

King County Health and Human Services Transformation

Advising Partners Group Meeting Notes

December 11, 2014 Meeting

Members Present: *Teresita Batayola, Tizzy Bennett, Tom Byers, Katherine Cortes, Deanna Dawson, Erin Hafer, Patty Hayes, Mike Heinisch, Betsy Jones, Julie Lindberg, Gordon McHenry, Jr., Jeff Natter, Mark Okazaki, Nathan Phillips, Adrienne Quinn, Michael Woo*

Staff and Guests Present: *Anne Althausser (Northwest Center for Public Health Practice, UW), Jen Otten (Northwest Center for Public Health Practice, UW), Sharon Bogan, Jen DeYoung, AJ McClure, Sara Needleman-Carlton (Coordinated Care), Pam Raphael (King County Alliance for Human Services), Holly Rohr Tran*

Welcome

Adrienne Quinn welcomed the group and provided an overview of the meeting's agenda.

Best Starts for Kids Overview

Adrienne provided an overview of the need behind Best Starts for Kids: current county spending is oriented towards adults in crisis (which still needs to be funded); however, science is telling us that early investments in children and their communities have lifelong positive benefits.

At today's meeting, King County would like the Advising Partners Group's input on the draft outcomes framework that is guiding the development of Best Starts for Kids. The Youth Action Plan Task Force and the Best Starts for Kids Leadership group have already provided input.

Early in 2015 (possibly Feb. 5), the Advising Partners Group, Youth Action Plan Task Force and the Best Starts for Kids Leadership circle will be invited to come together and review the updated outcomes framework which will have incorporated feedback given from this group today and others.

In late spring, it is anticipated that a proposal (amount TBD) will be transmitted to the Metropolitan King County Council for consideration to be put on the ballot of fall 2015. A campaign in support of the proposal will be organized separately. For the proposal, the intent is for the funding to go towards outcomes; not just strictly divided amongst multiple programs.

General feedback from the group about Best Starts for Kids included:

- It should not be just about racial and social inequities, but also to address those things that cross ethnic and racial divides: e.g. Mental illness screenings, domestic violence cycle breaking.
- Will need early, midterm and long-term indicators.
- This is a collective impact opportunity: King County should define their unique role and contribution while working along with other resources that will impact these outcomes.

- Consider “pipelines” and where we’re investing our \$ (e.g. foster care system). Suggestion to specifically link savings from initiatives like Familiar Faces to maternal child health investments to drive this message.
- Work from this State legislative session (e.g. Bright Futures screenings) could be part of this.

Best Starts for Kids Outcomes

Meeting participants divided for small group discussion on the principles and high-level outcomes and provided the following feedback in report-outs to the larger group.

Principles

- Needs greater emphasis on “youth”
- Add “and family” to the end of #2 (Individuals & families are at the center)
- Add “education and early childhood education” to #10 (System integration)
- Early identification should be clearer (mental health, developmental delays, etc.)

Pregnancy & Early childhood

- Tie in social determinants of health (addressing economic disparities) and measures that relate to that (e.g. housing)
- “Healthier moms” language emphasizing the continuum of care for mothers, including increased utilization of benefits newly available as a result of the Affordable Care Act
- Need continuum graphic (socio ecological model) demonstrating connections between the “columns”: Healthy pregnancy and dads->Healthy early childhood->Healthy kids->Healthy youth/young adults (16-24). Show community surrounding this circle.
- Promotion and dissemination of evidence-based and innovative/promising practices (currently unequal access to best practices).
- Communications strategies: use of emerging technologies to increase access– measuring technologies that reach folks (e.g. texts, YouTube, etc.)
- Better linkages to resources and referrals – how to navigate the system
- Better linkages with existing programs (e.g. Reach Out and Read, etc.)
- Home-based childcare; infant care, training and technical assistance
- Principle for early identification needs to be clearer.
- Measures
 - Start with process measures, move to savings by year 5
 - Convene task force on measures (including groups such as Equal Start Coalition)
 - Measure around % of kids in licensed childcare for families who need childcare
 - Childcare worker wages an issue

School aged children and Youth

- Be sure we reflect youth in addition to children/Focus on 2nd decade
- Causation: programs disappear

- How to get kids ready for a living wage job. Getting youth engaged being socially and emotionally ready to have a job. About journeying tools
- Reference to sports –physical activity isn’t enough
- How to turn parents into coaches
- Life skills
- Parents needing respite
- “It takes a village,” but we don’t have a village
- Flip messaging to positive: “promote” not “prevent”
- Add faith-based as one of the community groups
- Assumption that City, State and County would be working together
- Brain development in middle school
- Physical, behavioral health, and emotional health
- Too little support for families during middle school and transition to adolescence.

Communities of Opportunity Fund

- Discussed similar themes about social determinants of health and “it takes a village”
- How to ensure interconnectedness. Be careful not to get overly prescriptive with COO.
- Represent visually not as a column, but a row. Infuse the importance of healthy community.
- Language needs massaging.
- Messaging: pros and cons based on communications framing input.
- Communities may choose to address presence of marijuana and alcohol retailers.

Wrap up and Announcements

Adrienne thanked the group for their input and invited this group to participate in a further Best Starts for Kids advisory meeting (potentially on Feb. 5), during which a next draft framework would be discussed. A subsequent meeting may review a proposed community outreach strategy and product.

Patty Hayes offered a brief update on her visit to Washington D.C. for President Obama’s announcement of his early learning campaign, titled “Invest in Us.” This initiative increases commitments for early Head Start, home visiting, and brain development science and strategies that communities can use. Other attendees from the region included Executive Constantine, Bezos Family Foundation, Mayor Murray (and staff).