



Youth Development Initiative The Cleveland Foundation Board of Directors

June 29, 2007

Draft 12



Need Statement and Methodology

Need Statement

- Fragmented and uncoordinated system
- High school failure and dropout rates
- High teen pregnancy rates
- High gang and juvenile justice involvement

Methodology

- Extensive review of the literature/brain research
- 70 interviews
- Convened 40 member taskforce
- 4 site visits
- Reviewed youth demographics/use of resources



Key findings to inform TCF

- Youth development is a process to help youth reach potential: learning, experiences, and opportunities
- Engage youth at key developmental phases (early and over time)
- Requires:
 - Policy and systems change
 - Engaging all partners
 - Reframing how we think about youth
 - Community vision and plan for youth

Key findings to inform TCF (Continued)



- Great need in Cuyahoga County
- Past TCF grantmaking for youth has focused on specific populations or issues
- Best approach:
 - Universal and targeted strategies
 - Youth 6-18, parents, and communities
 - Focus on transition into kindergarten, out-of-school time, job training
 - Use best practices
 - Build upon existing infrastructures and funding

Proposed Youth Development: Initiative Vision and Goals



Working Vision statement:

All children and youth of Cuyahoga County will live in a safe and caring environment with access to quality services and developmental opportunities which will enhance their skills, promote self-sufficiency, develop strong core values, and enable them to reach their maximum potential.

Goals:

- Effective Parents and Caring Adults
- Healthy Youth Making Healthy Choices
- Educational/Post Secondary Success
- Civic, Social, Employment and Recreation Opportunities
- Committed Community

Proposed Strategic Framework



- Build Community Support for Change
- Collect and analyze data to inform decisions
- Optimize existing systems and infrastructure
- Implement community strategies to enhance opportunities for youth 6-18
- Develop an outcome and accountability system



Build Community Support for Change

- ✓ Build stakeholders awareness and commitment
- ✓ Convey the urgency for change
- ✓ Mobilize the community
- ✓ Develop a public awareness campaign
- ✓ Develop advocacy agenda
- ✓ Develop a comprehensive youth strategic plan



Collect & Analyze Data to Inform Decisions

- ✓ Complete a community youth assessment
- ✓ Build capacity to collect and utilize data
- ✓ Build baseline data

Optimize Existing Systems and Infrastructure



- ✓ Develop a public-private partnership
- ✓ Develop a leadership structure
- ✓ Provide a seamless system for youth
- ✓ Organize neighborhood networks of services and supports for young people
- ✓ Systems reform

Implement Community Strategies to Enhance Opportunities for Youth 6-18



- ✓ Universal and targeted pilot programs in neighborhoods
- ✓ Increase the number of activities
- ✓ Fund community-based organizations to implement youth development programs

Develop an Outcome and Accountability System



- ✓ Monitor program development and implementation
- ✓ Evaluate results and effectiveness

Logic Model



Strategies/Activities

Build Community support for change

- Develop Public Awareness Campaign
- Develop Advocacy Agenda
- Mobilize Community
- Comprehensive Youth Strategic Plan

Collect and analyze data to inform decisions

- Complete Community Youth Assessment
- Create Database for Youth Indicators

Optimize systems and infrastructure

- Create System Change
- Develop Public/Private Partnerships
- Develop Governance Structure
- Develop Neighborhood Networks

Implement community strategies to enhance opportunities for youth

- Implement Pilot Programs
- Fund Community-Based Agencies

Develop an outcome/ accountability system

- Monitor Program Development
- Monitor Program Implementation
- Evaluate Results and Effectiveness

Initial Outcomes

- Community Awareness Regarding Youth Development Increased
- Increased Knowledge of Available Youth Resources
- Engaged Youth and Parents
- Community Collaborations Developed
- Public/Private Partnerships Established
- Governance Structure Created
- Pilots Implemented
- Program Outcomes Established

Intermediate Outcomes

- Increased Parental Involvement
- Increased Knowledge of Youth Development
- Increase School Attendance
- Reduce Suspensions/Expulsions
- Reduce Substance Abuse
- Increase Life Skills
 - Conflict Management
 - Refusal Skills
 - Negotiation Skills
- Reduce Contact with Court System
- Increase Employment Opportunities
- Pilots Taken to Scale
- Programs Evaluated

Phases of Youth Development Initiative



PHASE I- Building Community Support

- Community Mobilization
- Public Education and Awareness Campaign
- Comprehensive Youth Strategic Plan
- Systems Reform
 - Pilots of Core Strategies
 - Develop Core Neighborhood Networks
- Advocacy

PHASE II- System Reform

- Continue Community Mobilization, Public Awareness, and Advocacy
- Systems Reform
 - Replication of Universal and Targeted Core Strategies to Scale
 - Building Additional Strategies to Meet Needs
- Public-Private Partnership
- Update Youth Strategic Plan

- Continue Community Mobilization, Public Awareness, Systems Reform, and Advocacy
- Public-Private Partnership
- Realignment of Resources/ Sustainability
- Update Youth Strategic Plan

PHASE III- Realignment/ Sustainability



Next 6 Months

- Convene work groups
- Identify strategies and costs
 - Communications plan
 - Community mobilization
 - Pilot design and implementation
 - Evaluation design
 - Advocacy agenda
- Begin implementation
- Collaborate with other funders

Role of The Cleveland Foundation



- Lead Convener
- Catalyst for Change
- Lead Funder
 - Develop Funding Partnership
 - City
 - County
 - State
 - Federal
 - United Way
 - Local and National Funders



Potential TCF Funding

- Potential commitment for 2007
 - Up to \$650,000
- Anticipated commitment for 2008-2010
 - Up to \$2.5 million/year