

Workgroup Recommendations

Primary User: Workgroups (including Steering Committee for Final Product).

Purpose: The tool describes the Workgroup's recommendations, how they will be evaluated and primary Action Steps required for implementation.

When & how to use: Each Workgroup will use this form to submit its individual Workgroup recommendations to the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will then use the form to prioritize and report its final recommendations.

Tips and advice: Each goal may have one or more objectives and each objective may have one or more action steps. Remember that individual Workgroup goals and recommendations may be combined by the Steering Committee. Also remember that the Target Date listed below can be: Year 1, Year 2, etc.

WORKGROUP: Resource Assessment

Goal 1: Improve access and awareness to available services and supports for children and families.

Date: February 23, 2004

- Capacity Building
- Systems Change
- Programming

Objective 1: Create and maintain a centralized resource database.

Action Step 1: Merge information from the Resource Assessment inventory with the First Call For Help & #211 directory.

Objective 2: Develop a managed inventory of services and supports through a web-based database. This database will provide agency access to enable timely updates, as well as a quality assurance component that will allow for follow up after referrals are provided.

Action Step 1: Employ a community resource coordinator to provide oversight and maintenance of community resource directory, as well as grant writing.

Date: By October 2004

Action Step 2: The community resource coordinator will conduct a systems analysis of the managed database.

Date: By June 2005- ongoing

Action Step 3: Implement Community Resource Website and Phone line.

Date: By

June 2005

Goal 2: Fill the gaps in community services and supports.

- Capacity Building
- Systems Change
- Programming

Objective 1: Enhance information gathering techniques regarding gaps in services to further expand upon the information gathered from the resource assessment workgroup, including reaching out to more agencies and the community at large (e.g. churches).

Action Step 1: Coordinate with First Call For Help to review the most recent inquiries for services and supports.

Action Step 2: Design and implement a Community Outreach campaign in an effort to capture consumer and general population input (TV, radio, written articles, parent magazine, cable programming, library, etc.)

Action Step 3: Survey the general population.

Objective 2: Provide the Steering Committee with to-date gaps in services.

Objective 3: Develop and implement annual assessment tool in an effort to stay current with community needs.

Objective 4: Develop or collaborate with existing work groups to address the gaps currently identified by the resource assessment workgroup:

Transportation: *Transportation is insufficient to outlying areas and is unavailable during extended hours. This impacts other needs and access to programs, such as medical (pre-natal) and dental appointments. [Transition Committee]*

Affordable Housing: *Families face barriers to affordable housing such as poor credit histories or insufficient income. [Housing Task Force]*

Parenting Education: *Access, cost, and availability of parent education are major barriers. Individualized parent education is needed for specific populations (e.g. teen parents). Different models need to be encouraged such as self-help programs like Parent Anonymous or parent coaching. Best practice and free trainings need to be further explored.*

Respite: *Crisis and specialized respite are needed for foster care and special populations (e.g. developmentally disabled, children with SED).*

Dental: *Providers that accept Medicaid are not available. Supplemental payments are needed, perhaps through volunteers. Dental providers and current systems of dental care (Health Department) need to be engaged in the creation of a solution. Dental prevention and education should also be addressed.*

Substance Abuse: *Inpatient and outpatient substance abuse services for juveniles are needed (no inpatient). Coordination with SEMCA is needed- the SEMCA guidelines have not been user-friendly, and our community's services for this population has suffered.*

Foster Care: *Recruitment, training, and supervision for general and specialized foster care are needed.*

Universal Preschool: *County-wide, affordable, accessible preschool for children ages 3 to 5 is needed, as well as quality licensed child care providers.*

Person specific counseling for juveniles: *Counseling to address issues such as teen pregnancy, sexual assault, substance abuse, grief and loss, and juveniles with co-occurring disorders are often difficult to access due to lack of availability.*

