



Pillar Group Report: Children & Youth

Date: June 30, 2008

Mission: Provide children and youth of 67214 the tools and opportunities reach proficiency in math and reading, to graduate from high school, and to become employed.

Strategy: Coordinate and enhance the ability to serve 67214 children with existing tutoring and mentoring services.

Activity: Establish Tutoring Coordinator at the Urban League; funded for the first 12 months by Kansas Department of Corrections.

Outcomes: *Draft* outcomes under review by Urban League include:

- Establish protocols with USD 259 for list of 67214 children no proficient in math and reading; and before-and-after scores
- Connect 100 non-proficient 67214 children to tutoring and mentoring; track which have/had a parent in prison
- Remove transportation barrier in 90% of the cases
- 75% achieve higher scores in math and science by 5-7 points
- Maintain and market current directory of tutoring and mentoring services to 67214 parents/caretakers
- Convene existing providers quarterly to problem-solve barriers and avoid duplication

Next Steps:

- Finalize MOA
- Hire Tutoring Coordinator
- Obtain active list of 67214 children not proficient in reading and math through USD 259 (see below)
- Identify capacity of current providers; begin connecting children to providers
- Track data regarding providers and children connected
- Coordinate with Mentoring Coordinator if grant is awarded

Baseline Impact: 100 children in 67214 will increase academic scores by 5-7 points

Strategy: Gain access to a list of 67214 children who are not proficient in math and reading, to target those children for tutoring services.

Activities: Have each parent complete a simple release form for their child, for scores to be released to tutoring providers, and the UL Tutoring Coordinator; include on the form the child's current zip code.

Outcomes: A list will allow the Tutoring Coordinator at UL (working with a Mentoring Coordinator sought through grant application) to target these children; it will also allow providers, such as Communities in Schools, to know which children in the schools where they are present, to focus on these children.

Next Steps: Meet with USD 259 assistant superintendents in July 2008 to finalize a method for getting releases from elementary and middle school children at the beginning of SY 2008-2009.

Baseline Impact: Ability to target children needing services

Strategy: Establish new Communities in Schools resources at Irving Elementary, and Washington Elementary, while maintaining existing level of services. Review needs of other schools, depending on shift in 67214 children (with changes in busing policies).

Activities:

- CIS meetings with USD 259 have occurred
- CIS applied to be an approved Supplemental Education Services provider, to leverage its relationships with parents and children to increase tutoring and mentoring services

Outcomes: Unknown at this time; the expectation is that more children will receive tutoring and mentoring services, with concentration on schools where the population of 67214 children is higher, especially where the school is not reaching federal academic achievement levels.

Next Steps: Meet with CIS and USD 259 to determine whether additional positions can be/have been approved; and determine status of CIS's application to be a SES provider

Baseline Impact: Unknown at this time; CIS will track information about 67214 children through the SY 2008-2009, including the impact of any new resources, to report to the group.

Strategy: Atwater Bulldogs Camp

Activities: Planning of event to combine football training with academic training and mentoring

Outcomes: July-September 2008 event scheduled; 200 football players participate in targeted academic activities as part of the football training; funding secured from Spirit Aerosystems, KDOC and City of Wichita

Next Steps: Hold event; review outcomes through pre-and-post-test scores; comparison of last grade card from last year to first grade card of upcoming year

Baseline Impact: Higher grades by participants

Strategy: Establish baseline information about youth employment, including rates of employable youth; rates of unemployment among employable youth; and capacity in the community to serve the unemployed employable youth

Activities: Collected available information/data on potential unemployment rates of youth in 67214

Outcomes: Quantify need; preliminary number is 90 unemployed employable youth in 67214. (Based on number of youth 15-17 in 67214 (731); 66% labor force participation rate for people age 16-24 ($731 \times 66\% = 482$); and current unemployment rate of 18.7% ($18.7\% \times 482 = 90$). To be unemployed, one must be actively looking for work and not receiving any pay or profit. Numbers provided by Wichita State University's Center for Economic Development and Business Research.)

Next Steps: Determine capacity of current providers; assess potential of adding staff to an existing provider to target 90 unemployed youth in 67214, including by targeting 67214 employers for job development

Baseline Impact: Unknown at this time; the expectation is that if 90 youth can be targeted for employment, those 90 will have an increased likelihood of completing further education and of future sustained livable wage employment.

Strategy: Increase services for children of incarcerated parents.

Activities: Established pilot of Strengthening Kids of Incarcerated Parents at Winfield Correctional Facility; two parenting classes completed to date; five children participated in structured play-and-learn sessions; policy developed by KDOC for use of stipend funds for travel costs to caretakers; literature review regarding risks to children of incarcerated parents (including research for City of Wichita application for Mentoring Coordinator).

Outcomes: Twenty fathers have completed parenting; needs of fifteen households of caretaker/child have been addressed through case management.

Next Steps: Continue classes and play-and-learn sessions at WCF; identify and problem-solve barriers to participation of caretakers; obtain technical assistance in identifying indicators to be tracked to determine impact; assess potential for existing family services providers to increase case management and support for caretakers and children in the community.

Baseline Impact: Unknown at this time; goal is to reduce risk of children of incarcerated parents, of future involvement in the criminal justice system, truancy, high school drop out, mental health problems and substance abuse.