



PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT 2005 – 2010 DISTRICT 8 PLAN

I. OVERVIEW

The Florida Department of Children and Families and the Children's Network of Southwest Florida have made a commitment to "protect the vulnerable, strengthen families, and promote personal and economic self-sufficiency." We are committed to ensuring that Florida's child abuse prevention efforts are effective. Prevention is the key. An effective prevention program requires planning that is data driven as opposed to anecdotal or convenient. Additionally, accurate reporting on our prevention efforts, progress and successes is critical to ensuring effective prevention programs. You are an important link in our planning and implementation efforts.

Background Requirements

Section 39.001, Florida Statutes requires that a state level, cross-agency inter-program task force, under the leadership of the Department of Children and Families, develop a five-year plan for the prevention of abuse, neglect and abandonment. This planning effort requires that the State plan be built upon local or district plans for prevention of abuse, neglect and abandonment. The district plans are to be reviewed by various community constituency groups designated by the District Administrators. The following sections will help you understand the tools and programs we have available and make suggestions of what additional information the District can use to expand current initiatives and programs.

LOCAL PLANNING PROCESS

The primary source of feedback and direction for the development of the plan has been the four Community Alliances serving the District. The Discussion Draft has been presented at all Alliance meetings in February and March, 2005

Section 20.19(6)(b), F.S., holds Community Alliances responsible for (among other things) "...joint planning for resource utilization in the community..., needs assessment and establishment of community priorities for service delivery, determining community outcome goals..., serving as a catalyst for community resource development." The plan your local prevention task force develops

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

should relate directly to the local Community Alliance's plan regarding the community's need for services and allocation of service resources

District 8 Alliance Representation in the Prevention Planning Process:

CHARLOTTE COUNTY		
POSITION	NAME	TITLE
County Government	Victoria Carpenter (Secretary)	Director Human Services
School District	Pat Masters	Charlotte Middle School
United Way	Cecy Glenn	Chief Professional Officer
Sheriff's Office	Theresa Snyder	Child Abuse Unit
Circuit Court	J. Frank Porter (Chair)	Circuit Court Judge
District Administrator	Mike Murphy	Children & Families
Workforce Board	Tracy Lansberry (Vice Chair)	
Juvenile Justice	Margaret Lamarca	Probation Officer Supervisor
Guardian Ad Litem	Barbara Pohl	Program Specialist
Foster Parent	Mary Ann Maddage	
COLLIER COUNTY		
County Government	Barry Williams (Secretary)	Director of Social Services
School District	Larry Ruble	
United Way	Ernie Bretzmann	Executive Director
Sheriff's Office	Sgt. Dennis Perry	Youth Relations Bureau
Circuit Court	Frank Baker	Circuit Court Judge
District Administrator	Mike Murphy	Children & Families
Advocacy Council	Stan Appelbaum (Vice Chair)	
Advocacy Council	Ed Ferguson	
Foster Parent	Ilonka Washburn	
Juvenile Justice	Michell McCarthy	Probation Supervisor
Independent Living	Hans Mallebrach	Foster Teen
HENDRY COUNTY		
County Government	Janet Taylor	County Commissioner
School District	Larry Worth	ESE Department
United Way	Beth Drouin (Vice Chair)	Program Coordinator
Sheriff's Office	Corporal Susan Harrelle	Public Relations/Crime Prevention
Circuit Court	Jack Lundy (Chair)	County & Administrative Judge
District Administrator	Mike Murphy	Children & Families
Health Department	Dr. Martha Valiant	
Juvenile Justice	Joseph Dinda	Juvenile Probation Supervisor
Foster Parent	Rachel Curtis	

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

POSITION	GLADES COUNTY NAME	TITLE
School District	Wayne Aldrich	School Superintendent
United Way	Beth Drouin	Program Coordinator
Sheriff's Office	Colleen Ball (<i>Secretary</i>)	Victim's Advocate County & Administrative
Circuit Court	Jack Lundy	Judge
District Administrator	Mike Murphy	Children & Families
Hispanic Community	Bill Caban	Workforce Board LaBelle Clewiston

LEE COUNTY

County Government	Karen Hawes (<i>Vice Chair</i>)	Human Services Director
School District	Callie Lawrence	Principal Alva Elementary
United Way	Greg Gardner	Planning and Allocations
Circuit Court	James H. Seals (<i>Chair</i>)	Circuit Court Judge
District Administrator	Mike Murphy (<i>Secretary</i>)	Children & Families
African/American	Dr. Pat Washington	Professor FGCU
Workforce Board	James Wall	
State Atty. Office	Randall B. McGruther	Chief Assistant State Attorney
Juvenile Justice	Frank Busbee	
Pub. Defender's Off.	Kathleen Foran-Smith	Asst. Deputy Public Defender
Foster Parent	Nancy Apperson	

