

Oklahoma State Action Plan

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Vision: All children will have the opportunity for quality and inclusive early care and education.

Goal 1: All early childhood professionals will have the knowledge, skills and dispositions to serve all young children, including those with diverse abilities.

Priority #1: Develop a process to continue the work of Oklahoma Natural Allies

Action Steps:

- 1) Schedule next SRPT meeting
- 2) Determine if additional stakeholders should be included in SRPT
- 3) Present and obtain input and consensus from SRPT on vision, goals and action steps
- 4) Ask that all representatives share the plan with their larger constituencies

Human Resources:

Natural Allies steering committee and travel team

Time Line:

Spring 2003

Resources Needed/Available

Natural Allies grant

Priority #2: Develop shared training experiences between all entities that work for young children

Action Steps:

- 1) A comprehensive partnership conference where each entity provides an issue track (Sooner Start, community mobilization, tribal, collaborations, challenging behaviors) with inclusion woven throughout
- 2) Develop an inclusive training calendar through a common web site with links
- 3) Develop reciprocal and shared training at state and local level
- 4) Recruit and support educators from all entities to provide shared training
- 5) Seek buy-in from all entities for acceptance and utilization of common core competencies
- 6) Create a resource library on inclusion to share at training events
- 7) Convene the articulation workgroup to address coursework articulation
- 8) Explore guidelines and incentives for paraprofessionals

Human Resources:

CECPD: Center for Early Childhood Professional Development

Time Line:

Step 1- Fall 2003

Steps 2-8: Spring 2003

Resources Needed/Available

Fiscal and staff resources from each of the partners with clear expectations of roles/ contributions

Goal 2: Ensure that all early childhood (Birth-8 yrs.) associate degree coursework and practica prepares early care and education professionals to nurture, promote the development and meet the needs of all children

Priority #3: Infuse, extend and develop stand-alone content throughout all child development, early care and early childhood associate degree coursework and practica

Action Steps:

- 1) Identify specific content that will support, nurture, promote development and need the needs of all children
- 2) Faculty will infuse identified content in course syllabi, learning experiences, assignments and practica
- 3) Course syllabi, learning assignments and practica will include identified content

Resources needed:

- Associate degree faculty, Oklahoma ACCESS members, Oklahoma Career Tech occupational faculty
- Natural Allies “Methods and Materials” Section 1 and 2: “College Instructors Guide” (p. 67) and “Reforming personnel preparation in early intervention” (FPG web site)

Time Line:

Jan. 2003: Natural Allies faculty team will present at OK ACCESS meeting
March 2003: Faculty will identify content at OK community college meeting
Fall 2003: Step 2

Evaluation

Will occur before and after associate degree courses syllabi, assignments and practica experiences

Goal 2

Priority #4: Associate degree faculty and early care and education professionals will become competent and comfortable in serving “all” children and families

Action Steps:

Associate degree faculty will participate in ongoing professional development programs that promote knowledge and skill development

Resources Needed/ Available:

Natural Allies, NAEYC, ACCESS, Oklahoma ACCESS, Oklahoma Friends of Early Education

Evaluation criteria:

Faculty attendance, participation, attitude change, skill development and increased comfort level

Priority #5: Use a range of learning experiences and strategies that infuse the real-life experiences of families into associate degree coursework and practica.

Action Steps:

Associate degree faculty will work with the Oklahoma Family Network to include a continuum of family participation options in coursework and practica

Human Resources:

- 1) Associate degree faculty
- 2) OK Family Network
- 3) Families
- 4) OK Career Tech occupational faculty

Time Line:

By March 31, 2003: OK Family Network will develop materials
By June 30, 2003: Will train the trainers
By July 1, 2003: Will began training of family members
By Fall, 2003: Associate degree faculty will infuse family participation in coursework and practica

Resources Needed:

- 1) Natural Allies
- 2) Family Voices newsletter
- 3) OPEN
- 4) OK Parent Network
- 5) CLL
- 6) Sooner Start
- 7) Oklahoma Areawide Services Information System (OASIS)
- 8) NAMI

Evaluation

Pre-Post surveys on attitudes and knowledge

Goal 2

Priority #6: Associate degree faculty will remain current and knowledgeable of legislation and professional development collaborations that impact children, families and early care and education professionals

Action Steps:

- 1) Associate degree faculty will be added to the OK Division of Child Care STAR mailing updates and OK Family Network Resources
- 2) Associate degree faculty will be consulted and included in the scholar-mentor program

Resources needed:

Oklahoma Division of Child Care