

Elizabeth Gaines, Policy Director,
Forum for Youth Investment and
Children's Cabinet Network

FLORIDA CHILDREN AND YOUTH CABINET 2011 ORIENTATION



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About the Forum for Youth Investment

- Nonprofit, nonpartisan “action tank” dedicated to ensuring all young people are ready for college, work and life.
- The policy department advances this mission by helping federal, state and local policymakers align fragmented policies into a cohesive set of supports.

– Signature initiative is Ready by 21



– Manages the Children's Cabinet Network



CHILDREN'S CABINET NETWORK
Managed by the Forum for Youth Investment



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What the Network Offers

- Best Practices
- Peer Learning
- Technical Support
- Coaching & Tools



...to bring efficiency and effectiveness to state efforts to improve child and youth outcomes.



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Children's Cabinet Network Recent Activities

- Released the preliminary results of the State Child and Youth Policy Coordination Survey
- Announced the Ready by 21 Policymaker Awards
- Held the Annual Children's Cabinet Symposium



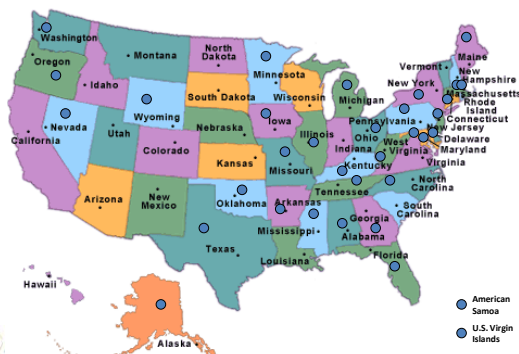
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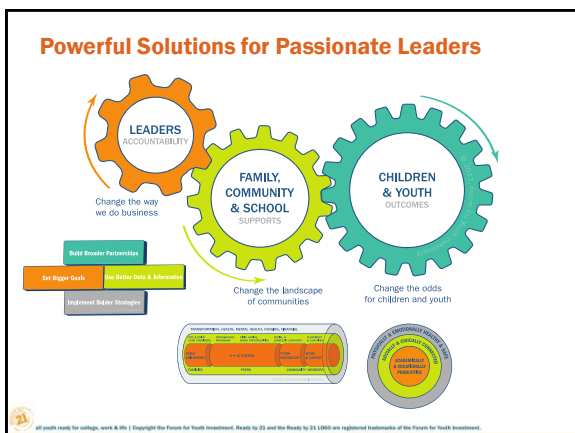
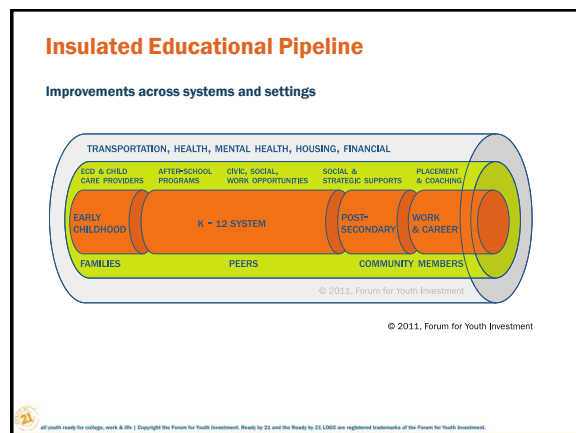
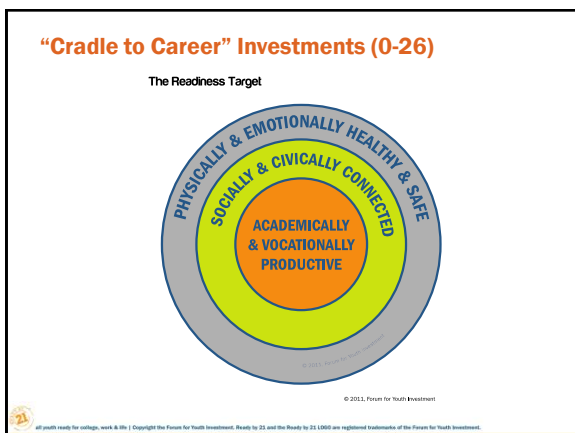
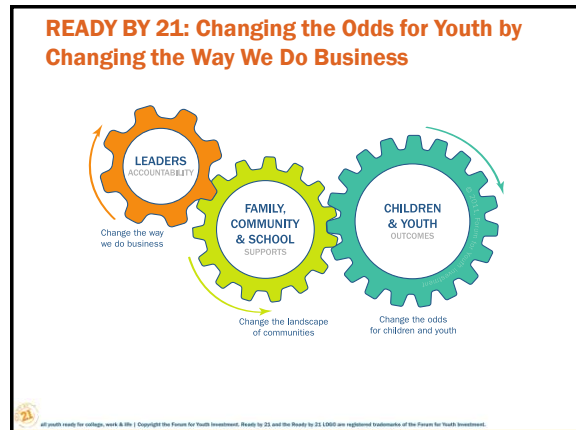
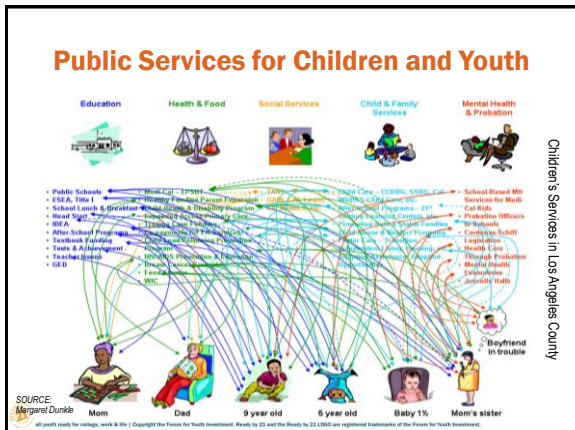
Florida Children and Youth Cabinet