In addition, the Discussion Draft of the Proposed Plan and Appendices for each County in the District has been shared with (* Meetings in March 2005):

Hendry/Glades Family Services Council*
 Southwest Florida Behavioral Health Network
 Charlotte County Children's Services Council*
 Lee County Human Services Network*

Drafts are also posted for public comment and feedback on the Children's Network Website (www.childnetswfl.org).

CONTENTS

- Magnitude of Child Abuse in the District
- Statewide Needs Assessment Strengths and Weaknesses
- County Specific Strengths, Needs and Programming
- District 8 Initiatives and Priorities
- Goals and Objectives
- Request For Local And Statewide Action

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

II. MAGNITUDE OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT IN THE DISTRICT

STRENGTH INDICATORS	Charlotte	Collier	Glades	Hendry	Lee	Florida
CHILD MALTREATMENT						
Child Maltreatment Rate (2001-02)	10.3	12.1	12.0	8.3	11.0	20.7
Percent of Abused Children Removed from Parental Home (2000-01)	3.0	5.3	2.5	5.5	7.0	7.9
Percent of Children Re-abused Within Six Months (09/03-03/03)	2.4	1.4	28.6	0	3.6	9.1

The principal strength of the District noted in the Assessment is the low rate of child maltreatment, low percentage of children removed from their parental home and the low incidence of children re-abused within six months on initial report when compared to other counties in the State. Indicators noted in green identify the counties in the top 17 counties in the State in this factor.

All indicators on child maltreatment exceed the State average with the exception of Children Re-abused in Glades County. This anomaly breaks down to one child in Glades County when percentages are applied to the total population of the County (11,500).

In 2003-2004, the District received 3,374 reports of child abuse or neglect where some indicators of which 1,532 were identified as verified with court ordered interventions following.

STATEWIDE NEEDS ASSESSMENT STRENGTHS & WEAKNESSES:

The Florida Resiliency Mapping Project recently completed The Florida Children: Needs Assessment 2003/2004. This needs assessment is based on the principle that to be resilient and safe children must be:

- ◆ Born healthy
- ◆ Nurtured within families that have the wherewithal to meet their needs
- ◆ Supported during infancy and early childhood in a way that prepares them to arrive at school age safe and physically and emotionally ready to learn,
- ◆ Live in communities that support families to raise their children.

Having a profile of risk and protective factors present in Florida communities enables those communities to focus efforts where the greatest results can be realized. Incorporating into those efforts decisions to use programs that can demonstrate that they increase or build protective factors and/or decrease known risk factors enables communities to maximize the return on their investments in natural and specialized supports.

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

III. COMMUNITY PROTECTIVE FACTORS AND STRENGTHS

District 8 Profiles identified by the assessment note a significant advantage for children in the District. Counties in the District rank in the highest seventeen counties in the state for many of the protective indicators monitored in the Assessment.

NOTE: “*” The County ranked in the top seventeen counties in the state of Florida for this indicator.

STRENGTH INDICATORS	Charlotte	Collier	Glades	Hendry	Lee
ECONOMIC					
Protective Factors					
Percent of Homes that are Owner Occupied (2000)	*		*		
Rate of Job Growth (2002)	*	*	*		*
Risk Factors					
Percent of Crowded Houses (2002)	*				
Percent of Population Under Age Five (2002)	*		*		
Child Poverty Rate (1999)	*	*			
EDUCATION					
Protective Factors					
Percent of Kindergarten Children Ready to Learn (2001-02)				*	
Graduation Rate (2001-02)					
Risk Factors					
Percent of "D" and "F" (K-5 Grade) Elementary Schools (2001-02)	*		*		
Percent of Elementary School-Aged Children in Special Education (2001-02)		*		*	*
Percent of Students (K-12) with Out-of-School Suspensions (2002-03)	*	*			
Percent of Children on Waiting List for Subsidized Childcare (2002-03)			*		
HEALTH & SAFETY					
Protective Factors					
Health Insurance Rate for Children Under 19 (2000)	*	*			*
Risk Factors					
Birth Spacing Index (2002)	*	*		*	
Rate of calls for domestic violence per 100,000 Population (2002)	*				
Child death rate per 1,000 children ages 1-4 (2002)		*			
Percent of children enrolled in CMS (2003)	*			*	
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (2001)			*		*
Low birth weight rate (2001)		*	*		
Percent of children in lowest 5 th percentile weight for height (2002)		*			
Percent of pregnant women who smoked (2002)		*	*	*	
Sexually transmitted diseases rate (2001)	*				
Substance exposed newborns rate per 1,000 live births (1997)			*		
Percent of adults using alcohol (2002)					
Rate of serious mental illness per 1,000 adults (2002-03)	*	*	*		*

