

Little Rock Master Plan for Children, Youth, and Families Advisory Committee September Meeting Summary

On September 15, 2015 the advisory committee for the Master Plan for Children, Youth, and Families met for a fifth time. Advisory committee members discussed Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment (PIT) standards for contracts and contract related outcomes and indicators in two break-out-groups and then shared with the full committee. The summary of those discussions is outlined below. This was the first of several conversations on these issues. The group will continue the discussion during a conference call (date to be determined) between now and the next advisory committee meeting on November 4, 2015. It should be noted that the information below reflects recommendations made by the advisory committee and do not indicate approval of such recommendations.

Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment (PIT) Standards for Contracts Break-Out-Group

The following are recommendations for PIT program standards were discussed by the advisory committee break-out-group. These suggested standards would apply to each grantee regardless of program area:

1. Establish strong partnerships with families and communities in order to achieve program goals.
 - a. NOTE: This means family assessment and identification of community partners (existing and possible).
2. Contracts earmark a minimum percentage of funds for the program and/or the service provided.
 - a. NOTE: This means that there is a limit on funding that goes to directors, providing more funding to front-line staff and direct program costs.
3. Grantees develop a system for measuring outcomes and using that information for ongoing planning, improvement, and evaluation.
 - a. NOTE: The city will establish a common metric for self-assessment and youth assessment based on the needs and goals described by the program in their application for funding. This will require measuring both quantitative and qualitative impact based on the needs and goals of the grantee.
4. The city will provide pre and post application training on expectations for quality, reporting, and assessment.
 - a. NOTE: The training will include but not be limited to the development and implementation of qualitative and quantitative measurements.
5. The program will offer safe and appropriate facilities to meet program objectives.
6. The program will be required to demonstrate youth involvement specifically with adolescents in programs and services.

The group discussed the importance of programmatic standards, as well as operational standards. Further discussion is needed and will take into consideration the Arkansas' Youth Program Quality Assessment[®] and School-Age Program Quality Assessment. The following website offers additional information: <http://cypq.org/assessment>.

Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment (PIT) Standards for Outcomes and Indicators Break-Out-Group

The advisory committee recommends the city adopt a framework for all PIT program outcomes related to five domains. It was noted that specific recommended outcomes apply to all PIT funding areas, but different indicators might be required based on the PIT funding area. This framework includes the following five domains:

1. Social and Emotional Learning

These include 21st century skills.¹ Outcomes discussed include the following:

- communication skills;
- life skills;
- leadership and civic engagement;
- relationship;
- positive behavior.

2. Academic Skills

This includes 21st century skills, mindset, and habits. Specific outcomes include the following:

- engaged learning;
- engagement in school.

3. Health, Wellness and Safety

Specific outcomes were not discussed.

4. College and Work Readiness

This includes 21st century skills. Specific outcomes were not discussed.

5. Parental, Family and Community Involvement

Specific outcomes were not discussed.

The next steps in the conversation include specifying specific outcomes for the other three domains, and specifying indicators that will apply to Prevention, Intervention, and/or

¹ 21st century skills refer to a broad set of knowledge, skills, work habits, and character traits. The Partnership for 21st Century Learning (<http://www.p21.org/>) is a collaborative between business and educators. The Partnership's 21st Century Skills framework provides information on skills, knowledge, and expertise students must master to succeed in work and life; it is a blend of content knowledge, specific skills, expertise and literacies. More information may be found here: http://www.p21.org/storage/documents/P21_Framework_Definitions.pdf

Treatment. The group noted that additional expertise on treatment may be necessary to be able to identify those indicators.

Links to Additional Sources

In addition to the materials previously sent to the advisory committee, several documents were brought to the meeting to provide input for the discussion, including the following documents:

- The Partnership for Afterschool Education (PASE) Inventory - <http://pasetter.org/initiatives/youth-outcomes/the-afterschool-youth-outcomes-inventory-second-edition>
- Expanding minds and opportunities: Power of after school and Summer learning for Student success. By Terry K. Peterson
<http://www.expandinglearning.org/expandingminds>
- Search Institute Developmental Assets - <http://www.search-institute.org/content/40-developmental-assets-adolescents-ages-12-18>

Additional Information Included in Advisory Committee Packet

The following additional information was provided in the advisory committee packets:

- Trinity Village community meeting summary and community survey summary – Additional community outreach was held in early September. The information included in these summaries aligns with other community conversations.
- Descriptions of workgroups (System, Environment, and Children and Youth) and the ad hoc workgroup (Partnerships and Resources).

Upcoming meetings

September 19th – Environment workgroup - *contact Tiffany Jacob (tjacob@littlerock.org) for additional details*

September 28th – Children and Youth workgroup – *contact Tiffany Jacob (tjacob@littlerock.org) for additional details*

October 7th – System workgroup - *contact Tiffany Jacob (tjacob@littlerock.org) for additional details*

TBD - Conference call to continue the standards and outcomes discussion

November 4th – Advisory committee meeting – 9:00am-1:30pm* - Location TBD

February 11, 2016 - 9:00am – 12:00pm – Location TBD

April 14, 2016 - 9:00am – 12:00pm– Location TBD

TBD (May/June) – Location TBD

*Note: The time for the November 4th meeting has been extended.