

## **Visioneering Literate Community Leadership Team Notes** **May 16, 2008**

**Attendees:** Gennelley Pacholski, Carolyn Bunch, Lindy Kralicek, Carol (sorry I didn't get her last name)

The leadership team met and brainstormed on 'talking points' pertaining to our Literate Community Model [see below]. **Please review and comment.** What format should be used [one page handout, PowerPoint, etc.]?

<b>'Talking Points' – Community Presentation/Literate Community</b>
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### **Businesses/Organizations**

- Collaborate with businesses
- Create a well trained workforce
- Benefits to businesses
- Well educated workforce
- Private/public partnerships
- Fund development opportunity
- Improve literacy in community and workforce

### **Funders**

- Research component [outcomes]
- Centralized information network
- Met a community need for target population
- Centralized clearinghouse for ABE services
- Each organization maintains their own identity
- Collaborative effort
- Serve more citizens
- Improve 'tracking' services
- Information sharing among organizations
- Promote public awareness
- Encourage to recruit & trained volunteers

### **Target Population**

- Improve standard of living of workforce
- Education of workforce
- Remove 'barriers' to services
- Economic self reliance of workforce
- Link target to appropriate service
  - Promote economic independence

<b>Benchmark Discussion:</b>
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After considerable discussion, the team suggested that the Alliance's benchmarks should be 'aligned' with existing Kansas Board of Regents core competencies [see below from a Wichita State Report]:

There are five core competencies tracked by all programs. KBOR provides the following definitions:

- **Completion of an Educational Functioning Level:** Using nationally standardized assessments, all learners' basic skill levels are initially identified in reading, math, and writing for Adult Basic Education (ABE) and Adult Secondary Education (ASE) learners; and in reading, listening and writing for English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) learners.
- **Enter Employment:** Participant self-identifies as “unemployed, available” at entry into the program and has a goal to improve skills in order to get a paid, unsubsidized job.
- **Retain/Improve Employment:** Participant self-identifies as “employed” at entry into the program and has a goal to upgrade skills in order to keep or advance in a paid, unsubsidized job.
- **Receive GED or Adult High School Diploma:** Participant self-identifies a goal to pass the General Educational Development (GED) battery of tests and receive the Kansas High School Diploma.
- **Placement in Post-secondary Education or Training:** Participant self-identifies a goal to enter a vocational training program or a community college or four-year college.

**Are these competencies relevant to our community model?**

Listed below is a suggested benchmark and action steps that have been developed by Alliance members for consideration:

**Discussion of Proposed Literacy Alliance Benchmark:** There was a brief discussion of the need for a measurable benchmark/s and action steps.

The following draft benchmark and action steps were discussed:

***Draft Benchmark:*** *To establish a collaborative structure that serves (an unduplicated count) 16,000 of 40,000 citizens needing basic adult education within the Wichita MSA by 2018.*

[The following items and terms will need to be more clearly defined: a) participation; b) establishment of baseline data; c) improvement rate; and d) a common data gathering system.]

**Draft Action Step - Funding:** *To increase funding for literacy services within the Wichita MSA by 2009.*

**Draft Action Step - Model:** *To develop a collaborative Literacy Model for the Wichita MSA with an employee to coordinate services.*

**Draft Action Step – Marketing:** *10% of population within the MSA will participate in literacy services by 2018.*

It was agreed that measureable benchmarks would need to be developed during future meetings.

**ACTION STEPS:**

- **Leadership Team Meetings:** When is the best time for the Leadership Team to meet? Please forward your comments to me and I will compile a list of 'best times.'
- **Benchmarks:** It was suggested at our last Alliance meeting [May 15<sup>th</sup>] that representatives from each organization should submit a suggested benchmark/s for the Alliance.
- If someone has other outcomes/competencies from KBOR that might be appropriate for our Alliance, please forward to me.

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After hearing from everyone, a Leadership Team meeting will be scheduled. Diane will notify everyone of the date/time.

There will be no Alliance meeting until the Leadership Team has met.