



SSIP

Phase 3

Quarterly Summary

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Recent Activities

After the successful timely submission of the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) Phase II Plan on March 30, 2016, the implementation phase began.

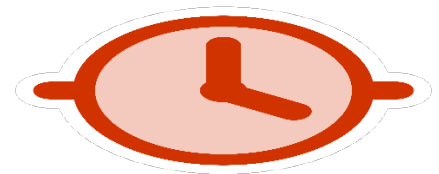
While EITP and the Bureau revised the Provider Needs Assessment to collect information about providers' training and technical assistance needs related to SSIP activities, Bureau staff visited 2 of the 3 Innovation Zones (Greater East St. Louis and Aurora) to attend their regular meetings, share information about the SSIP, and answer their questions about involvement and next steps.

Also, Rob Corso, an experienced evaluator who has extensive knowledge of our system, became engaged to help guide our evaluation work.

The Evaluation Team (whose members were selected by the large stakeholders group) and Rob met several times to clarify, outline and divide the activities for the work ahead. At a meeting in Chicago on May 26th, the Evaluation team decided to break into smaller

subgroups to develop Action Plans that provide direction for the next steps (see Theory of Change, next page). Three subgroups were formed to address critical issues: Leadership Teams, Professional Development/Technical Assistance, and Performance Support (including implementation of the desired Child Outcomes Process and use of Evidence Based Practices). These subgroups will meet and seek additional members as needed. To ensure cohesiveness, the three subgroups will meet together in July and August.

On June 6th, some members of the Evaluation Team and other stakeholders met in Chicago with two national TA providers, Karen Moran Finello and Jeffri Brookfield, to focus on the Evidence Based Practices related to family engagement that we want to emphasize. Rob summarized the work of the Evaluation Team, and Lauren Barton, a national TA provider assisting us with Child Outcomes measurement, also joined to coordinate support needs so that improvement strategies lead to the desired change in our State-identified Measurable Result (SiMR). The final selection of the evidence based practices will be done before July 1st with input from stakeholders.



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Stakeholder Involvement

Bureau staff members are continually considering ways to maintain stakeholders' involvement and engagement in the process and ways to share our progress with all stakeholders. We are currently looking to bring additional voices to the larger SSIP conversation as we begin our implementation phase and launch our selected activities in the 3 pilot areas: Aurora, East St. Louis and Williamson County. Please send your suggestions to claudia.fabian@illinois.gov.



Next Steps

Evaluation team members have been working to identify resources and collect materials that will help us measure our efforts, e.g. surveys, checklists, needs assessments, and rubrics. We have been attending webinars, communities of

learning meetings, discussions, and trainings to stay abreast of what's happening and to take advantage of new products and resources that become available to states. We are also working to address internal and external messages – an issue identified during Phase I that was emphasized in the Phase II Plan submitted to OSEP – and to implement policies and procedures that support performance (see Theory of Change).

The most immediate needs involve creating the three leadership teams, selecting the specific evidence-based practices to be emphasized, and crafting the evaluation tools to measure progress. Shortly after that, a review of existing curriculum that support the chosen practices will be conducted and the provision of training to leadership team members will occur.

Theory of Change

