

## Thrive in 05

The *Thrive in 05* Steering Committee, the umbrella for Thrive in 05, Children and Families, has begun a strategic planning process and has developed the mission, core focus areas and governance structure.

Mission: “Thrive in 05” is committed to enhancing economic and social assets and activities that achieve measurable results in the 85705 zip code via:

- Advocacy
- Empowerment
- Sustainability
- Community self-reliance
- Diversity and cultural competency

Core focus areas:

- Health, mental and physical
- Infrastructure improvements
- Employment/Business
- Education and resource development
- Community engagement
- Children and families
- Safety and security

The governance model is a community coalition model, “... a group of individuals representing diverse organizations, factions, or constituencies within the community who agree to work together to achieve a common goal.” (Butterfoss & Kegler, 2002)

The next steps for the umbrella organization are to create a service agreement with Community Possibilities, LLC. for project management, communications planning and implementation, and to act as the fiscal agent. Community Possibilities has been working with this Steering Committee for several months and has experience in the community and the community coalition model through their involvement in the Meth Free Alliance. They will now begin marketing and fundraising in order to provide the infrastructure of the organization and to begin initial projects (a youth employment program that pays 85705 youth to assist with neighborhood wide projects starting with graffiti abatement, the establishment of an 85705 location for a Food Bank grocery store, and efforts to keep Jacobs Park pool open).

How does the Thrive in 05, Children and Families fit into the structure of the Thrive in 05? We are one of the core focus areas of Thrive in 05. We are well advanced of the other core focus areas in our own strategic planning and efforts.

Our Thrive in 05, Children and Families activities in 85705 and the Walter Douglas attendance area will continue. Other grants will be written as opportunities present. We will continue to keep you informed of progress and opportunities and will let you know when we reconvene in September, and are eager to hear from you if you have input about specific directions or next steps.

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