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1st Biennial Coordinating Bodies Survey





Project Overview and Methodology

KEEP THE CONNECTIONS

12

Selected States

Keep the Connections had 6 selected states:

- Florida
- Georgia
- Iowa
- Ohio
- Tennessee
- Maine



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Standards of Excellence

- **Coordinating Body Structure:**
 - Organizational Home
 - Membership
 - Meetings and Attendance
 - Authority
 - Human Resources
 - Financial Resources
 - Local Connections
- **Bigger Goals:**
 - Goals, Outcomes, or Results
 - Common Language and Definitions
- **Broader Partnerships:**
 - External Stakeholder Buy-In
 - Internal Stakeholder Buy-In
 - Connections
- **Better Data:**
 - Data Purpose
 - Data Use
 - Data Connections
 - Data Improvement
- **Bolder Strategies:**
 - Scope of Mission
 - Quality Improvement
 - Policy and Resources Alignment
 - Family and Youth Engagement
 - Public Messaging



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Information Gathering

- Self-Assessment
- Online Survey of Internal Stakeholders
 - Current Members of the Cabinet
 - Additional Internal Stakeholders
- Interviews of Key External Stakeholders



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Key Accomplishments Identified

- Developed a Strategic Plan
- Established partnership with Children's Summit Workgroup
 - Child Screening Report
 - State of Florida's Child Report
- Data Sharing Initiative (CYCISS)
- Florida Children's Budget
- Headline Indicator Project
- Children and Youth Services Information Sharing Committee
- State Early Childhood Advisory Council



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Structure
Goals
Partnerships
Data
Strategies

CABINET ANALYSIS KEY FINDINGS



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Summary of Findings

- **Structure:** structure is sound; minor tweaks that may be helpful in getting better leader participation and better local support. Dedicated, funded staff is needed.
- **Goals:** good progress made on indicators but need clarity and refinement of complete framework; mixing of apples and oranges
- **Partnerships:** Seems to be working well with various branches and advocates together; opportunity for next administration to engage new stakeholders in working groups – youth, business, private funders and work with local children's cabinets.
- **Data:** Great progress made on data collection and use; opportunity to be the first Children's Cabinet in the country to begin with basic, point of service data use and then move to aggregate decision-making through integrated data.
- **Strategies:** focus on bold strategies that show impact in aligning policies and resources, improving the quality of programs and services and really raising the bar on the importance of children and youth in this next administration



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Strength: Committed People

“Important foundational work completed that is important to moving the children’s agenda. The transition to the new administration deserves careful thought and a committed effort to be sure the new cabinet can build on the accomplishments of the charter group.”

