

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: Henry County

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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. The various community agencies regularly communicate and collaborate with one another.
2. Even as a small community, we have a diversity of programming and services.
3. "Turf," claimed by one group or another, does not appear to be an issue.
4. Professionals in different positions, respect one another and freely ask for assistance from others.
5. The community is generally willing to help others less fortunate.

WHAT ARE THE TOP FIVE CHALLENGES FACING YOUR COMMUNITY?

1. Obtaining stable and predictable funding.
2. Addressing the needs of citizens whose jobs have been eliminated in light of the rising cost of living.
3. Attracting good well-trained therapists to local agencies.
4. Lack of alternative for traditional public education.
5. Replacing jobs lost, primarily in the industrial sector.

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

1. A supervised parenting time and parenting time exchange center.
2. An opportunity school and suspension center for those students who do not fit well in the traditional public school system.
3. Plan and facilitate an ongoing program of appreciation for CASA's with the idea of attracting more qualified individuals to the program and keeping volunteers actively involved.
4. Start a mentoring program for troubled youth.
5. Identify and support a community center for these activities to take place.

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

1. A group of twenty community and professional leaders have met and are working together and in sub-committees towards these goals and other goals which have been identified.
2. We have met with our State Senator in the hope of obtaining legislative, local and grant funding to support the development of a community center to house the various activities which we plan. We will be meeting with other community leaders and politicians also.
3. We are meeting with all county school superintendents with the hope of obtaining support for the opportunity school suspension center.
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5. A sub-committee is planning the CASA support and a different one is planning the mentoring program.

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

1. Directives to make an opportunity school suspension center available in each community to ensure education for all students.
2. Directives to make supervised parenting time and parenting time exchange centers available in all communities to ensure the safety and security of children and a connection with their parents in difficult situations.
3. In order to move adoptions through more quickly in cases in which the DJFS has custody of children, allow the juvenile court to have jurisdiction in these cases.
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