

Individual and Family Economic Stability Team Notes – February 11, 2010

Homework

Group agreed that they have identified the key concepts they want in the goal statement but agreed to work on the wording over the next week. Specifically, the group challenged itself around using the words ‘empower’ and ‘right’ - they get at the idea but don’t have quite the meaning or connotation they are looking for; and the team wanted to include either the word thrive or the concept of thrive.

- Team email discussion about goal statement to finalize by Friday, February 19th. Look at language of goal statement. Is it meaningful to the community (guy on the street)? Will people in the community be able to see themselves in it? What will the result be for the community?
- Look at the measures. Think about the top 3 (4 at the most) that will have the most impact; the community will hold itself accountable for.

DRAFT Team Goal Statement

In Carroll County we empower each person’s right to economic stability and improved quality of life for the community.

Breakout Discussion 1

- Reduction of the ‘invisible’ population in need.
Discussion: Those in need are often invisible to those who are not; especially those who have plenty. If you aren’t in schools seeing the kids without warm clothes, etc. or volunteering at the food pantry, than people with those experiences are not part of your own world. (This description of people being ‘invisible’ came up in two other groups. As people’s struggles increase they turn more inward, move away from being in the public – can’t afford things that others can or that they used to be able to and are uncomfortable with others knowing that or simply don’t have the funds to be in the same places.)
- If you lived here you would enjoy an improved quality of life. This was inspired by billboard statement in Boston that said if you lived here you would already be home.
 - Measures might include full employment/livable wage, recreation opportunities, workforce housing, new business opportunities.
- All individuals and families have adequate resources to provide for their basic needs.
 - Measures might include reliable transportation, clothing, secure food source, affordable housing (safe), medical/dental coverage and an emergency fund.
 - Discussion about wants vs. needs; should all people be able to have a few wants?
 - Thrive – this team’s area really speaks to the word thrive in the larger aspiration statement
 - Idea of moving from the last county NH in terms of livable wages to the first.

Breakout discussion 2

- Carroll County empowering each person's right to economic stability and an improved quality of life.

Discussion: This statement captures the essence of what the team wants to state in their goal. Group agreed to do some more wordsmithing as summarized under homework.

- Carroll County becomes a neighborhood – idea that people watch out for each other.
Discussion: We're in this together; aware of each other.

March Meeting – March 4th, noon-1:30 pm

- Finalize measures
- Outline the business plan for how to get there. What are the levers, measures and action items?