



**WORKGROUP OVERVIEW: Steering Committee**

**Many thanks to Members:**

John Aren - Youth Co-Chair  
Salvation Army

Pat Beach  
Monroe Public Health

Bill Conner  
AFLCIO Cntrl Labr Council

April Corie - RA Co-Chair  
Monroe WrapAround

Molly Luempert-Coy  
DTE Energy

Tilman Crutchfield  
Sheriff, Monroe County

Larry Csokasy-JJA Co-Chair  
Mercy Memorial Hospital

Randy Daniels  
MCCC

Dorothy Edwards  
Monroe City Council

Jill Grodi - RA Co-Chair  
Psychologist

Judy Heath - JJA Co-Chair  
Monroe County Health Dept.

Bev Heck - Youth Co-Chair  
Retired - ALCC

Jerry Hesson  
AFL-CIO Labor Liaison

**Michael Hoydic- Co-Chair**  
United Way Monroe

Micheal James  
Monroe Family Court

Angie. Jenerrette/Cynthia Maritato  
Monroe FIA

Charles Londo  
Monroe County

Marilyn Malters  
Monroe CMHA

Floreine Mentel  
Monroe Co. Commission

Dick Micka  
La Z Boy, Inc.

Sue Montrie  
Monroe CMHA

**Pam Moskwa -Co-Chair**  
Judge Family Court

Sister Jean O'Connor  
IHM

Jack O'Reilly  
Michigan Works SEMCA

Sandie Pierce  
HSCN

John Plath  
Monroe Sheriff Department

Laurie Rost  
Monroe Bank and Trust

Kathleen Russeau -  
O/C/M Co-Chair  
Mercy Memorial Hospital

Candy Hill-Salazar  
Catholic Social Services

Laura Schultz - DCA Chair  
Red Cross

Don Spencer - HSCN Chair  
ISD and HSCN

Dot Stacy  
CASA

Hwa Stacy  
Monroe YMCA

Jane Terwilliger  
Monroe CMHA

Kristen Theisen  
Community Foundation

Nancy Thompson  
MISD

Jim Vanderpool  
Monroe Youth Center

Michael Weipert  
Monroe County Prosceutor

**Staff:**

Mark Creekmore  
Evaluator

Charlie Mahoney  
Co-site Coordinator

Doug Redding  
Co-site Coordinator

**STEERING COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES**

**TASKS**

- The Steering Committee in conjunction with the co-site coordinators was responsible for
- (1) planning team mobilization;
  - (2) reviewing and recommending changes to State and local laws and policies related to all the County's ability to implement a Restorative Community
  - (3) monitoring the planning team's work;
  - (4) hiring and oversight of the evaluator;
  - (5) producing the final five-year strategic plan report with a set of recommendations, specific goals and outcomes to measure success and a proposed timeline for implementation of the recommendations,
  - (6) developing the application for continued funding.

**PROCESS**

- Review and prioritize issues and recommendations provided by the workgroups.
- Identify key baseline measures for recommendations.
- Establish an implementation framework for monitoring the implementation activities.
- Develop and publish the five-year strategic plan, with help from the Community Planning Team and the Outreach/Media/Communication Workgroup.
- Develop a list of on-going issues and barriers to be addressed.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Facilitate the development of county-wide system building policies and practices to make a positive difference in the lives of youth and families
- Fully implement the principles of BRC/BARJ
- Create awareness of need for system change at all levels and work to remove barriers to allow recommendations to be successful
- Upgrade technology to support the networks of services in the county which includes support for the 2 1 1 information and volunteer referral system
- Monitor/coordinate the implementation and future financial support for the recommendations

**STEERING COMMITTEE SUMMARY**

**Leadership Mobilization and Recruitment**

The Steering Committee worked with the Outreach/Communication/Media Workgroup to determine the individuals, organizations and businesses that needed to be represented on the Planning Team and within the workgroups. The Steering Committee leadership worked to recruit specific individual team members for workgroups and the Steering Committee. They also reached out to the members of the Juvenile Justice Planning Forum (JJPF) to encourage their involvement through the Building Restorative Communities effort. The Steering Committee and the Co-Site Coordinators worked with the JJPF and the Human Services Collaborative Network to officially transfer the JJPF initiative and its momentum to the BRC process. Working with the Co-site coordinators, the Steering Committee recruited the chairs and co-chairs for the workgroups.

