

Data Committee Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2005
CRCC Room 205
3:00 pm – 5:00pm



Present:

Micki Fuhrman, PPS/EISD
Harriett Dean, PPS/EISD
Jane Powers, Public Sector Consultants
Cheryl Reid, Public Sector Consultants
Polly Brainerd, PPS/EISD
Rod Macdonald, Community Member
Pat McKinley, Cristo Rey Community Center
Joel Hoepfner, MidSouth Substance Abuse Commission
Sara Lurie, PPS/EISD
Susan Brown, State of Michigan

- I. Call to Order: 3:00pm**
- II. Sentinel Indicators:** Jane Powers handed out an expanded Indicator Framework. J.Powers also reviewed the ISPACC Implementation Plan and noted indicator where mentioned and listed those indicators in the framework.
- III.** Rod MacDonald requested clarification of what indicators and framework Mi-South Substance Abuse Commission (MSSAC) had mandated through the Pathways process. Joel Hoepfner indicated the Needs and Resource Assessment and the Pathways indicators must be used, but additional data may be collected as deemed by the community. He also commented the Data submitted last year was acceptable, but the Coordinating Council could and should identify data gaps and determine if missing data is applicable to our plan. Polly Brainerd noted the opportunity for increased funding for community if we have a comprehensive data set. The committee discussed the gaps in data and the need to fill those gaps as best as possible for an adequate assessment of our community needs. The committee also discussed the need for a relationship between MSSAC's youth assessment (RPF survey) and the statewide data collection initiative, Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) and it's updated "super sized" version, the MYPHI.
- IV.** Jane Powers gave a working definition of "indicators" as something that can be put forth to the community that "tells a story" and emphasizes the importance of an issue. Some issues will rise to the top in importance to the community and the data helps tell a compelling story that can be "published" to the county. The committee noted the need for raw data from the PNA survey that shows composite answers to individual questions, and J. Hoepfner indicated the Committee could put in writing a request for the data from Mid South.

V. J. Powers led the discussion in determining the most vital indicators for goal three, Alcohol. The committee determined the top four are:

- a. Availability to underage youth
- b. Alcohol sales per capita
- c. Number of licensed vendors in the county
- d. Results of compliance checks

R. MacDonald noted that generalizations might be made on data results, even if specific data does not show that exact results, i.e. common sense says greater availability of alcohol is likely connected to crime rates in a given area, but an exact scientific correlation may not exist. R. also discussed billboard advertising, and if the Committee could get the numbers of billboards advertisements, and city ordinances for retail signage. The committee also discussed the importance of knowing where youth get alcohol. I.e. compliance checks indicate retailers are not selling to underage drinkers, yet the PNA survey indicates high use. The Committee discussed the University of Michigan survey "Monitoring the Future" which indicates where youth have access to alcohol, and requesting surveying judges in the county handing down MIP sentences to determine where the youth got the alcohol. Micki Fuhrman offered to call Mike Botke, Teen Court, to discuss. Pat McKinley suggested adding the availability to youth questions on the Health Department Neighborhood Networks' door-to-door health survey. R. MacDonald suggested we gather data on the enforcement of "providing alcohol to a minor" Michigan Law when youth are issued MIP's.

VI. **Next meeting:** Tuesday, December 13, 2005 3:00 p.m., Cristo Rey Community Center

VII. **Adjourn:** 5:00 p.m.