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

STRENGTH INDICATORS	Charlotte	Collier	Glades	Hendry	Lee
SOCIO-EMOTIONAL					
Protective Factors					
Percent of Two-Parent Households (2000)				*	
Risk Factors					
Crude Divorce Rate (2002)	*	*	*		

District 8 Strengths

District 8 Counties showed strengths in:

- Higher Rate of Job Growth
- Lower Rate of Mental Illness
- Lower Rates of Pregnant Women Who Smoke
- Higher Birth Spacing Index
- Higher Rate of Health Insurance Coverage For Children

IV. CHALLENGES AND RISK FACTORS

District 8 Profiles identified by the assessment note a disadvantage for children in the District. Counties in the District 8 rank in the lowest seventeen counties in the state for many of the needs indicators monitored in the Assessment.

NOTE: “*” The County ranked in the highest seventeen counties in the state of Florida for these needs indicators.

NEEDS INDICATORS	Charlotte	Collier	Glades	Hendry	Lee
CHILD MALTREATMENT					
Child Maltreatment Rate (2001-02)					
Percent of Abused Children Removed from Parental Home (2000-01)					
Percent of Children Re-abused Within Six Months (09/03-03/03)			*		
ECONOMIC					
Protective Factors					
Percent of Homes that are Owner Occupied (2000)				*	
Rate of Job Growth (2002)				*	
Risk Factors					
Percent of Crowded Houses (2002)		*	*	*	
Percent of Population Under Age Five (2002)				*	
Child Poverty Rate (1999)				*	

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

NEEDS INDICATORS	Charlotte	Collier	Glades	Hendry	Lee
EDUCATION					
Protective Factors					
Percent of Kindergarten Children Ready to Learn (2001-02)	*		*		
Graduation Rate (2001-02)			*	*	*
Risk Factors					
Percent of "D" and "F" (K-5 Grade) Elementary Schools (2001-02)		*		*	
Percent of Elementary School-Aged Children in Special Education (2001-02)	*				
Percent of Students (K-12) with Out-of-School Suspensions (2002-03)				*	
Percent of Children on Waiting List for Subsidized Childcare (2002-03)					
HEALTH & SAFETY					
Protective Factors					
Health Insurance Rate for Children Under 19 (2000)				*	
Risk Factors					
Birth Spacing Index (2002)				*	
Rate of calls for domestic violence per 100,000 Population (2002)				*	
Child death rate per 1,000 children ages 1-4 (2002)					
Percent of children enrolled in CMS (2003)		*			
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (2001)				*	
Low birth weight rate (2001)					
Percent of children in lowest 5 th percentile weight for height (2002)				*	*
Percent of pregnant women who smoked (2002)					
Sexually transmitted diseases rate (2001)	*			*	
Substance exposed newborns rate per 1,000 live births (1997)					*
Percent of adults using alcohol (2002)	*			*	*
Rate of serious mental illness per 1,000 adults (2002-03)				*	
SOCIO-EMOTIONAL					
Protective Factors					
Percent of Two-Parent Households (2000)	*	*			*
Risk Factors					
Crude Divorce Rate (2002)					

Significant needs categories that affect three or more counties in the District.

- Higher Percentage of Crowded Houses (It should be noted that although Charlotte County showed strength in the area of housing at the time of the Assessment, the hurricanes of 2004 had a significant effect on available housing in both owned and affordable rental property in the County).
- Low high school graduation rate.
- Higher Percentage of Adults Using Alcohol.
- Lower Percentage of Two-Parent Households

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

Hendry County shows the most significant deficits in protective factors and high number of risk factors showing up in the lowest seventeen Florida counties in 16 of the 29 indicators rated.

Need For Further Study

The Assessment suggests that “County-level data are only a beginning, of course. It will be crucial over the next year to identify sources of small-area data that can help community stakeholders do the same type of geographic targeting that state planners will now be able to do. Likely sources for local needs assessments include: Community profiles or Geographical Information Systems (GIS) capacity include the United Way, local health councils, city/county planning councils, local Youth Risk Behavior Surveys done through the school districts, and Children’s Services Councils.”

