

Results-based Accountability: “Turn the Curve” Exercise

Based on a model by Mark Friedman

Population: Children and Families

Iowa’s vision: *Every child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and successful.*



Early Childhood Iowa Result Areas

1. Children ready to succeed in school
2. Healthy children
3. Safe and nurturing families
4. Safe and supportive communities
5. Secure and nurturing early care and education environments.



Sample indicators: Percent of children entering kindergarten ready to learn.

- Percent of children with a medical home
- Well-child / EPSDT visit rate
- Children immunized by age two
- Percent with health coverage
- Rate of child abuse and neglect
- Percent of children 0-6 living in poverty
- Percent of children with pre-literacy skills
- Number of child care centers and child care homes with a quality rating of 3-5 (higher quality)
- Percent of enrolled in quality early care and education
- Percent of eligible families receiving child care assistance
- Rate of deaths due to injuries (preventable deaths)



Story behind the baseline and trends:

- What happened in your practice/program? your community? your county? your Empowerment Area?
- What are the causes and forces at work (positive and negative)?
- What has happened in terms of the economy, service capacity, or data?



Partners with a role to play:

- Who are the key stakeholders and providers?
- Who is not already involved?
- How are parents involved?



What works?

Study What Works

Review reports, books, and journals (in print and online) to identify evidence-based programs and best practices

Review local programs and practices. Are you using the available knowledge about what works?

Recommendations to improve programs and policy:

- Involve key stakeholders and providers in development of recommendations based on “what works” scan.
- What might work to “turn the curve” or improve the trend.
- Include some low-cost or no-cost recommendations.



Action plan: Develop an action plan based on recommendations.

- Think about what key stakeholders can do in the next 6, 12, 24 months.
- Who will be the champions and advocates? Which policy and decision makers must be informed?