

POST-SUMMIT PLANNING FORM

TO BE COMPLETED BY AUGUST 1, 2008

E-mail to summitonchildren@sc.ohio.gov or fax to 614.387.9409

COUNTY NAME: FAIRFIELD
CONTACT NAME: Rich Bowlen
CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: 740.689.4832
CONTACT E-MAIL: bowler@odjfs.state.oh.us

WHAT ARE THE TOP FIVE ISSUES AFFECTING THE SAFETY, WELL-BEING AND PERMANENT HOME ENVIRONMENTS OF CHILDREN?

WHAT ARE THE TOP FIVE ISSUES AFFECTING THE SAFETY, WELL-BEING AND PERMAENENT HOME ENVIRONMENTS OF CHILDREN?

1. Dramatic increase in serious drug use without necessary local drug treatment inpatient services
2. Lack of adequate housing
3. Significant increase in poverty
4. Access to mental health services
5. Increase in serious domestic violence

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

1. Community partners are committed, dedicated and passionate advocates
2. Child Protective Services first successful levy campaign in 20 years
3. Community partners are active in collaborating on innovative and creative projects and programs in coordination with Family, Adult and Children First Council
4. Operation of Family Drug Court
5. Alternative Response Pilot Project

WHAT ARE THE TOP FIVE CHALLENGES FACING YOUR COMMUNITY?

1. Lack of community awareness and education
2. Lack of local foster homes
3. Inability to serve “at risk” families and children as a preventative measure before their situation becomes insurmountable
4. Decrease in funding while increasing restrictions on local ability to utilize existing funds for planning in which to address emerging trends that are unique to counties
5. Adequate support for kinship families

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

1. Local foster homes
2. Inpatient drug rehabilitation services
3. Prioritizing services for vulnerable children
4. Increase legal representation of prosecutorial services
5. Sufficient human resources to meet the increase in demand for protective services

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

1. Fairfield County Child Protective Services will develop a strategic plan to maintain and recruit local foster homes
2. Fairfield County Child Protective Services will promote community education and awareness
3. City and County Schools will develop strategies to support children in foster and kinship care
4. Fairfield County Child Protective Services Director will meet with County Prosecutor to implement plan to increase prosecutorial services

5. ADAMH, Juvenile Court, Family, Adult and Children First Council and Child Protective Services will explore strategies to establish drug/alcohol inpatient programs within the county

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

1. No more budget cuts to TANF, PRC and other sources that currently support families and children in need
2. Support kinship families by reducing barriers for relatives to establish themselves as caregivers
3. State and local leadership to promote role of Child Protective Service agencies; and, to educate public on the need for them to take active responsibility in supporting vulnerable children
4. Recommended strategies to recruit and maintain foster homes
5. Evaluate the equitable distribution of existing funding and assure it is directly tied where the greatest needs exist