ADDITIONAL REGIONAL/CULTURAL ISSUES

Not mentioned in State’s needs assessment is the significant number of individuals (17%) over five years of age in the District who speak a language other than English at home. Most of the non-English speaking families speak a variety of Spanish derivatives and some French (Creole).

COUNTY	Total Population	Other than English spoken at home
Charlotte	153,392	12,578
Collier	286,634	71,945
Glades	11,165	2,099
Hendry	37,064	14,084
Lee	492,210	66,448
District 8	980,465	167,154

*2000 Census

CONNECTING THE DOTS

Many of the needs indicators are long-standing issues for the communities and neighborhoods and some continue to be influenced by culture, tradition and the rapid economic growth of the region and can only be addressed with orchestrated community effort. The District Office of the Department of Children and Families and The Children's Network of SW Florida will seek out partnerships and make contributions by being involved and supportive of community alliances that build resiliency using the strengths identified in the Assessment and efforts to remedy those needs that put the well-being and safety of children in the District in jeopardy.

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

In addition, we can use our resources in a leadership capacity to identify those families that are the most vulnerable as a result of these issues, and build on their strengths to build effective coping skills and support systems that will prevent these individuals from abusing or neglecting their children.

V. 2005-2010 PREVENTION PLAN AND PRIORITIES

PREVENTION STRATEGIES SUGGESTED BY DATA

The Children's Network Prevention Plan is driven by items identified in the needs findings discussed at the beginning of this document:

FIRST PRIORITY

Identify and sustain community efforts that contribute to the comparatively low incidence of child abuse and neglect in the District and respond quickly when environmental or economic factors threaten ongoing services.

Higher Rate of Job Growth

- Issues:
 - Strong dependence on the construction industry for employment.
 - Target communities and neighborhoods that have been identified as having less strengths and more risk factors than the others in the District.
 - Hendry County's job growth is less than 30% of the Florida average and not experiencing similar job growth as other counties in the District.
 - Increases in interest rates could significantly slow job growth in the construction industry
- Local Contact:
 - Southwest Florida Workforce Development Board
 - Florida Gulf Coast University
 - Chambers of Commerce
- Strategies:
 - Participate in community initiatives designed to sustain job growth in the region.
 - Advocate and participate in initiatives that assure that lower economic communities receive full advantages from regional economic growth.

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

Higher Rate of Health Insurance Coverage for Children

- Issues:
 - Changes in Medicaid and other health insurance programs may put children at risk.
 - Healthy Start, Healthy Families and migrant associations are major supports for high risk children in the region.
 - Hendry County is less than State average probably because of the large migrant population in the County
- Local Contact:
 - County Health Departments
 - Redlands Christian Migrant Association
 - Family Health Centers
- Strategies:
 - Participate at the local and State level in discussions to assure access to continuing prevention and remedial medical services for all children.

Lower Rate of Mental Illness, Lower Rates of Pregnant Women Who Smoke and Higher Birth Spacing Index

- Issues:
 - While strengths, there were few significant differences with the State averages that would give a firm understanding for how these items impact positive outcomes for children in the District.
 - Hendry County is not experiencing strengths in any of these indicators.
- Local Contact:
 - County Health Departments
 - Mental Health Services Providers
- Strategies:
 - Ongoing monitoring of these indicators and respond to negative changes with affirmative inter agency action.

PRIORITY TWO:

Respond to specific Needs Indicators identified by the Assessment that contribute to environments that put children's health safety and well being at risk. Participate in initiatives that identify and develop community partnerships to alleviate environmental stressors that increase the potential for situational child abuse or neglect.

Over Crowded Housing

- Issues:
 - Significant transient migrant families where over crowded housing conditions are historically considered an accepted standard.
 - In a growing economy, affordable housing for lower income residents has become difficult to find.

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

- Hurricane damage has significantly reduced the affordable housing in Charlotte County.
- Local Contact:
 - County and City Housing Authorities
 - Migrant Service Providers
 - County Health Departments
 - County Extension Agents
 - Habitat for Humanity
 - Homeless Coalition
- Strategies:
 - Interventions that give parents in high risk groups additional skills to meet the needs of their children while living in over crowded housing.
 - Investigate intervention programs that support parents under stress due to environmental factors such as overcrowded housing.
 - Target communities and neighborhoods that have been identified as having less strengths and more risk factors than the others in the District.

