

Tulsa County Early Childhood Development System

Work Plan Priorities 2005 - 2006

This work includes efforts by both the principal partners and the program partners of the Tulsa County Partnership for Early Childhood Success

Family Engagement & Support in Neighborhoods

Community Schools

Promoting Effective Partnerships Between Young Families, Neighborhood Schools, & Other Resources to Further Development of Young Children

- Develop and implement planning process for creating 6-10 community schools in Tulsa and Union Public Schools.
- Assess the impact of the new comprehensive school health clinic model at four sites.
- Work with Community HealthNet and the Tulsa Community Hospital Authority to conduct scenario planning for indigent care through new community school sites.

Community Mobilization for Resource & Policy Development & Community Engagement

Metropolitan Human Services Commission (MHSC)

Promoting Policies & Resources to Further Early Childhood Development

- Develop a data-base on all Tulsa County elementary school neighborhoods that includes data on census numbers, student performance and characteristics of students and families, and neighborhood conditions. Use for community schools, Tulsa Head Start, and other planning and program development purposes.
- Provide ongoing policy advocacy for research-based efforts to improve early childhood development and school readiness (e.g., Children First, Health Families, Parents As Teachers, adequate child care subsidy, information systems, effective state and local collaborations).
- Provide assistance in data gathering, advocacy, and research to the Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness and the Tulsa Partnership for Early Childhood Success on an approved project basis.

Tulsa County Partnership for Early Childhood Success

Promoting Engagement of All Community Sectors in Improving Early Childhood Development

- Develop and implement *JumpStart*, a comprehensive community engagement campaign to increase effective involvement of all sectors of the community in furthering school readiness. In addition to the community as a whole, the campaign will initially focus on the roles of parents, employers, health care providers, state legislators, members of the Hispanic community, and educators.
- Prepare an *annual report* on Tulsa County's progress in improving school readiness and new opportunities for the future. Report will include results for the pre-K readiness assessment tool being used in most county school districts.
- Advocate support for Smart Start Oklahoma.
- Participate as needed in *statewide Smart Start community mobilization* project, and *statewide public engagement efforts*.

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Responsible Parenthood

Family Health Coalition

Promoting Healthy Babies & Effective Early Parenting

- Distribute three major studies: *Starting Life in Tulsa, Analysis of Infant Mortality in Tulsa County, 1991 to 2000*, and *Babyline 1991-2004, Analysis of 15 Years of Services*
- Expand early identification and case management services for women with mental health needs (family violence, depression and substance use).
- Reduce infant mortality through intensive risk reduction education campaigns on women's health and father involvement in family health.
- Support the expansion of family planning services through the Family Planning Waiver, Planline and Title X Family Planning Services for Special Populations.
- Maintain current SoonerCare eligibility levels for women and children with expansion of prenatal services for pregnant women who are undocumented in the U.S.
- Distribute analysis of medical primary care practices in Tulsa County for attitude and policies regarding access for the uninsured, Medicaid eligible and uninsured.
- Support expansion of Sooner Care to families at 200% FPL or less through the HIFA waiver.

Preventive Health Care & Early Treatment

Preventive Health Care & Early Intervention Study Group

Promoting Access & Use of Medical Homes for Addressing Health & Special Early Intervention Needs

- Distribute the *Community Profile for Tulsa County: Analysis of Selected Variables from the 2000 US Census* (CD and printed).
- Analyze data regarding children with special health care needs; implement cross-agency planning with Systems of Care, Alliance on Disabilities and the Family Health Coalition to break down categorical programming (September 14 conference).
- Develop action plan for improving early intervention support addressing roles of parents and other caregivers, physicians, early care and learning providers, and other service providers. Emphasis will be on early developmental screening, parent education, engaging Hispanic parents, identification, increased use of Sooner Start, and transition from Pre-K to school.

Early Care & Learning

Tulsa Area School Readiness Council

Representatives of area school districts, Head Start, CCRC, child care providers, parents, funders, public school four year old providers, principals, K-3 instructors, & interested others

Promote Overall Effective Quality Early Learning System

- Create a Quality Enhancement Fund to maintain quality achieved by programs that have participated in the Success By 6® project.
- Analyze the implications of "Serving Children Where They Are" as an initiative to better bring quality care to all children in the community.
- Distribute findings from the CCRC Study on Non-Parental Care.
- Pilot the new national "Minds in the Making" early childhood education provider curriculum.
- Expand health and developmental related technical assistance to centers and homes through training re: children with special needs, developmental screenings using the Ounce Scale, and new learning luggage on health and safety topics.
- Coordinate efforts to build integrated early care and learning systems among schools, Head Start, and child care.
- Examine supply and demand for special needs care to determine the need for a separate plan addressing this issue.