

# 2008 Biennial Plan

## Recommendation #1:

Continue with existing work group structures and activities, but encourage work groups to examine work plan tasks to ensure their efforts are not wasted on tasks that are not truly attainable.

## Recommendation #2:

Encourage Collaborative partners to heighten and share educational opportunities for staff, as well as the children and families that they serve, in order to promote awareness of chemical and mental health needs.

## Recommendation #3:

Request that all work groups increase activities related to Promoting Preventative Health Practices particularly with regard to key target areas of Chemical and Mental Health.

### Needs Assessments/Surveys Reviewed by Planning and Evaluation Work Group 12/12/07

Area of Need or Concern	Gap or need identified
1) School Connectedness	a) Teachers not respecting students (9 <sup>th</sup> grade) b) Teachers not interested in students (9 <sup>th</sup> grade) c) Truancy/skipping school d) Mental Health stigma issues among students & staff e) Increased rate of dropouts compared to other counties f) Increased rate of school transfers
2) Environmental	a) Mold
3) Risk Behaviors	a) Lack of seatbelt use – especially by teens b) Property damage (9 <sup>th</sup> grade) c) Early onset of at risk behaviors at 6 <sup>th</sup> grade or younger d) Chemical use by youth, including driving after use e) Increased rate of dropouts compared to other counties f) Increased rate of juveniles arrested for serious crimes
4) Health	<u>Mental Health</u> a) Low self esteem b) Bullying c) Stress d) Low level of personal satisfaction e) Increased rate of inpatient/Rule 5 placements f) Suicidal thoughts/attempts g) Long waiting lists for children's mental health services h) Stigma related to identification/treatment of MH disorders  <u>Chemical Health</u> i) Alcohol use among youth j) Driving w/alcohol or chemical use in 7 of 8 student populations in OTC k) Alcohol related suicide l) Tobacco usage/smoking m) Higher than state average on 13 of 17 categories for chemical use (9 <sup>th</sup> grade boys)  <u>Physical Health</u> n) Stress o) Blackouts p) Unhealthy eating habits q) Significant alcohol and tobacco use among youth  r) High rate of alcohol related fatal crashes
5) Economic	a) Alcohol cost to society b) Poor housing quality c) Mental Health costs for Rule 5 d) High rate of children living in poverty at or below federal guidelines e) High rate of children living in poverty at or below 200% poverty line f) WIC and reduced lunch counts