The objective of this report is to analyze the impact of a trauma-informed system of care, known as Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI), through its implementation in a collaborative network of child welfare organizations in Tarrant County. Over a 12-month period of data collection provided by the Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development (KPICD), this collaborative (under the Mental Health Connexion of Tarrant County) has been assessed on the effectiveness of TBRI implementation up to January 2020. The basic design of the study includes 20 organizations participating in TBRI implementation data collection through online surveys and monthly interview calls. This study seeks not only to summarize the data collected within a one-year time frame, but to examine the impact of having a TBRI practitioner at each organization prior to the beginning of the collaborative project. Repeating measure analyses were performed on agencies with a TBRI practitioner at baseline (start of implementation) versus no TBRI practitioner at baseline. This made the change within and between organizations possible to identify. Reported findings will also include TBRI familiarity within each agency, including relationships between baseline and follow-up results, and individual organizational progress towards complete TBRI implementation.

Methods

Participants included roughly 1,000 individuals from 20 organizations that have participated in implementation of data collection.

Participants:
- Age: 20-40 (80.1%)
- Gender: Female (85.5%), Male (14.4%)
- Race: Caucasian (55.44%), Hispanic (16.16%), Black or African American (20.54%), Other (7.86%)

Data collection from participants at baseline and 12-month follow-up are comprised of scales from the Attitudes Related to Trauma-Informed Care (ARTIC), the TCU Survey of Organizational Functioning (TCU SOF), the TCU Workshop Assessment Follow-up (TCU WAFU), the Policy Communication Index (PCI), and ANOVA.

Results: Quantitative

Leadership Engagement at Baseline (Time 1) and Follow-up (Time 2) for Agencies with and without a TBRI Practitioner at the Beginning of the Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>TBRI Practitioner</th>
<th>No TBRI Practitioner*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M(SD)</td>
<td>M(SD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time 1</td>
<td>40.71 (7.41)</td>
<td>39.50 (7.84)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time 2</td>
<td>33.25 (7.72)</td>
<td>30.75 (7.84)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The impact of having a TBRI Practitioner at an agency prior to the beginning of the project is assessed above. Using ANOVA models, repeated measures to examine paired cases (cases where a participant completed both the baseline and 12-month follow-up surveys) were conducted to analyze leadership engagement over the first year.

Discussion

The results of this exploratory study reveal that having a TBRI Practitioner can increase leadership engagement within an agency. Higher levels of leadership engagement have predicted better communication and positive impacts on staff. Leadership engagement has also been related to policy communication measures and improved sense of personal expression within the agency. Increased meeting discussions (>0.001) and perceived personal influence (>0.001) have been associated with higher leadership engagement for participants (Nawoj et al., 2019).

TBRI implementation for a trauma-informed care has been assessed using reports over a 1 year period from baseline to 12-months. There are specific factors within this time frame that facilitated and/or hindered progress in one agency compared to another. These factors also varied in intensity as implementation continued. Aspects such as the size and population of an agency may have dictated the results in the study. Differences in the levels of trauma-informed practice and initial TBRI implementation could also be the reason for different baseline measurements at the start.

Future directions of this research can look more closely at the effects of gender in participants as a function of how it may contribute to factors impacting progress in TBRI. Utilizing cross-sectional data creates time-gaps where change fluctuations experienced by a participant may occur throughout the study. Perhaps a deeper examination of this research may lead to other factors that influence implementation progress within each agency environment.

References