Parents Using Alcohol

- Issues:
 - High percentage of parents using alcohol is a significant issue in three of the Counties in the District.
 - Hendry County data suggests that parents use alcohol at a rate twice the State average.
- Local Contact:
 - County Health Departments
 - Southwest Florida Addiction Services
 - Charlotte Community Mental Health
 - David Lawrence Center
 - Southwest Florida Behavioral Health Network
- Strategies:
 - Assure that educational materials and trainers used in substance abuse intervention programs are consistent with the cultural and language context of the communities they serve.
 - Partner with Substance Abuse Providers when targeted programming opportunities become available to build intervention services for individuals and families affected by substance abuse and serious mental illness.
 - Target communities and neighborhoods that have been identified as having less strengths and more risk factors than the others in the District.

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

Low High School Graduation Rate

- Issues:
 - Hendry and Glades Counties have high school graduation rate at 75% of the State average and other counties in the District.
 - Teenagers out of school are more likely to participate in high risk behaviors.
- Local Contact:
 - County School Districts
 - Teen Outreach Programs
 - Remedial Education Programs
 - Workforce Development Council
 - Redlands Christian Migrant Association
- Strategies:
 - Assure that educational materials and trainers used in intervention and remedial education programs are consistent with the cultural and language context of the individuals they are designed to serve.
 - Partner with educational providers when targeted programming opportunities become available to build intervention services for teens at high risk for leaving school.
 - Target communities and neighborhoods that have been identified as having less strengths and more risk factors than the others in the District.

Low number of Two Parent Households:

- Issues:
 - Stressors place on single parent trying to provide consistent and safe environment for children in their care.
- Local Contact:
 - Faith Based Organizations
 - Relative Caregivers & Grandparents
 - Redlands Christian Migrant Association
- Strategies:
 - Assure that educational materials and trainers used in intervention and remedial education programs are consistent with the cultural and language context of the individuals they are designed to serve.
 - Target communities and neighborhoods that have been identified as having less strengths and more risk factors than the others in the District.
 - Initiate programs that emphasize the importance of fathers in the parenting process

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

VI: DISTRICT 8 PREVENTION PLAN GOALS, OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES

Priority 1: Child Maltreatment Rates

Goal: By 2010 District 8 will maintain or reduce child maltreatment rates from their current levels.

Objective 1: By June 2006 Community Alliances in the District will develop plans to monitor positive resiliency factors in their counties to assure these services continue to support families through times of stress and transition.

1. Alliances will engage Workforce Development Boards to annually review the development of employment opportunities in the District and make contributions that will continue current job growth and employment availability for working families.
2. Alliances will monitor the availability of health insurance support for children and families to monitor that access to existing health services are not eroded by reductions in funding or become overburdened by growth in population predicted for the District.
3. Alliances will develop partnership with the newly implemented Substance Abuse and Mental Health's contracted Administrative Services Organization to develop strategic plans to fill gaps and barriers identified in the mental health system of care.
4. Alliances will support efforts made by county health departments and their partner agencies, Healthy Start and Healthy Families, to continue and expand community education and support programs focused on maternal health to meet the needs of a growing population.

Objective 2: By June 2006 the Lead Agency will review child maltreatment rates in the District to determine any effects that systematic or environmental factors have had on abuse and neglect in the District.

1. The Lead Agency will develop and implement a system for monitoring quality outcomes in Case Management Organizations and Support Services Providers to assure continued effectiveness of the System of Care.
2. The Lead Agency will expand partnerships with providers to build on service strengths and best practice models to work with high risk families.

Objective 3: By June 2006 areas of the District affected by 2004 hurricanes will have integrated systems in place to assure the safety and wellbeing of families in those areas.

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

1. Interagency Councils, Government and Volunteer Organizations will assure that crisis intervention and referral services targeted to families affected by the hurricanes continue to be available to assist in long term recovery.
2. Community Disaster Task Forces will establish child safety and wellbeing subcommittees to advise in planning for temporary housing and redevelopment efforts.

Objective 4: By June 2007, County Child Abuse Prevention Sub-Committees will be integrated into existing Interagency Councils to provide for local planning and direction for prevention efforts.

1. Prevention Sub-Committees will use census and other demographic data to methodically identify target neighborhoods where needs factors are greater and the potential for child maltreatment is a greater than that of the county as a whole.
2. The Prevention Subcommittees will identify partnerships with charitable organizations to support the establishment of community/neighborhood centers where integrated services for families can be made available without the barriers of transportation or cultural inconsistency.
3. The Lead Agency will participate with developing Children's Service Councils in the District in developing strategic plans and continued relationships with primary agencies dealing with children.

