

POST-SUMMIT PLANNING FORM

TO BE COMPLETED BY AUGUST 1, 2008

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As they relate to the *safety, well-being and permanent home environments* for children in your county, please complete the following:

WHAT ARE THE TOP FIVE STRENGTHS AND/OR RESOURCES IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

1. Variety of specialized programs across the continuum
2. Competent and knowledgeable professionals/leadership
3. Wraparound Services, they have the ability to design needed services around our families and meet many of the specialized services that children need. It helps us to understand the gaps.
4. Compassionate, dedicated people in some agencies that are willing to look at the big picture, take risks and look at innovative services.
5. Agencies that try to come to the table to meet the needs of our children.

WHAT ARE THE TOP FIVE CHALLENGES FACING YOUR COMMUNITY?

1. Economic stressors
2. Drugs and alcohol ramifications
3. Poor parenting skills/lack of parental investment
4. There is no immediate "crisis team" that can deal with explosive situations between the parent and child. The child is usually the one that gets taken to the detention home and ends up in the system
5. Parents are forced to give up custody in order to provide treatment

WHAT ARE THE TOP FIVE MOST-NEEDED SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES?

1. Parent mentors

2. Parent involvement with their children's activities
3. In-county placements/treatment foster care Foster placements in county Therapeutic foster homes
4. School/classes that can provide needed services for children with Autism and Mental Health issues.
5. Home based services that meet the needs of our children and families.

WHAT ACTION STEPS WILL BE TAKEN LOCALLY TO DEVELOP NEEDED SERVICES OR ADDRESS LOCAL CHALLENGES?

1. Develop an executive committee – fund-pooling/placement management/goal and leadership development
2. Determine feasibility of a parent placement center as an alternative to removing children from their homes
3. Develop specialized assessment develop/resource for high needs cases (ie.PISD/MH stabilization/parenting assessment)
4. Establish Parent/Youth Advisory/Advocacy program development
5. Establish consistent and applicable assessment mechanism to evaluate system changes/successes/adjustments

BEYOND FUNDING, WHAT ACTION DOES THE COUNTY NEED FROM THE STATE TO HELP THE COUNTY ACHIEVE ITS ACTION PLAN?

1. Flexible funding to meet unique county needs
2. Immediately accessible (inter and intra county) consolidated data base available to all community partners serving children (education, JFS, Children services, Mental Health, MRDD, etc.)
3. Resolve statutory/administrative rule inconsistencies. These create unnecessary barriers and mistrust.
4. Provide counties a unified state vision of expectations and act upon that shared vision.
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