

POST-SUMMIT PLANNING FORM

COUNTY NAME: Huron

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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 ISSUES AFFECTING THE SAFETY, WELL-BEING AND PERMANENT HOME ENVIRONMENTS OF CHILDREN?

1. People are stressed out due to the economy, poverty, and frustrations caused by poverty, such as unemployment and family problems;
2. Substance abuse among children and parents;
3. High rate of teen births and unwed mothers;
4. Lack of parental involvement and support in their children's lives;
5. The availability of consistent, on-demand transportation, including during non-traditional hours.

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

1. The availability of a variety of mental health counseling services, including MST;
2. The county is well networked amongst its children services agencies;
3. The availability of existing community based programs funded by local agencies, including parent mentoring, alternative school, mentoring for youth, etc.;
4. Diverse, affordable recreational programming, especially for youth;
5. Community education programs provided through the mental health system for service providers and the general public;

WHAT ARE THE TOP FIVE CHALLENGES FACING YOUR COMMUNITY?

1. Transportation to employment and services;
2. Parental engagement;
3. Fragmented views on the need for placements of youth among workers with different agencies;
4. Incomplete continuum of care, including adolescent foster care and respite care, adolescent day care, non-traditional hours daycare services, transitional and aftercare;
5. Increased involvement of all stakeholders, including the prosecutor, the sheriff's department, and some local school districts.

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

1. Expansion of MST services;
2. Asset building/development initiative;
3. The utilization of a family team decision making model for intervention earlier in the problem solving process;
4. Expansion of the numbers and diversity of local foster care services, including adolescent foster homes and treatment foster homes, respite care and aftercare;
5. Expansion of transportation services to improve consistency, flexibility, and non-traditional hours transportation to employment, services, and school;

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

1. Review and update memorandums of understanding between agencies;
2. Pursue a second MST therapist;

3. Explore, select, and implement a family team decision intervention model and a wraparound services model which can be implemented at earlier stages of the problem solving process;
4. Plan and implement an asset development initiative;
5. Implement process changes in individual agencies to improve the stability of youth removed from home;
6. Explore the transportation of youth between school districts using a combination of the County Transit System and school transportation resources in an attempt to keep children in placement in the same school district;
7. Implement the "Strengthening Families" Program, and expand the "Character Education" Program in the county;
8. Improve the convening of interagency diversion team meetings and the reporting of the team's treatment recommendations to the Court;

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

1. More flexible and expansive use of existing funds, ie. IV-E funds, block grant funding, funds that if unspent can be reinvested, funds to preserve families, etc.
2. More localized training opportunities;
3. Changes in state law to attract and expand businesses and attract jobs that can provide wages sufficient to support families;
4. Expansion of health care benefits for children and families, including mental health treatment and behavioral care;

