



Building a Community-Based System of Care Case for Support

Overview

Family Services of Metro Orlando and its partners are in the process of refreshing its System of Care to enhance the provision of child protection services. A Strategic Planning Group is engaging teachers and guidance counselors, judges and attorneys, employers, government agencies, service providers, foundations, and foster and adoptive parents in this process. Our vision is two-fold: to improve outcomes for children and families within the child protection system and to eliminate conditions throughout the community that lead to abuse and neglect.

Benefits

By engaging the community around the needs of its children and developing a coordinated System of Care, this initiative will result in:

- Improved coordination of services, including better access to the right service mix.
- Improved coordination of service planning and more effective reinforcement of service outcomes.
- Better identification of service gaps.
- Simplified access to and navigation among available services.
- Timely access to services.
- Coordinated community strategic planning efforts.
- Consumer-driven service delivery.

How You Can Help

FSMO is seeking private support to help fund this initiative, including:

- *Enhancing Community Awareness and Involvement.* The Strategic Planning Group is researching best practices and lessons learned from other regions, states and countries. We will engage community members around this process by developing a system for sharing quality improvement needs throughout the community, including an interactive Web site as well as a community symposium.
- *Establishing a Leadership Team.* This initiative requires dedicated attention from a full-time team, including an Executive Director, Orange County Coordinator, Osceola County Coordinator and Administrative Assistant. Under the leadership of this team, the Strategic Planning Group will become the central coordinating children's services board of central Florida.

Return on Investment

By investing in coordinated service delivery, we will see decreased fragmentation of services, improved utilization of resources, early intervention for lower-cost services and strengthened arguments for service funding to meet focused and measured needs. Our ultimate measure of success is ensuring a safe home for every child.

Contact

Bart Mawoussi
Senior Director of Community Development
407-398-7975
bmawoussi@fsmetroorlando.org