

Fiscal Assessment Workgroup Meeting Minutes June 6, 2007: Capitol Room 14

Attendees:

Kay Johnson (phone), Shanell Wagler, Jeff Anderson, Megan Wolfe, Jenny Hodges, Gretchen Hageman, Laura DeBoer, Sheila Hansen, Janet Gartin, Michelle Stover-Wright, Sue Donielson
Tom Rendon

1:00 pm: Meeting began with a phone call to Kay Johnson

- There was discussion about defining “prevention” to better understand what dollars are being spent “prevention vs. treatment.”
- Kay really affirmed the work that had already been completed on the Fiscal Assessment encouraging the group to compress it down to necessary data to answer questions and tell stories.
- Handouts were passed out with the charts that Kay had created using the data
- Compliments on a the “good core” set of data – things to think about.
 - Which sort of documents would it be published in – newsletter, issue brief, policy report, etc.
 - Separating the data into categories has made it more efficient to work with.
- An idea of a chart book was shared – a little glossy piece Iowa could put their own spin/analysis on.
 - See the disproportionate spending between federal vs. state
 - Education from local entities is not shown and thus is grossly underestimated (what is actually spent is much higher due to local funding)
 - Direct, individual care (intervention) – Medicaid/SCHIP (D.E.)
 - Can’t separate dollars spent for prevention vs. remedial
 - Fewer prevention dollars go further
- We need to identify what questions are most likely to be asked. What stories are being told with the data (Health Story – Direct Service – Insurance or population based – prevention)?
 - Consider using cost per child for each label
 - Childcare subsidy, WIC, Medicaid
 - Need to draw a very clear picture
 - *Ask*: “are we investing enough – with what we are currently paying into this program?”
 - *Ask*: Eligibility – “How much penetration have we made with the current dollars? ... Where have we not made penetration?”
 - Seniors/Kids: *Ask*: “What are ways that we can tap into the senior population to encourage families to stay in Iowa?”
- Different Avenue: *State*: This is how much we have – but show the gap that will still exist.
 - Highlight four to five different areas.

- For example: If we were to get up to 185 %, and we are currently at 145 %, this is where we need to be to get those kids into the fold.
 - It was suggested to break groups out among the five ECI result areas using the leadership agenda
 - BEDS Data: 5 categories district reported – must be cautious because it gets “fuzzy.”
 - Information from this data will be improving in the subsequent years
 - Compare general similar demographics with neighboring states
- What is it? What Stories are we telling? What are the goal products?
 - What questions do we need to ask?
 - What is the data telling us
 - What isn’t happening with this allotted money?
 - This is what we have been able to accomplish – but emphasize that we cannot stop here.
 - What do we want, have and need.
 - Which portfolio has the best return on the investment made within that program?
 - Does our budget reflect our priorities?
 - There was concern about the picture that we would be drawing stating the numbers.
- There was much urgency to get this data into a publication and the group thus decided that a further workgroup needed to be formed to assess the leadership agenda in comparison to the data outcomes. This will hopefully clarify some questions that were raised and give direction to the pending publication.
 - Small group meeting: June 18, 2007 at 11:30 am
 - Small Group: Jeff, Shanell, Tom, Sheila, Michelle, and Gretchen

Meeting adjourned: 3:00 pm