

**POST-SUMMIT PLANNING FORM****TO BE COMPLETED BY AUGUST 1, 2008**E-mail to [summitonchildren@sc.ohio.gov](mailto:summitonchildren@sc.ohio.gov) or fax to 614.387.9409.

**COUNTY NAME:** Van Wert

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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. County economic concerns -- Unemployment, lack of quality jobs that pay an adequate income or benefits to support a family
2. Lack of parental responsibility and training and education plus not providing basic nutritional needs of children
3. Drug and alcohol issues -- children and adult
4. Mental illness issues and limited skills; lack of resources and funding for treatment
5. Lack of medical and dental availability for low income/Medicaid clients

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

1. Agencies and services unique to county; for example, YWCA, YMCA, variety of diverse services available
2. Local Schools
3. Broad range of churches and faith community
4. Law enforcement
5. Small rural community

**WHAT ARE THE TOP FIVE CHALLENGES FACING YOUR COMMUNITY?**

1. Lack of medical and dental for Medicaid/low income
2. Need for structured educational services for all students
3. Increased employment opportunities, especially for youth and young adults and need for public transportation for employment
4. Assist and support dysfunctional families to prevent dependent/abused children and provide rehabilitation programs
5. Agency coordination and accountability

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

1. Mentoring -- home based intervention with parenting skills, teen to teen, and big brother/big sister type programs
2. Formalized parenting skills for all age groups
3. Child care -- affordable and flexible hours and respite care
4. Health care -- medical and dental care
5. Lack of income and the need for public or accessible transportation and adequate, safe, and affordable housing

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

1. Communication and planning between agencies and services will be improved by increasing opportunities to meet and talk, formally and informally
2. Cross training of professional personnel -- awareness of other agency responsibilities. Ask each agency to invite reports from other providers about programs and resources.
3. Develop coordinator and mediator between agencies and agencies to accept recommendations
4. Prioritize needs and directing resources by working together
- 5.

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

1. Standardize rules and regulations for all agencies in order to eliminate conflict and make rules and funding flexible to be used as needed.
2. Funding to subject to local control
3. Create a multi-agency department/director that can receive funds from agencies free of restrictions and able to coordinate activities.
4. Coordinator to research, recommend, and implement best practices
5. Lead by example to show coordination and cooperation on the state level