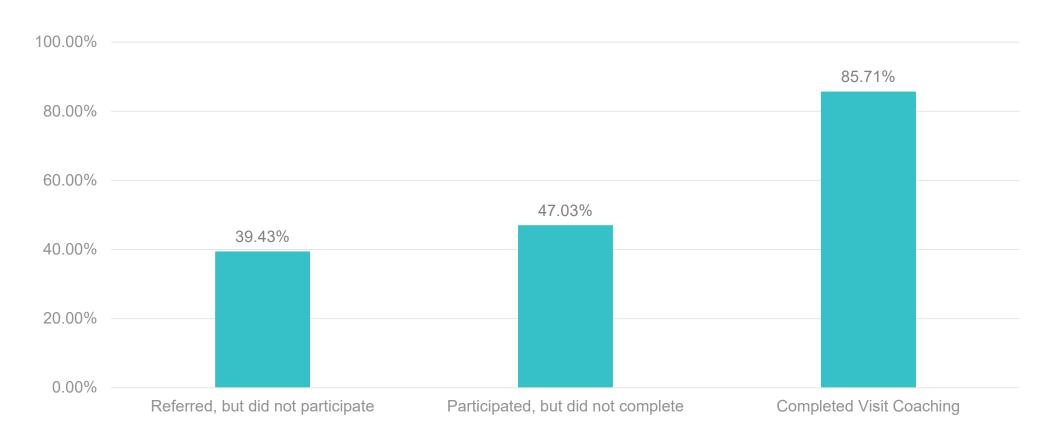
ODDS OF REUNIFYING IN 18 MONTHS: HIGHER-NEED FAMILIES







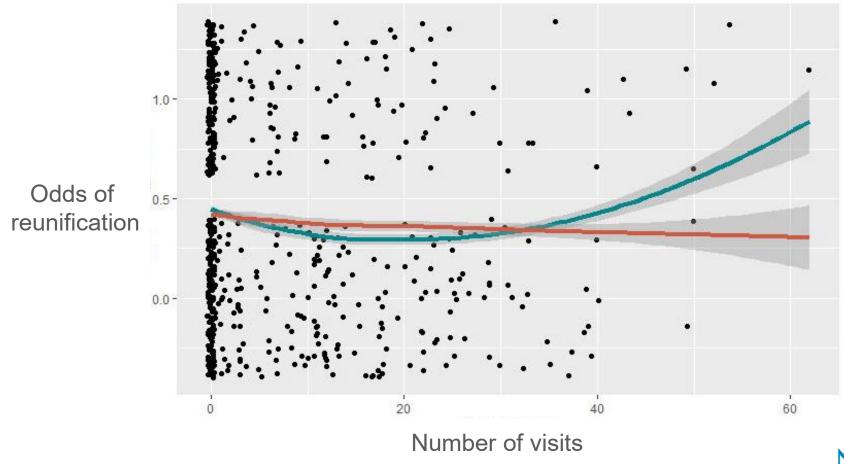
ODDS OF REUNIFYING IN 18 MONTHS: ALL FAMILIES







CORRELATION BETWEEN # OF VISITS AND ODDS OF REUNIFICATION







NEXT STEPS

- Eligibility Criteria
- County's Capacity
- Supervised Visitation





FOR MORE INFORMATION

- https://www.martybeyer.com/content/visit-coaching
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