

FAMILY C.A.T. MEETING
August 15, 2006
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

In attendance:

Tamanna Abdullah
Ty Cliffel
Tim & Tanya Coughlin
Toni Gelsomino
Ruth Gordillo
Mary Hall
Shawn Juris

Shawna Lewis
Zoe Lewis
Paula Maeder-Connor
Alex Ramos
Octavia Rogers
Mary Jo Schwartz
Lindsay Vaughn

I. Brief Overview of Blue Ribbon Executive Committee and C.A.T. Teams

II. Definitions

- A. Belong – to be welcomed; to be able to identify with others; to be engaged, connected, supported, valued and included; to be able to contribute.

How Accomplished: providing varied opportunities; have doors opened; outreach to individuals; diversity embraced; giving individuals a voice in decision making.

- B. Thriving – you like where you are, who you are; you are hopefully, optimistic; you have goals; you have a positive sense of self; you are and feel nurtured; are aware of and capitalize on opportunities.

How Accomplished:

The group struggled with capturing the essence of “to thrive” as we ran out of time. The group agreed more discussion was needed. It was clear there were definite “linkages” to other teams identified specifically as sense of safety at home/school and community.

III. “Belong” and “Thrive” broken out by age groups (see attached)

IV. Next Steps:

- A. CAT chairs:

Alex Ramos will be the youth chair
Ruth Gordillo may agree to be adult chair

NEXT MEETING: September 19th from 6:30 – 8:00 in the Jury Room

BELONGING		
0 – 5 Years	Loving, nurturing, caring consistent caregivers; health care; safe environment at home, daycare, community; learning to trust; opportunities to socialize/a place to connect with others; education and support for parents and caregivers; age appropriate childcare.	Existing Services: Skill building for parents and caregivers; support programs for parents and caregivers; quality early child care centers and family childcare homes; formal and informal play groups; agencies/programs (Division of Early Childhood, Family Room, Library, Help Me Grow, Early Childhood P.T.A., Lakewood YMCA, faith communities; Healthy Head Start.
6 – 10 Years	Nurturing, skill building parents; encouragement; mentoring; flexible, age-appropriate programming/ opportunities; sense of safety at home, school, community for children and for parents; advocacy by trusted adults; age-appropriate programs, services, opportunities that are accessible, affordable and marketed; a community climate of inclusivity.	Existing Services: Parent education support group; topic based parent education; school based social skills groups; mentors—coaches, teachers, scouts, faith youth organizations; recreational programming/Rec Department/Lakewood YMCA
11 – 14 Years	Parent support/parent education and skill building; a sense of safety at home, school and community for youth and for parents; unconditional acceptance; gathering places, inside and outside; inclusion in decision making/valuing and voice; strong advocacy; safe alternative activities—structured and non-structured; need to have social skills competency.	Existing Services: Rec programs; YMCA programs; City parks; social skill building programs in schools/community; random parent support and education programs; Division of Youth; Teen Health Center; school staff.
15 – 18 Years	Trust; nurturing parents; a sense of safety at home, school and community; clear, consistent boundaries; age appropriate responsibilities and roles; countering isolating activities; age appropriate skills/competency; parent education/support/skill building.	Existing Services: Social skill building in schools, by Division of Youth, by school staff; parent support and consultation by Division of Youth; Rec programs; athletics.