

Successful Children and Youth Policy Team

February 25, 2014 Meeting Summary

Key decisions and actions are in **bold**.

SCYPT Members in Attendance:

Gloria Addo-Ayensu, George Becerra, Bob Birmingham, Nannette Bowler, Tisha Deeghan, Jack Dobbryn, Kim Dockery, Pat Harrison, Bryan Holland (for Ed Roessler), Cathy Hudgins, Rick Leichtweis, Chris Leonard, Jane Lipp, Leslie MacDonald (for Eileen Ellsworth), Megan McLaughlin, Mary Ann Panarelli, Fahemeh Pirzadeh, Dave Rohrer, Jane Strauss, Darrell White

Planning Retreat Debrief –

Many SCYPT members and staff attended the Planning Retreat, facilitated by StriveTogether, on February 4. While some members wished more deliverables came out of the meeting, all generally seemed to agree that there were benefits of having the team come together to discuss the SCYPT's purpose and develop consensus on the types of outcomes (i.e., "whole child" vs. just focused on academics) the team should prioritize. Three teams were created out of the retreat to work on vision/mission, outcomes, and accountability structure.

Vision/Mission Team Update –

The Vision/Mission Team met last week, and using feedback from the Planning Retreat, proposed a new vision and mission for the initiative:

- Vision: A community where all children and youth thrive and reach their full potential.
- Mission: We collectively ensure children, youth, and their families have equitable access to quality services and supports to further their success and well-being.

The SCYPT was pleased with the proposed statements, and especially appreciated the inclusion of "collectively," "equitable," "ensure," and "thrive." Janie Strauss noted that the two statements are especially powerful when taken together. **The SCYPT unanimously voted to thank the Vision/Mission Team for its work and to move forward with presenting the mission and vision to the community.**

The team also asked the SCYPT for assistance in identifying a name for the broader initiative. People with ideas should send them to Jesse.

Outcomes Team –

The Outcomes Team, using feedback from the Planning Retreat, proposed eight outcomes:

1. Children get a healthy start in life.
2. Children enter kindergarten ready to succeed.
3. Children and youth succeed academically.
4. Children and youth are healthy.
 - a. Children and youth are physically healthy.
 - b. Children and youth are socially, emotionally, and behaviorally healthy and resilient.
5. Children and youth are safe and free from violence and injury.

6. Youth earn a post-secondary degree or career credential.
7. Youth enter the workforce ready to succeed.
8. Youth contribute to the betterment of their community.

At this time, the focus is on the outcomes; indicators/measures will be addressed once the outcomes are determined.

Victoria Kairys noted that the first goal is inclusive of outcomes and indicators related to prenatal, birth, and early childhood stages of development. The SCYPT discussed several outcomes and possible changes:

- Economic self-sufficiency for young adults was recommended as an outcome. Some noted it could be a contextual indicator or that other groups are more focused on those kinds of outcomes. It was also suggested that the scope of this work not be extended beyond that which is reasonably addressed by existing systems, outcomes related to post-secondary degrees, for example.
- It was explained that, while all aspects of health should be viewed as integrated, splitting Outcome 5 into physical and behavioral health makes sense because it will help keep the list of indicators short and more easily reported/organized.
- There was robust discussion on whether Outcome 6 should be an indicator of Outcome 7 or if it should be, as proposed, its own outcome. Victoria framed the question as whether post-secondary completion is important enough to be a critical milestone in cradle-to-career or if the focus should be primarily on workforce readiness. Karla discussed the importance of using post-secondary achievement as a milestone in Opportunity Neighborhood: it promotes a college-going culture and instills belief in college as an option.

It was also noted that the concept of equity will be embedded within the outcomes; it will be clear that, for every indicator, attention will be paid to where there are disproportionate outcomes.

The SCYPT will have to prioritize outcomes, and more importantly, strategies to address them.

Next steps will include beginning the work of identifying feasible indicators for each outcome.

The SCYPT unanimously voted to thank the Outcomes Team for its work and to move forward with presenting the outcomes, as proposed, to the community.

Accountability Structure Team –

This team has not yet met, as some additional discussion with the full SCYPT was deemed necessary. Karla Bruce and Mary Ann Panarelli shared Strive's Accountability Structure Toolkit. They reminded the team that an accountability structure is not about data, but is more about a governance or organizational structure. While different elements of such a structure were discussed, it was widely recognized that a structure that fits Fairfax's needs is necessary; models used by other communities may not fit. The team will develop recommendations to share with the full SCYPT.

Design Institute Planning –

Based on a short discussion with the team, the Design Institute will occur around the last week in April. Stay tuned for confirmation. At the Design Institute, participants representing a wide

variety of stakeholders will be engaged to provide input and to get their buy-in for the work being presented here. SCYPT members are being asked to contribute, in the meantime, in four ways by emailing Jesse if they:

1. Would like to join the Accountability Structure Team, or would like to “voluntell” someone to join it;
2. Have ideas for potential names for the overall initiative;
3. Have recommendations for meetings staff should attend, or groups staff should meet with to share our work and gain buy-in for our vision, mission, and outcomes; or
4. Have recommendations for individuals and/or organizations to place on the invite list for the Design Institute.