

# EARLY CHILDHOOD COLLABORATION OF SHAWNEE COUNTY

## FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

**Draft: January 8, 2009**

**Approved: October 5, 2009**

*(Name change implemented January 9, 2012)*

**Updated and Revised Draft: July 7, 2012**

**Updated and Revised: December 1, 2014**

**Background:** The Early Childhood Collaboration began as a council focused on preschool issues over 20 years ago. The council became the Interagency Coordinating Council to fulfill the requirement of PART C legislation that required the local Infant/Toddler Services organization to have an advisory council. Since then, the council has incorporated the United Way Success by 6 Home Visitation Action Team. In 2012, the council approved the name change to Early Childhood Collaboration (ECC) of Shawnee County. The first strategic plan was developed early in 2009 and was approved October 5, 2009. The ECC Executive team annually reviews and updates the strategic plan.

**Vision:** Children and families in Shawnee County will thrive in a stable and supportive community.

**Mission:** To create a comprehensive service delivery system dedicated to ensuring a coordinated community response in serving families with children, prenatal to school age.

**Intended Impact:** All families with children, prenatal to school age, in Shawnee County will have knowledge of and access to comprehensive, effective, and coordinated services that will ensure healthy development, strong families, and early learning opportunities to achieve successful outcomes in school and life.

### **Guiding Principles:**

- We govern and operate as a collaborative entity in serving the needs of families with children, prenatal to school age.
- We are inclusive and encourage participation in the collaboration.
- We have a shared vision and joint strategies to address concerns beyond what we can accomplish individually.
- We commit to identifying and addressing gaps and duplication in services for families.
- We support a system that is viable and current with the needs of families.
- Families are identified early and referred appropriately to address their individual needs.
- We promote evidence-based and developmentally appropriate services that are measured with specific performance outcomes including pre-literacy.
- Families are actively involved in determining services provided.
- We achieve common goals by sharing responsibility, authority and accountability.

**GOAL I: The community will understand and value the importance of engaging early with families and children, prenatal to school age.  
(Public Awareness Goal - Website)**

**Strategic Priority #1:** Communicate the value and impact of high quality early childhood programs and services

***Objective #1.1:*** Maintain marketing/communication tools for increasing the awareness of all prenatal to school age service providers, funders and referral sources.

***Objective #1.2:*** To promote the normalization of individualized home visitation services.

***Objective #1.3:*** Communicate impact and promote results of early learning outcomes.

**Action Step:** Continue to develop the website; review and enhance the process for updating the website.

**GOAL II: All families with children, prenatal to school age, will have access to services that will ensure healthy development, strong families, and early learning opportunities to achieve successful outcomes in school and life.  
(Resource Development Goal - Transportation)**

**Strategic Priority #1:** Promote and enhance an evolving community system that is innovative, inclusive and results oriented for families with children, prenatal to school age.

***Objective #1.1:*** Promote a community system that includes the following components:

Action Steps	Progress Updates	Completion Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Referrals and services are identified and offered during pregnancy and birth through school age.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Services are individualized and family driven.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote health education, preventive health and health literacy.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families who need more intensive services will be offered comprehensive services.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive, open communication occurs between individuals and agencies providing services.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Courts, schools, police, home visitors, mental health, social services, public health, medical and dental health, will work together.</li> </ul>		

Action Steps (continued)	Progress Updates	Completion Date
• Family support extends beyond age three when needed.		
• Intensive services are safe, connected, and families receive support even when they are surviving in less than a healthy environment.		
• Support is provided to parents when exploring other alternatives, i.e., adoption.		
• Medical and dental services are available for all families.		
• Mental health services are available for both adults and children.		
• Transportation, if needed, is available for appointments, and to and from childcare services, and other family needs.		2014
• Comprehensive services are available for children with developmental delays.		

**Strategic Priority #2:** Increase accessibility and affordability of high quality child care and preschool services to meet the needs of all families in the community.

**Objective #2.1:** Connect families with concerns to appropriate child care and preschool services, i.e. alternative work hours, child with disabilities, behavioral needs, health concerns, etc.

**Strategic Priority #3:** Promote voluntary home visiting services for every family.

**Ongoing Action Step:** Monitor the availability of resources that would allow for expansion of home visitation services in the community.

**GOAL III:** Families are strengthened by a comprehensive integrated, evidence-based service delivery system.  
(Program/Services Goal)

**Strategic Priority #1:** Advocate for and support the collection of ongoing community needs and risk factors.

**Objective #1.1:** Continue to identify and respond to the high risk indicators for families in Shawnee County such as domestic violence, crime and infant mortality.

**Action Step:** Increase the awareness of partners, providers, and the public about the barriers that families experience.

**Action Step:** Identify the resources and the community commitment necessary to provide appropriate services for families.

**Strategic Priority #2:** Identify partners and encourage participation in the collaborative service system to strengthen service delivery and develop efficiencies.

***Objective #2.1:*** Increase the active participation of the collaborative partners including parents, professionals and providers that impact families with children, prenatal to school age.

***Objective #2.2:*** Identify internal and external efficiencies through ongoing continuous quality improvement of systems, policies and procedures on an annual basis.

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