“Cabinet is at a critical juncture. Current Governor’s appointments have been fantastic regardless of party affiliation. We have come a long way in a short time...need to provide a continuum.”

Strength: Focusing on the right work together

- Many Children’s Cabinets get started on the wrong foot, they look for small projects they can tackle together and then never really find their allied power to change things for kids
- The Florida Cabinet set right to work on the tasks that require a collaborative body:
 - Defining the vision and mission for the state
 - Tracking a range of indicators
 - Building a data sharing system
 - Developing a children’s budget

Opportunity for Growth: Cabinet Member Engagement and Meeting Participation

- All of the right agencies are included in statute
 - Role of legislators in an ex-officio capacity strategic, judiciary role is important, the participation of agency heads is “sometimes woeful.”
- Strong encouragement from Governor can make the difference in participation of agencies
 - “New Governor must require agency heads to attend meetings and should make regular appearances himself.”
- Early orientation and education for incoming new members
 - “Need development of an orientation packet to bring new leaders of agencies up to speed”

Opportunity for Growth: Clarifying the Results Statements and Framework

- “The Cabinet lacks an organizing framework with clear goals, strategies, and plans for implementing change. The work done on indicators is a good foundation, but needs a framework to weave together strategies for effectuating comprehensive change.”
- “Does not seem to include the aspects of youth, much of the discussion and focus is on the young child....agencies that interact with youth seem to participate less because of this emphasis...”

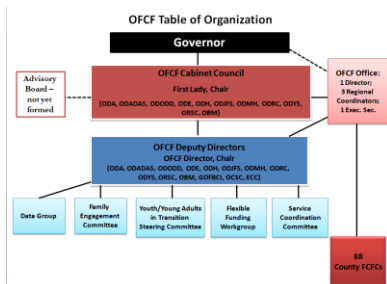
Dashboard of Results by Ages

		Pre-K 0-5	School-Age 6-10	Middle School 11-14	High School 15-18	Young Adults 19-21+
Ready for College	LEARNING	Children Are Ready for School	Children/Youth Succeeded in School	Children/Youth Succeeded in School	Children/Youth Succeeded in School	Young Adults are Ready for College or Work
	WORKING	Children Have Parents Who Are Securely Employed	Children Have Parents Who Are Securely Employed	Youth Learn About Careers	Youth Gain Experience in a Career Setting	Young Adults are Ready for College or Work
Ready for Life	THRIVING	Infants and Young Children Are Healthy and Safe	Children Develop and Maintain Good Health Practices	Youth/Young Adults Make Healthy Choices	Youth/Young Adults Make Healthy Choices	Youth/Young Adults Make Healthy Choices
	CONNECTING	Children Have Nurturing, Stable Relationships with Parents	Children Have Positive Relationships with Peers and Adults Children Help with Family Tasks	Youth Have Relationships with Peers and Adults	Youth Have Relationships with Peers and Adults	Young Adults Are Prepared for Parenthood and Community
	LEADING	Families Engage With Their Communities	Children Practice Group Membership	Youth/Young Adults Contribute to Their Community	Youth/Young Adults Contribute to Their Community	Youth/Young Adults Contribute to Their Community

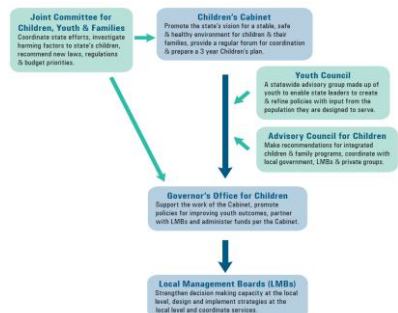
Opportunity for Growth: Building on and connecting to local coordination efforts

- Five counties already have children’s cabinets in place.
- Build a more formal connection with these counties and others to share the results framework, do joint training, utilize the data system, build public will at the local level, receive input on regional needs.
- Can be done formally in legislation or informally with counties that are trying to do cross agency coordination.

Ohio Family and Children First



Maryland's Youth Policy Structure



Survey and Interview Results

GREATEST BARRIERS TO SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION

What are the greatest barriers to your Children and Youth Cabinet in successfully transitioning its current efforts and priorities to the next Administration? [Please check all that apply]

