

## 10. Comprehensive Family Enrichment Model

### Family Enrichment First Year Goals

**Recommendation: Pilot a comprehensive family resource center at/near Fourth Street Elementary School to provide one-stop access to supportive services and to facilitate family engagement by August 2008. Consider additional family resource centers as well.**

The two major objectives include:

- All students will read on grade level by the end of third grade (academic goal)
- Every adult will obtain gainful employment (community/workforce readiness)

### FIRST YEAR GOALS

#### 1. IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE FAMILY ENRICHMENT CENTER.

**Focus:** During the first year the following action steps will be taken:

1. The Family Enrichment Team will provide representation on the Community Oversight Committee overseeing the renovation of the H.T. Edwards facility. Facility renovations will be responsive to the implementation of this center. The following groups/services have indicated interest in working with the Family Enrichment Center at H.T. Edwards:
  - a. **Head Start, Pre-K, and Early Head Start Programs** serving over 200 students.
  - b. **Right Start Family Literacy Program** serving parents and their young children.
  - c. Offices for **Early Reading First** and **Family Engagement**.
  - d. Performance Learning Center serving over 120 students.
  - e. An **Alternative School** setting to meet the needs of students not having success in the traditional school setting.
  - f. **Boys and Girls Club** facility providing after school and summer programming for students on a daily basis.
  - g. **Leisure Services** would provide ongoing programming for adults, families, and children.
  - h. **Department of Family and Children's Services (DFCS)** providing a variety of services to children and families.
  - i. **University of Georgia** providing expertise through the various colleges and volunteers.
  - j. **Hancock Community Development Center** would provide services within walking distance/van service including tax assistance and rental counseling / assistance.
  - k. **Family Connection/Community In Schools** would continue to support community collaboration for children and families.
  - l. **Athens/Oconee CASA: Family Time Community Visitation Program** would provide supervised visits between children and family members.
  - m. **Catholic Charities** would continue providing ESOL services and possibly additional job development services.
  - n. **Advantage Behavioral Health Services** could provide services, including groups, on site if there were enough clients to generate Medicaid funds to pay the bills; could serve as a resource on the shuttle service.
  - o. **Athens Literacy Council** would help coordinate the GED, Adult Literacy, and ESOL programs in Clarke County.
  - p. **Public Health** would ideally like to open a clinic on-site, and could make its two nearby clinics accessible via shuttle service.
  - q. **Prevent Child Abuse** would provide parenting classes in English and Spanish.
  - r. **Community Connection** would serve as the Central hub of the center helping to coordinate services and train volunteers.
  - s. **Department of Labor** would provide job training referrals and support on site.
  - t. **Athens Tech** would continue to provide GED services and support on site.

- u. **Safe Families Program** would coordinate its community services on-site.

While all these agencies have expressed interest the process is continuing and the final determination of participating agencies will be dependent upon space available at H.T. Edwards and agreement by the Boards of Directors of these agencies.

2. An organizing collaborative will be developed outlining the roles, responsibilities, and outcomes of each participating partner. A three year timeline will be developed.
3. Ongoing strategic planning will occur among the various partners to help assure that programs are implemented to support the comprehensive needs of families; not implemented in isolation.
4. At least three new collaborations will be implemented that will create new or enhanced services for families.
5. Develop initial strategies in East Athens community.

**Timeline:**

**Current-December 2008**—Participate on Community Oversight Committee developing the space needs of the organizations and negotiating potential costs and benefits of the various partners.

**Jan. 2008** –Meet with stakeholders in East Athens; pursue strategies accordingly.

**Jan.-Mar. 2008**—Determine first year partners at H.T. Edwards and develop each organization’s specific role, responsibilities, and outcomes. Develop organizational structure. Get support from the governing boards of each organization.

**April-December 2008**--- Implement at least 3 new collaborations among the partners. These would be implemented prior to completion of the facility.

**Funding:** It is anticipated that additional funding for new collaborations in 2008 will be supported by existing missions and funding. Funding needs for 2009 will be established.

## **II. IMPLEMENT SHARED STRATEGIC PLANNING AMONG THE CONVENERS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING STRATEGIC ALIGNMENTS IN DETERMINING FUNDING.**

**Focus:** During the first year the following action step will be taken:

1. All conveners, and partnering organizations, will participate in a joint strategic planning process in April 2008.

### **Timeline:**

**March 2008** – Conveners will be requested to participate in a shared strategic planning process to help facilitate a comprehensive approach to reducing poverty, and increasing prosperity in Athens. The design of the process will be developed.

**April 2008-** Shared Strategic Planning will occur. One and three year follow-up items will be developed.

**April-December-**Initial follow-up strategies will be implemented and ongoing shared strategic planning process will be designed.

**Funding:** The cost to design, implement, and initial follow-up of shared strategic plan would be \$25,000.

## **III. IMPLEMENT A SAFE FAMILIES PROGRAM.**

**Focus:** During the first year the following action steps will be taken:

1. A demonstration Safe Families Program will be implemented in Athens.
2. Initial funding will be secured from DHR or other outside sources.
3. An evaluation design will be implemented to determine the initial effectiveness of the program.

### **Timeline:**

**Jan. –June 2008 --** Integrate project into Family Enrichment Team; Create project Advisory Team; Interview Chicago staff, read available material and understand program purposes and goals.

**Feb. --** Observe hiring and training activities. Interview Athens staff.

**Mar./April --** Interview host families and mentors as they are recruited; training.

**May – July –** Ongoing recruitment, training, focus groups

**July –** Begin serving children and families

**Aug.-Dec. –** Ongoing program implementation, follow-up with parents, volunteers, and children. Implementation of program evaluation.

**Funding:** It is anticipated that initial funding will be provided by DHR; approximately \$200,000. Follow-up funding strategies will be developed