Objective 5: By June 2008 a plan will be in place to assure that communities in the District have family support systems in place to manage the anticipated population growth in the region.

1. Prevention Subcommittees will provide advice and participate in resource development to assure schools, family support programs and service agencies are prepared to effectively manage the increased demand on their services caused by population growth.
2. Prevention Subcommittees will identify and monitor the emergence of new communities and centers of concern so that intervention and support services for families can be included in community development planning.
3. Community Agencies and Prevention Subcommittees will develop and implement plans for orienting newcomers to available support services.

Priority 2: Environmental Stressors

Goal: By 2010 families and children in the District will have improved access to services to meet basic needs.

Objective 1: By June 2007 Prevention Subcommittees will develop a plan to focus community efforts to decrease the number of overcrowded housing units in their counties by 5% by 2010.

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

1. Prevention Subcommittees will partner with local housing authorities to assist in community mapping to identify pockets of overcrowded and substandard housing and assist in developing plans and resources to meet the objective.
2. In hurricane affected areas Prevention Subcommittees will participate and assist in the development of affordable and safe housing to assure no increases in homelessness especially in situations affecting children.
3. A task groups within the Prevention Subcommittees will be assigned to meet with local housing authorities to learn about current housing options and to encourage the development of innovative approaches to housing issues.
4. In communities where there is a significant migrant population Prevention Subcommittees will assign Task Groups to research and a develop plans to address the housing needs of this specialty population.
5. Interagency councils will work with local political representatives and community stakeholders to increase the availability of affordable housing in communities where growth is causing housing cost to increase more rapidly than family incomes.

Objective 2: By June 2009, the number of parents using alcohol or other mind altering substances will be reduced by 5%.

1. The Lead Agency will partner with other community agencies delivering substance abuse and the schools to produce and implement a targeted media campaign discouraging the use of drugs or alcohol by parents or caregivers and linking substance abuse to child abuse and neglect.
2. Community agencies will be educated on the effectiveness and capacity of "Drug Court" programs and pursue partnership opportunities to make these and similar services available to all residents of the District.
3. Interagency Councils will recruit and encourage the participation of representatives of the substance abuse services providers in Council activities.

Objective 3: By June 2010, the school dropout rate in the District will be reduced by 5%.

1. The Lead Agency and Prevention Subcommittees will work with area school districts to develop and expand dropout prevention programs such as Choices or Teen Outreach Programs available to high risk students.
2. Interagency Councils will recruit and encourage the participation of representatives of school district representatives in Council Activities.
3. Prevention Subcommittees will create an ongoing relationship with area school districts to understand their plans for dropout prevention and determine where community agencies and schools can partner in these efforts.
4. Prevention Subcommittees will work with the local workforce development boards to enhance relevant programs for students.

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

5. Interagency Councils will offer awareness presentations for front-line staff working with at risk youth on vocational training opportunities available in the District.
6. Prevention Subcommittees will engage local businesses in providing internships, work study, incentives for employees to earn GEDs, and service learning opportunities.

Objective 4: By 2010, the number of children living in single parent households in the District will be reduced by 5%.

1. Prevention Subcommittees will develop a plan to identify community specific issues contributing to single parenthood and identify resources and potential partnerships to increase the percentage of two parent households.
2. Prevention Subcommittees will facilitate the availability of Nurturing Fathers and similar programs in target communities and neighborhoods.
3. Prevention Subcommittees will quantify the impact that domestic violence has in contributing to single parent households and work with domestic violence providers to improve the quality and availability of these services in the community.
4. Prevention Subcommittees will recruit and encourage the participation of representatives of domestic violence intervention providers in Council Activities.
5. A task group of the Prevention Subcommittee will survey faith-based institutions in their communities and neighborhoods to evaluate the availability of marriage preparation and marriage enhancement programs available and distribute this information to front-line staff working with at risk families.

Objective 5: By June 2008, significant parent training and community education materials and services will be available in the primary languages spoken in the homes of the District.

1. Parent education and community education providers will be surveyed to determine the scope and priority of materials not currently available in language.
2. A representative task group of Prevention Subcommittees in all counties will work with Florida Gulf Coast University to determine the processes and costs associated with translating and reproducing these materials.
3. Focus groups representing the cultures to be impacted by this effort will be convened to review and assure the effectiveness of the materials.
4. Task group will work with the University to develop and implement a distribution system to assure materials are available for their intended purposes.

