

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	<i>ix</i>
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	<i>xi</i>
<i>Introduction</i>	<i>xiii</i>
1 EVALUATING FAMILY-BASED SERVICES: CHALLENGES AND TASKS	1
Critical FBS Implementation Challenges	7
Program Evaluation Challenges and Tasks: An Overview	9
Conclusion	15
Notes	16
Appendix to Chapter 1	
EVALUATING CHANGES IN SYSTEMS <i>Charles L. Usher</i>	17
2 DESIGNING FAMILY-BASED SERVICE PROGRAM EVALUATIONS	23
Evaluation Designs	30
Conclusion: Control and Variation	41
Notes	42
3 SAMPLING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	45
Targeting FBS	46
Sampling	51
Sample Size	54
Protections in the Research Process	57
Conclusion	64
Note	64

4	ASSESSING SERVICES AND INTERVENTIONS	65
	Approaches to Studying Interventions	66
	Quality Assurance and Quality Improvement	81
	Assessing Worker Performance	84
	Conclusion	85
5	ASSESSING FAMILY FUNCTIONING	91
	Outcome Measurement	92
	Building Family Assessments to Meet Both Clinical and Evaluation Purposes	94
	Assessment for Evaluating Purposes	96
	Domains of Family Functioning	98
	Selected Instruments	99
	Conclusion	113
	Notes	114
6	ASSESSING CHILD FUNCTIONING	117
	Assessment for Service Planning and Evaluation	119
	Domains of Child Assessment	130
	Conclusion	136
7	ASSESSING PARENT FUNCTIONING AND SOCIAL SUPPORT	139
	Parenting Instruments	145
	Parent Social Support	152
	Selected Measures of Social Support	155
	Conclusion	161
	Notes	162
8	PLACEMENT PREVENTION	163
	Issues in Using Child or Family Placement Rates	163
	Ways of Using Placement Rates	174
	Conclusion	177
	Notes	177

9	MEASURING PROGRAM EFFICIENCY	179
	Cost-Effectiveness Measurement	181
	Benefit-Cost Analysis	181
	Conclusion	190
	Notes	190
10	CONSTRUCTIVIST RESEARCH: A QUALITATIVE APPROACH <i>Mary K. Rodwell</i>	191
	Expectations for the Constructivist Inquiry Process	195
	Principles of Constructivist Evaluation	200
	When and Where to Undertake Alternative Forms of Evaluation	201
	Overview of Phases of an Emergent Evaluation Method	202
	Researcher as Instrument	203
	Data Collection Techniques	204
	Data Management	205
	Special Challenges of Qualitative and Constructivist Research	211
	Conclusion	213
	Notes	213
11	THE MANAGEMENT AND IMPACT OF FAMILY-BASED SERVICES EVALUATIONS: DOING RESEARCH IN THE REAL WORLD	215
	Implementation Issues	216
	Impact of Research	229
	Conditions Necessary for Successful Implementation	232
	Appendix to Chapter 11 A SAMPLE RESEARCH PROPOSAL	235

12	ANALYZING FINDINGS AND WRITING REPORTS	241
	The Data Analysis Plan	242
	Analyzing the Data	247
	The Research Report	254
	Conclusion	258
13	SOCIAL POLICY AND EVALUATION: AN EVOLVING SYMBIOSIS	
	<i>Charles Gershenson</i>	261
	Evaluation and Policy	261
	Policy Process and Evaluation	265
	Limitations in the Evaluation Approach for Policy	266
	Are Evaluation Findings Meaningful?	269
	Framing Evaluation Recommendations	270
	Time Frames and Lags	271
	Evaluation and Child Welfare Legislation	273
	Conclusion	274
	AFTERWORD	277
	REFERENCES	279
	INDEX	308