

A Vision for Young Families

Starting in March 2022 six cross-systems teams from state and local human services agencies, including parent leaders, joined the System Alignment for Young Families (SAYF) Learning Academy to create an actionable plan to improve cohesive supports to young parents and their children across human services. Each team started their work by co-creating with parents and systems leaders a vision for the future to guide their work.

Maricopa County, AZ: Parents are Partners

In Maricopa County, human services staff build positive relationships with young families based on the existing coaching model, engaging families as partners and identifying individual needs and strengths of the whole family by using a new assessment tool. Objectives are driven by families and adaptive to real-life barriers, as evidenced by the agencies flexibility and adaptability to meet the unique needs of every family, acknowledgment of families' incremental growth and success. Agency staff are able to effectively connect families to services that align with each families' unique goals and needs.



Allegany County, MD: Building the Right Tools

In Allegany County, families, providers and agency staff mutually have meaningful and accurate information on available programs and services so families can spend more time building well-being. Families, providers and staff have access to comprehensive information on available services and programs through a diverse set of tools (exp: websites, physical list, email, apps), including an assessment tool that identifies potential services for particular families, generates a referral to be communicated to relevant program leads, and triggers a follow up process that ultimately supports streamlined case management.



Massachusetts: Parents are Policy Makers

In Massachusetts, there is a statewide parent advisory board that shares power with young families and increases transparency in policy making and program design. The board has a framework that has been developed in collaboration with young families and young family stakeholders. Its goal is to integrate parent feedback into policy in a way that is recognizable to parents and leads to improved service delivery for parents and their children.



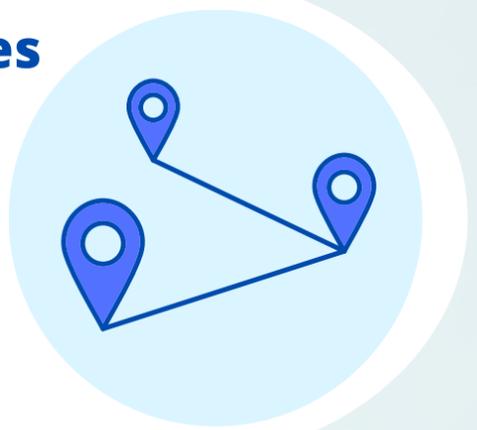
Nebraska: Working With Parents for Prevention

In Nebraska community well-being strategic planning is informed by, and co-created with families, with the ultimate goal of reducing multi-generational, higher-end system involvement. Objectives are obtained by maximizing availability of resources for young families, redesigning policies to be inclusive of all young people and their families and maximizing all system resources in a way that actualizes access.



Nevada: Creating Pathways for Families

In Nevada supportive services system will be trauma informed and diversified to provide families with warm transfers to WIC and Child Care, including application support and guidance to families. Objectives will be obtained by providing staff with continuous training on whole family approaches and by evaluating current referral processes for WIC and Child Care



Wake County, NC: Parents Have What They Need

In Wake County community members and staff are given educational materials and information on available resources and supports offered by all health and human services departments. Staff are able to explain application and agency procedures in plain language while maximizing client choice of services for the whole family. Objectives are achieved by building cross-programmatic partnerships with key state and local agencies and community organizations; building toward a standard needs assessment based on the social determinants of health. These efforts will result in holistic solutions that build sustainable well-being for families.