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

Objective 6: By June 2010, community capacity building education programs will be provided to community residents, leaders, and parents to increase community responsibility for child safety and well being.

1. Annually 200 people will be trained in the Front Porch Project.
2. Front Porch Train the Trainer sessions will be provided to engage and build skills of community residents to co-facilitate and/or spread the message of the Project.
3. Evaluation of the impact of training on the participants' knowledge, skills and behavior will be ongoing and reported in Annual Plan updates.

VII. REQUEST FOR LOCAL AND STATEWIDE ACTION

The Goals and Objectives above are consistent with Federal, State and Local agencies working together with the target of preventing child abuse and neglect and promoting a nurturing community for children. Other priorities and constituencies of partner agencies and taxpayers can negatively impact our success in meeting the above stated goals. The following will significantly impact our ability to succeed in this plan:

1. Medicaid and Third Party Insurance Coverage For Needy and At Risk Families

Suggested reductions in Medicaid and downward pressures from other Third Party Payers supporting healthcare for the needy and treatment for mental health care and substance abuse treatment will make it more difficult to assure that individuals requiring these services receive needed care in a timely manner. (Reference: Goal 1, Objective 1, #2, #4)

2. Discontinuation of Federal Support for Temporary and Affordable Replacement Housing for Hurricane Victims

The only County the Needs Assessment that did not identify as having "over crowded housing" as a need, lost almost 30% of their available housing to major hurricanes in the summer of 2004. Two other counties also sustained significant housing damage. Time schedules for discontinuing federal support for temporary housing will end early in 2006. There is little possibility that new and renovated affordable housing will be in place to meet the need by this time. Additional resources and support will be needed to meet the proposed objectives. (Reference: Goal 1, Objective 3, #1,2,3; Goal 2, Objective 1, #2)

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

3. School Budgets Overtaxed Dealing with Unprecedented Growth and Class Size
Objectives related to partnerships with school districts in establishing prevention initiatives within their scope will be threatened if school boards are forced to use all available resources to deal with growth and conforming to class size legislation. (Reference: Goal 2. Objective 3, #1,2,3)
4. The State's Commitment to Community Based Care
The Goals and Objectives assume the State's commitment to the Community Based Care initiative. Changes in the structure of the initiative or changes in the role of Community Alliances and community stakeholders in the planning and monitoring of the process and transition will require significant modifications to the Plan. (Reference: Goal 1, Objective 1, #1,2,3,4; Goal 1, Objective 2, #1,2)
5. Continued Availability of Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) and Prevention Initiative Funding
Many of the programmatic interventions referred to in the Plan are supported by these dollars. Reductions in the availability of these categories of program support will make it difficult to deliver services to meet the Goals and Objectives. (Reference: Goal 1, Objective 4,5; Goal 2, Objective 3,4,5)
6. Continued Support for the Community Facilitator Function Within the "System Of Care"
Community organization activities required to succeed in building a prevention identity within existing Interagency Councils to build grass roots intervention services require that individuals be designated within the District to perform these efforts. Continuing availability of personnel dedicated to perform this function is essential to reaching the Plan targets. (Reference: Goal 1, Objective 4, 1,2,3; Goal 2, Objective 1,3,4,5,6)
7. Continuing Questions Regarding the Value of Prevention Services
Success in reaching the Goals and Objectives outlined in the Plan will require continuing advocacy and community education to assure that prevention activities continue to have priority in State and local human service activities program design and implementation. (Reference: Goal 1, 2)

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

PROGRAM	2003 BUDGET	NUMBER SERVED*		IMPACT		PRIORITY	FUTURE PLAN
		CHILDREN	FAMILIES	PROTECTIVE	RISK FACTORS		
PSSF & PI							
Childrens Advocacy Center							
Dependency Parenting	\$ 45,000			X		Y	K
Resource Center	\$ 18,000			X		Y	K
High Risk Newborn	\$ 40,000				X	Y	K
Teen Outreach Program	\$ 52,958				X	Y	I
Nurturing Dads	\$ 26,245			X		Y	I
Family Connections							
Dependency Parenting	\$ 15,210			X		Y	K
Charlotte Community MH							
Dependency Parenting	\$ 24,990			X		Y	K
High Risk Newborn	\$ 6,020				X	Y	K
Resource Center	\$ 28,500			X		Y	K
Nurturing Dads	\$ 11,100			X		Y	I
Childrens Home Society							
Dependency Parenting	\$ 25,000			X		Y	K
Independent Living	\$ 175,000				X	Y	K
Family Preservation Services							
CMO	\$ 9,905,936				X	Y	K
Visitation	\$ 452,121				X	Y	K
Family Centered Services	\$ 34,475				X	Y	K
Lutheran Services Florida							
CMO	\$ 3,575,033				X	Y	K
Visitation	\$ 46,872				X	Y	K
Family Centered Services	\$ 464,139				X	Y	K
Youth Haven							
High Risk Newborn	\$ 17,420				X	Y	K
Dependency Parenting	\$ 40,500			X		Y	K
Shelter	\$ 277,860				X	Y	K

