

County PIP Reduction Strategies and Action Steps document

County : Lehigh County

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Add more or delete strategies as necessary

Strategy i: Increase Client Engagement in Agency Involvement and assessment processes.

Action Steps and timeline:

2009

Increase utilization of Family Group Decision Making (FGDM)

Obtain training on Family Development Credentialing (FDC)

Incorporate Strengths-based assessment into practice using required documentation

Initiate Family Finding

Implement One Family One Worker pilot for 18 months

Increase utilization of Polaris assessment

Develop client information brochures for GPS, CPS and placement cases

Utilize Integrated Family Service Plan (IFSP) brochure with families

Include clients in agency meetings such as pre/post placements, MDTs

Dispense information to clients regarding the grievance procedures

2010

Implement FDC with all staff

Implement an orientation group for parents of children entering placement

Maintenance of 2009 Action Steps

Strategy ii: Increase Client participation in problem identification and goal setting.

Action Steps and timeline:

2009

Increase utilization of Mediation

Increase utilization of FGDM

Increased usage and integration of Polaris

Continue the Reunification Support Group for parents

2010

Maintenance of 2009 Action Steps

Strategy iii: Increase Utilization of Evidence Based programs and intensive service Interventions.

Action Steps and timeline:

2009

Increase utilization of MST

Increase utilization of FFT

Increase utilization of FGDM

Implement Homebuilders for reunification

2010

Implement an in-house family preservation unit.

Implement a “fostering families” pilot (family resides with a caretaker)

Maintenance of 2009 Action Steps

Strategy iv: Increase the quality and scope of Evaluating agency and provider performance.

Action Steps and timeline:

2009

Develop and implement a client evaluation of providers/agency

Implement Client grievance procedures

Conduct routine quality assurance reviews of case records

Work with outcomes staff to develop / enhance current outcome tools and measures

2010

Develop standardized outcome reporting tools for providers

Maintenance of 2009 Action Steps

Strategy v: Enhance Staff Development to ensure compliance with best practice measures, regulatory requirements and performance outcomes.

Action Steps and timeline:

2009

Continue to conduct Best Practice sessions with supervisors and caseworker 3s.

Utilize Post-Placement reviews as an ongoing educational mechanism for best practices

Continue active relationships with colleges and universities for Bachelor/Masters internships

Continue support of CWEB and CWEL educational opportunities for interns/staff

Participate in cross trainings with Juvenile Probation Office and IFSP

2010

Complete FDC for all staff

Maintenance of 2009 Action Steps

Strategy vi: Ensure the provision of comprehensive and accurate assessments of safety for children in their own homes and in substitute care.

Action Steps and timeline:

2009

Conduct Pre placement meetings to evaluate safety prior to placement decision

Complete Safety Assessment in accordance with agency and regulatory standards

Develop Safety Plans consistent with safety determinations

Increase utilization of Early Intervention

2010

Maintenance of 2009 Action Steps

Strategy vii: Actively engage community resources and establish linkages between the agency, clients and resources.

Action Steps and timeline:

2009

Utilize SafeStart for drug impacted children under age 3

Participate in Children's Roundtable

Facilitate monthly Advisory Board meetings

Conduct community and provider trainings

Utilize CASA
Collaboration with Family Centers and school districts
Obtain additional housing vouchers through HUD Family Unification Program

2010
Conduct a community resource fair for non-purchased services
Maintenance of 2009 Action Steps

Strategy viii: Move toward the integration of the offices of the Department of Human Services, and the Juvenile Probation Office to streamline service delivery and improve communication.

Action Steps and timeline:

2009

Ensure that children under 3 who are victims of abuse are referred to EI
Identify families appropriate for IFSP
Develop an integrated information system to facilitate improved service delivery
Conduct JPO/OCYS relationship building workshops/trainings
Follow a D/A evaluation process at time of detention hearing to ensure timely initiation of D/A treatment.
Delineate roles and responsibilities in shared case management
Increase utilization of lead case manager of IFSP

2010

Maintenance of 2009 Action plan

Strategy ix: Develop Comprehensive and Individualized child assessments and service plans upon entrance and discharge from care.

Action Steps and timeline:

2009

Increase Polaris assessments to evaluate needs

Completion of Child profile B assessment by 45 day post placement meeting

Increase discharge preparation of Youth aging out of care-Family Unification Program, Valley Youth House Independent Living outreach for children refusing IL services, FGDM 6 months prior to discharge

Participate in provider ISP meetings for children

Identify therapeutic needs within two weeks of placement

2010

Maintenance of 2009 Action plan

Strategy x: Establish systems of Early identification of permanence and increase utilization of SWAN resources

Action Steps and timeline:

2009

Discuss permanency at pre-placement meetings

Ensure regular review in Post placement meetings

Participate in Children's Roundtable

Follow through with recommendations from ABA's evaluation of permanency

Initiate Family Finding

Locate additional Kinship resources for children

Increase use of SPLC as an alternative to prolonged placement

Conduct monthly meetings to review cases of children in care at 12 months

Conduct three month status conferences with Juvenile Court Masters

Participate in "older match initiative" for adolescents

2010

Maintenance of 2009 Action Plan

Strategy xi: Ensure routine visitation of children by individuals pertinent to safety and healthy development.

Action Steps and timeline:

2009

Ensure regular visitation between parents/child

Ensure monthly visitation of caseworker in child's placement setting

Ensure regular sibling visitation and contacts

Hold annual Sibling Picnic

Coordinate a Reunification picnic

2010

Safe House

Maintenance of 2009 Action Plan