**Legislative and Policy Issues**

The Steering Committee formed a subcommittee, chaired by County Prosecutor Michael Weipert to review the policy and issues information and provide recommendations for change. This group received issue and barrier information from the workgroups and also reviewed similar information that had been gathered by the Juvenile Justice Planning Forum regarding legislative and policy issues greater than those in the county. The issues are presented by the workgroups are detailed on the following page.

## Workgroup Issues and Barriers

### **Data Collection** barriers presented to the Steering Committee:

- No notation found from Kids Count on the data reported between 1999 and 2000 on child abuse and neglect rates, definitions or counting procedures.
- Need to continue the current Data Workgroup with additional members from agencies that will share/improve data and collection.
- Other data from the University of Michigan survey will be sought for inclusion into the community presentation.
- Identify agency/agencies that can provide a repository for the storage, maintenance, and analysis of data.
- Data from the Michigan State Police Uniform Crime Reports are inaccurate and under reported, local data will have to be collected.

### **Resource Assessment** barriers presented to the Steering Committee:

- Transportation
- Affordable Housing
- Parenting Education
- Respite
- Dental
- Substance Abuse
- Foster Care
- Universal Preschool
- Person specific counseling for juveniles

### **Juvenile Assessment** barriers presented to the Steering Committee:

- Data are not mandated for reporting on the Michigan State Police Uniform Crime Reports, thus the data are not considered reliable.
- Local data collection techniques are just starting to be formalized, most juvenile court data has to be obtained by hand.
- Lack of residential options, victim support services, a coordinating body or agency for civic engagement activities.

The Steering Committee will continue to work with the workgroups during the implementation phases to refine and monitor the barriers to system changes and capacity building and will work to develop the ability to advocate change as part of a coalition of community agencies and program providers.

## Legislative Issues and Barriers

Greatest barrier to success appears to be threats to funding levels and additional mandated programming. Given the current state and federal budget restraints, advocacy must continue for maintenance of current funding levels (if not for additional) for services for children and families.

Adequate funding for federal and state mandated programs is a necessity. The Steering Committee determined to work with the Child Care Advocacy Network to address many of those policies and issues greater than one county department or agency. Maintenance of close legislative relationships by the community leadership will also assist in the education of local and state legislators regarding the needs for a successful Active Balanced Community.

## Policy Issues and Barriers

Many of the local issues and barriers require further definition and public awareness as well as advocacy from the community.

Monroe County Active Balanced Community Initiative will need to act as an information and planning resource, a clearing house and an advocate of change within the system to:

- Support the 2-1-1 help line initiative currently being undertaken by United Way.
- Increase public awareness of programs and supports through the development of a web-based resource system to further support and integrate with First Call for Help.
- Support further development of best practice, evidence based programs/services that are available to the community for all youth.
- Develop a uniform database for collecting data across the entire children's system.

- Develop alternative ways for victims to become involved in the juvenile system.
- Enhance opportunities for civic engagement for all youth and especially youth in the juvenile system.
- Develop alternative juvenile offender programs that are best practice, evidence based and that integrate BRC/BARJ principles. Such programs may include:
  - Enhancement of the mentoring program to include the assignment of "positive performance partners" on probation cases to assist the juvenile and parent in accomplishing certain positive performance criteria such as community service or positive parent child activity together, etc.
  - Development of graduated sanctions and incentives to avoid reliance on short term detention.
  - Development of short and long term partial day (either day or afternoon) positive performance programs, inclusive of an intensive educational program, as an alternative to residential treatment.
  - Re-design part of the residential treatment program to create a short term program (60-90 days) designed to be intense and goal oriented. Parental participation and family counseling are requirements.
  - Provide additional treatment and therapeutic services within the current residential treatment program, including additional psychiatric services, sex offender programs, and intensive drug and alcohol programs to deal with the more serious offenders. This program could coordinate services with the current Drug Court.
  - Increase independent living options in the County, including Court funded and operated programs.
  - Develop and refine gender specific programming for females in the court alternative and detention/treatment center.

### **Actions Within the Region**

Monroe County Active Balanced Community will need to advocate for less categorical funding with stipulations and rules imposed by the funding agents would be useful for local planning. Rather, more flexible funding directed at locally determined needs and services would provide more responsive local programming.