APPENDIX 1, A: PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

PROGRAM	2003 BUDGET	NUMBER SERVED*		IMPACT		PRIORITY	FUTURE PLAN
		CHILDREN	FAMILIES	PROTECTIVE	RISK FACTORS		
Ruth Cooper Center							
CMO	\$ 8,582,575				X	Y	K
Visitation	\$ 57,329				X	Y	K
Family Centered Services	\$ 378,357				X	Y	K
Hendry Glade Health Department							I
Teen Outreach Program	\$ 60,000				X	Y	K
RESIDENTIAL & OTHER							
Alliance	\$ 292,000			X		Y	K
Brookwood	\$ 98,555			X		Y	K
Chrysalis	\$ 205,000			X		Y	K
Devereux	\$ 113,000			X		Y	K
Eckerd	\$ 205,000			X		Y	K
Families First TFC	\$ 20,000			X		Y	K
Florida Baptist	\$ 122,000			X		Y	K
Hibiscus	\$ 4,800			X		Y	K
HOF	\$ 51,000			X		Y	K
Island Coast	\$ 175,000			X		Y	K
Medical Express	\$ 75,000			X		Y	K
Mentor TFC	\$ 476,000			X		Y	K
Mentor Tampa	\$ 35,000			X		Y	K
OMH	\$ 156,220			X		Y	K
Panda	\$ 9,571			X		Y	K
Source of Light And Hope	\$ 397,000			X		Y	K
SPOA	\$ 75,000			X		Y	K
Suncoast Psychometrics	\$ 76,047			X		Y	K
The Starting Place	\$ 10,400			X		Y	K
World Good News	\$ 138,700			X		Y	K
	\$ 27,095,933						

*NOTE: Collection of Date on Numbers Served In Process

APPENDIX 1, B: PREVENTION PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

PROGRAM	2003 BUDGET*	NUMBER SERVED*		IMPACT		PRIORITY	FUTURE PLAN
		CHILDREN	FAMILIES	PROTECTIVE	RISK FACTORS		
LEE COUNTY							
Health Department							
Healthy Families					X	Y	I
Healthy Start					X	Y	K
Shaken Baby				X		Y	K
School District							
Prevention Programs				X	X	Y	I
Lee Human Services							
Housing				X		Y	I
United Way							
Neighborhood Centers				X		Y	I
Lee Memorial Health System				X		Y	K
Child Care SWFL				X		Y	K
Southwest Florida Addiction Service					X	Y	I
COLLIER COUNTY							
Health Department							
Healthy Families					X	Y	K
Redlands Christian Migrant Assn.					X	Y	I
Collier Human Services							
Housing				X		Y	K
Parks and Recreation				X		Y	I
Child Protection Team				X		Y	K
Youth Haven					X	Y	K
PACE					X	Y	K
CHARLOTTE COUNTY							
Charlotte County Consortium							
Housing					X	Y	K

APPENDIX 1, B: PREVENTION PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

PROGRAM	2003 BUDGET*	NUMBER SERVED*		IMPACT		PRIORITY	FUTURE PLAN
		CHILDREN	FAMILIES	PROTECTIVE	RISK FACTORS		
United Way				X		Y	I
Children's Services Council				X	X	Y	I
FEMA					X	Y	K
Project Hope				X		Y	K
HENDRY/GLADES COUNTIES							
County Health Department							
Healthy Start					X	Y	K
Healthy Families					X	Y	K
Redlands Christian Migran Assn.				X		Y	I
Head Start				X		Y	K
Family Services Council				X	X	Y	K
Family Health Services				X		Y	I
Hendry County School District							
Success By Six				X		Y	K
Outward Bound					X	Y	I

*NOTE: Collection of Data on Budgets Numbers Served In Process