Iberville Parish Ready Start Network

Blueprint

October 5, 2019

**Introduction**

The Iberville Parish Network consists of eight type III childcare centers and thirty one pre-k classrooms located at seven different public school sites. The Iberville Parish School System is the current Head Start grantee. In total, 550 children, birth to age five, are served in the community. Tier I curriculum use has increased from 62% to 92% since 2017. The Network has made steady growth on the district performance profiles over the last four years increasing from 4.79 to 5.16. The number of early childhood sites rated as Proficient also continues to rise. Currently six sites are rated Highly Proficient, five are rated Proficient and only two remain rated approaching Proficient.

**Guiding Statements**

Vision: All Iberville Parish children birth through age five are afforded opportunities to achieve their maximum potential to succeed in school and life.

Mission: The mission of the Iberville Parish Ready Start Network is to increase community awareness of early childcare and education, provide children, age birth to five, with equitable access to the physical, emotional, and high quality educational supports they need to enter school ready to succeed.

**Strategic Plan**

**By 2021**

Goal 1: Increase community awareness of early childcare in Iberville Parish to increase funding and resources

* Develop a Ready Start Network website
* Utilize social media
* Coordinated enrollments throughout the year

Resources:

* Existing: We currently hold one coordinated enrollment event per year. The weeklong event is held during the month of February at elementary school sites throughout the district.
* Needed: A Ready Start Network website created by a web designer updated frequently by a social media specialist responsible for developing and implementing marketing and customer care strategies through the use of social media. The specialist would be responsible for maintaining the public image of early childcare on the Internet through mediums such as Facebook and Twitter.
* Performance Metrics: Track center/school site enrollment monthly to see if social media and recruitment events are attracting more children.

Goal 2: By year 2022, increase the number of children in quality centers, age birth two, by 10%.

* establish new type III childcare centers in areas of the parish where needed
* convert Type II centers to Type III centers
* obtain data from childcare sites to assess who has the capacity to serve more children age

birth to 2

* use funds raised to create more seats for CCAP eligible children

Resources:

* Existing: Iberville Parish currently has eight Type III child care centers, but there are areas of the parish who do not offer any child care assistance to families who qualify.
* Needed: Childcare centers that offer child care assistance are needed in all areas of Iberville Parish to increase the number of children served age birth to 2.

Performance Metrics: Track center/school site enrollment monthly to see if fundraising has created more seats for CCAP eligible children. Track the number of Type III centers operating in the parish.

Goal 3: By 2022, the quality of early care and education in the network will improve by increasing the number of centers rated proficient or above to 100%.

* Professional Development on curriculum provided by vendors.
* Local job embedded coaching provided twice per month.
* Professional Development on CLASS through MMCI classes.
* Secure materials and resources needed through grant funds to help teachers and staff promote high quality experiences for children.
* Make sure materials are utilized and accessible to students in classrooms
* Provide wrap around services to students in early childcare. (Mandatory physicals/dental exams, up to date Immunizations, family goal setting and mental health counseling)

Resources:

* Existing: Professional development on the curriculum is provided 3 times per year, but is needed more often. Coaching is provided by Resource and Referral, but needed more often. Classrooms are not as well equipped in childcare centers as in schools. More science math, and literacy materials are needed in childcare centers. Schools require documentation of physicals and dental exams for program entry. They also hold Family Nights 4 times per year.
* Needed: Frequent curriculum training, job embedded coaching and MMCI classes are needed. Grant funding is needed to purchase science, math, and literacy materials. A Family Education Facilitator is needed to provide these services to families with children in childcare centers.

Performance Metrics: Analyze Performance Profiles and teachers’ CLASS scores to track the number of centers rated proficient or above. Inventory the number of materials suggested on the ECERS checklist before and after grant funding is provided to centers. Track the number of children with updated physicals, dentals, and immunizations.