Continued collaboration at the local level regarding programmatic and fiscal planning is needed to assure that limited resources can be utilized to the maximum extent. Such issues as interagency training cross system or common forms, utilization of advanced technology and pooled funding would allow for enhanced local service delivery.

### **Actions Beyond the Region**

Monroe County Active Balanced Community Initiative will also need to take an active role in developing a collaborative effort to build awareness of, and advocate for, change in systems at the state and national level that can provide a positive impact on the lives of youth and families.

## **The Steering Committee Builds Goals for the Plan**

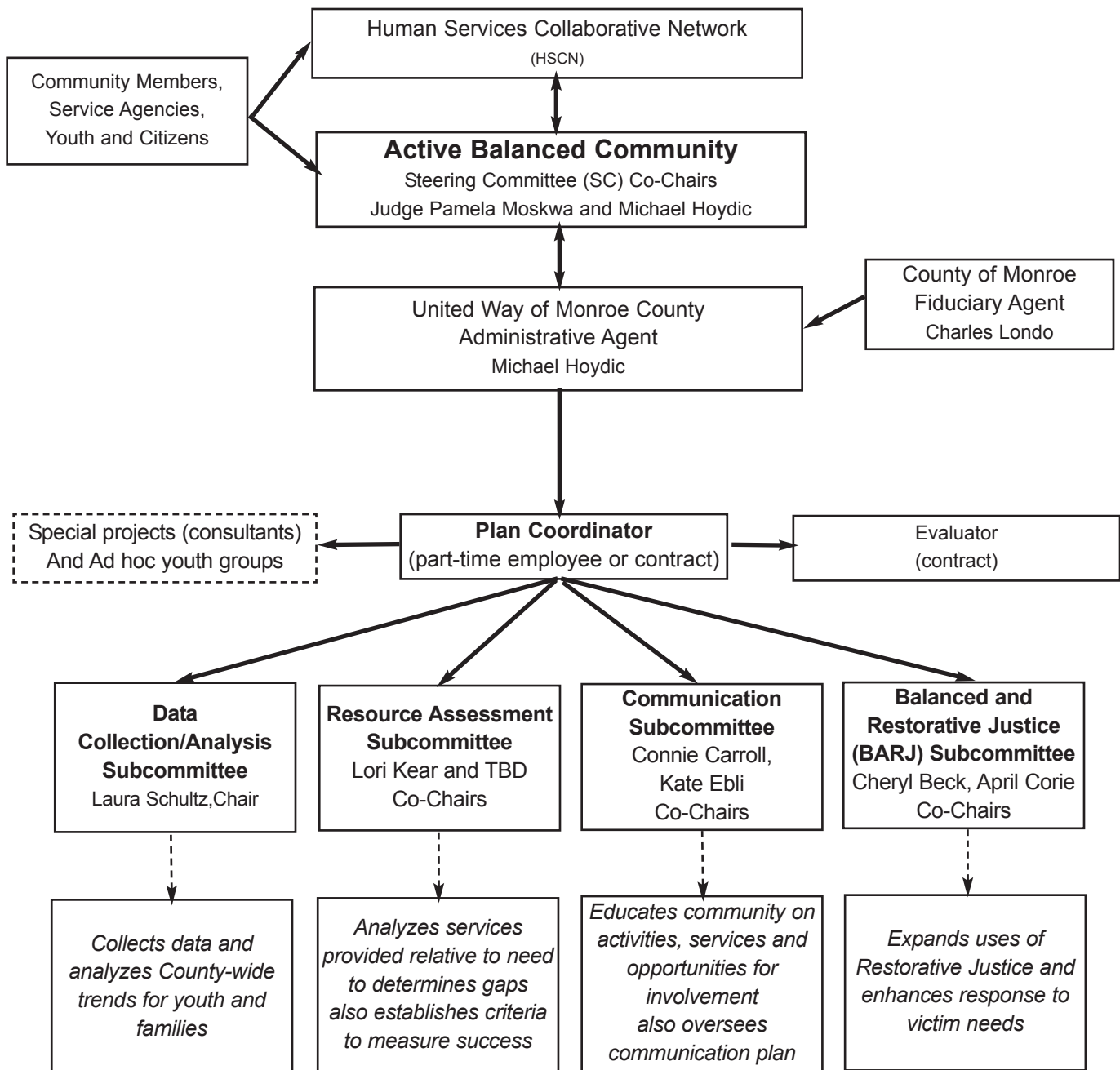
The Steering Committee met almost monthly to review the information being prepared by the workgroups. The Steering Committee received summary information from each of the workgroup areas and assigned committee members to prepare the first draft of the narrative portion of the workgroup reports. The Steering Committee as a whole reviewed the workgroup recommendations for system and capacity building and potential programs. With the assistance from the State Consulting Team, the Steering Committee edited and refined the numerous goals recommended by the workgroups to three goal areas the Active Balanced Community Initiative would concentrate on for the five-year plan:

1. Build and enhance collaborative systems and approaches to programs and services that strengthen youth and families
2. Empower organizations/systems to support the development of an Active Balanced Community
3. Build and maintain community awareness and involvement to make a positive difference in the lives of youth and family.

Within each of these goals the Steering Committee established objectives and action steps with measurable outcomes and proposed timelines. The goals and objectives were built by the Steering Committee from the information provided by the workgroups, from the Victim and Youth focus groups, from the risk factor data and from the various subcommittees within each work group. The responsibility for each goal area was determined to be within the scope of existing departments, organizations or to belong to the Active Balanced Community Workgroups which will remain in tack as the implementation moves forward. Measures were established for each of the action steps and any need for additional funding and possible sources were determined. The goals, objectives and action steps are detailed in the five-year plan.

The Steering Committee also recommended a structure for the continuation of the Active Balanced Community Initiative which was approved by the Steering Committee, their governing board the Human Services Collaborative Network and the United Way Board of Directors. That structure is defined below:

**PROPOSED ORGANIZATION FOR ACTIVE BALANCED COMMUNITY IMPLEMENTATION**



The Steering Committee recommended goals just as the other workgroups did. These goals were included in the process used by the Steering Committee to build a set of goals, objectives and action steps for the five-year plan. As in the case of the workgroup goals once the actual plan was in place the goals, measures and timelines as presented by the workgroups were refined and reordered. The goals below are those submitted by the Steering Committee. The final goals, objectives, action steps, measures and timetables are detailed in the five-year plan.

**Steering Committee Goals, Objectives and Action Steps as presented for inclusion with the workgroup goals for consideration for the final plan**

**Goal 1: Facilitate the development of county-wide system building policies and practices**

**Objective 1:** Identify leadership and staffing necessary for implementation of BRC/BARJ principles

**Primary type of objective** - Capacity Building

**Measurement:** Leadership and staff in place

- Action Step 1:** Work with HSCN to build framework for managing project **Dates:** Fall 2004
- Action Step 2:** Recruit leadership to stay involved **Dates:** on-going
- Action Step 3:** Recruit and hire coordinator **Dates:** 2004-05

**Objective 2:** Identify sources for match dollars and project funding

**Primary type of objective** - Capacity Building

**Measurement:** Sources of match for year two in place; program funding sources identified

- Action Step 1:** Train Coordinator as grant writer **Dates:** Feb 2005
- Action Step 2:** Write grants for Victim Advocate Board **Dates:**..Mar. 2005
- Action Step 3:** Write grants for year two funding **Dates:** May 2005

**Objective 3:** Upgrade technology to support the networks of services in the county

**Primary type of objective** - Capacity Building

**Measurement:** 2 1 1 information and volunteer referral system on line

- Action Step 1:** Review needs of 2 1 1 for web friendly system **Dates:** Fall 2004
- Action Step 2:** Purchase software and programming support to put system on line **Dates:** early 2005

**Goal 2: Create awareness of need for system change at all levels and work to remove barriers**

**Objective 1:** Build collaboration and support to act as advocate at all levels for system change activities

**Primary type of objective** - System Change

**Measurement:** Workgroup surveyed for barrier status change

- Action Step 1:** Continued collaboration at local level regarding programmatic & fiscal planning **Dates:** 2004-05
- Action Step 2:** Work with the Child Care Advocacy Network to address policies and issues **Dates:** ongoing
- Action Step 3:** Education of local and state legislators regarding the needs for change **Dates:** ongoing