

Post-Summit Planning Form

To Be Completed by August 1, 2008

e-Mail to summitonchildren@sc.ohio.gov or fax to 614.387.9409

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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. Lack of funding, e.g. de-link federal IV-E eligibility from income standard; allow IV-E reimbursement for in-home services in addition to serving children in Washington County Children Services custody. The current system rewards removal rather than stabilization in the home.
2. The narrowing of the definition of what constitutes a referral of child abuse/neglect and the requirement that no additional contact be made when information received does not initially rise to the level of a report.
3. Inability to compel parents to seek mental health assessment/recommended treatment.
4. Anticipated statewide implementation of alternative response.
5. Earmarking of funds, e.g. Help Me Grow, EESA, TANF, FAST \$\$.

What are the top five strengths and/or resources in your community?

1. The success of our local initiatives, e.g. The Right Path, Ely Chapman, Scenic Hills Lions Club partnership with the Warren Local School District.
2. Our local child serving agencies employ quality staff who genuinely and intensely care about the welfare of our children and youth.
3. Open lines of communication with established points of contact within each child serving entity.
4. Collaboration and open door policy at all levels based on local definitions of need in lieu of forced collaboration as mandated by State rules and regulations.
5. Strong support from faith-based business and civic community to achieve child success.

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What are the top five challenges facing your community?

1. Funding
2. Economics
3. Transportation
4. Mandates by the State
5. No mental health levy

What are the top five most-needed services for children and families?

1. Sufficient number and types of foster homes
2. Individualized parent support
3. Access to range of mental health treatment services
4. Prevention services, day programs, dependency diversion
5. Family counseling, conflict resolution, parenting classes

What action steps will be taken locally to develop needed services or address local challenges?

1. Recruiting local foster homes
2. Place levy for children's mental health and drug/alcohol issues on ballot until it passes
3. Work with FACET Committee of Family & Children First to access fast dollars for individual parents support

Beyond funding, what action does the county need from the State to help the county achieve its action plan?

1. No mandates from the state without funding
2. Greater flexibility on funding streams
3. Allowing communities to plan their own service interventions without State guidelines
4. Make Family & Children First optional rather than mandated