

## Form Three: Network Strategy and Work Proposal

Due: October 31, 2007

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Network Name: South King County Community Network

This report is an update to the Network's strategic plan for reducing locally prioritized problem behaviors and will be the basis for the Network's Statement of Work for 2007-2009. The information will provide the Network, its partners, and the Family Policy Council a framework for action and evaluation.

### 1. What is our plan to do better?

The longer SKCCN has been immersed in understanding the impact of domestic violence (DV) on children, the more aware we have become about the complexity of the problem. We made several shifts in our thinking:

1. SKCCN, through training on **Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)** research, now recognizes that if a child is exposed to one kind of ACE, they are very likely to be exposed to more. SKCCN is working on strategies to not only create awareness in the community about the long term impact of ACES on children, but also to catalyze the community to take action to help guard against ACEs and to help families to thrive, even when they have faced trauma.
2. We began to recognize the implications that children exposed to DV have a wide array of reactions and needs. While certainly exposure to DV is likely to have some impact on every child, whether during childhood or later in life, not all children require intensive mental health treatment to recover. In fact, In one study "on average approximately 35-45% of children studied received scores in the clinical range on standardized measure of psychopathology ...Conversely this means that approximately 55-65% do not appear to be severely affected by such violence, at least at the time of evaluation." (DV in the Lives of Children: The Future of Search, Intervention and Social Policy edited by Sandra Graham-Bermann and Jeffrey L. Edleson, , American Psychological Association, 2001, page 67). Therefore, a **much larger continuum of supports** is appropriate for children from informal social supports to very intensive professional treatment.

3. **3. Research on resiliency** suggests that all children's futures are greatly enhanced by facilitating the child's relationships with the effective parent or other significant adult. ("Tapping Innate Resilience in Children", NCJFCI, *Synergy*, Volume 7, No. 2, Summer 2003). Focusing some of SKCCN resources on better understanding the possible benefits from resiliency will open the door to assisting far more children. In fact, focusing on resiliency can have many added benefits, such as of providing possible community responses to other adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). Furthermore, it allows SKCCN to begin to focus on helping children and parents to thrive, rather than just focus on risk factors.
4. SKCCN has learned a lot about **batterers as parents**. Until recently there was an implied belief that once DV was identified and dealt with, the batterer would disappear. Thanks to input from survivors and intense training and consultation from international expert, Dr. Katreena Scott, of Ontario, Canada, SKCCN learned that , on average in the Caring Dads program in Ontario, Canada, batterers reported they continued to be involved in the lives of seven children each. SKCCN has learned that there are no specialized parenting classes for batterers. State Washington Administrative Code (WAC 388-60-0245, (5) requires that batterers intervention providers must "educate" any batterers who are parents about the impact of their violence on their children. Sara Clements-Sampson, a policy intern from the University of Washington – Bothell, did her Capstone Project through SKCCN and learned that there is no consistency in how providers implement the law. No specific curriculum is required, and no measurement of the effectiveness of the program is required. SKCCN will work to establish conversation between parent educators and batterer intervention providers to explore ways to cross train and move toward finding how the community can offer effective programs in which batterers who authentically want to learn how to develop nurturing relationships with their children can receive help, while also continuing to be held accountable for their violence.
5. Finally, SKCCN has learned that there is a strong concern across the community about the **effectiveness of batterers intervention programs**. In order to engage the community in improving such programs impact on children, SKCCN has invested in training a core team of staff, board and community provider in the safety and accountability audit process. The safety and accountability audit is a method of assessment and analysis for exploring institutional responses to domestic violence: how workers within agencies and systems are organized and coordinated to think and act on cases. This approach has been developed by Praxis International, an Office on Violence Against Women-designated technical assistance provider. More information is available at [www.praxisinternational.org](http://www.praxisinternational.org) or by phone at 651-699-8000. This type of audit examines *institutional* responses related to domestic violence. It is not an evaluation or performance review of individual employees in particular agencies. Courts, victim service providers and batterer intervention providers face many challenges to ensure safety for victims and accountability for perpetrators of domestic violence. When children are also exposed, there are even greater challenges. State batterer intervention regulations are intended to help protect victims and hold

batterers accountable. They call for educating batterers who are parents about the impact of their violence on their children. An audit would help our community understand how the system is going in our community. SKCCN is recommending that a community partnership be formed in South King County to conduct a safety and accountability audit to explore the following question:

*How do batterer intervention programs address batterers' violence and its impact on their children?*

We expect the above five new levels of understanding to catapult SKCCN into a whole new level of engaging the South King County Community Network in responding more appropriately to children who have been exposed to DV.

- **Network Theory of Change and Draft Work Plan for 2007-2009 (For more information, see Resource folder on the Biennial Reports CD)**

As part of Network reporting last biennium, Networks drafted a theory of change diagram. Please review the diagram submitted previously (or create it for the first time) and update or include additional information based on current learning and how the Network's overall strategy is evolving. A complete theory of change will describe core information about: resources, strategies, activities, near-, intermediate-, and long-term outcomes, indicators and partners<sup>1</sup>.

*Our Network's theory of change has been revised as follows: (insert or attach additional documentation)*

Children exposed to adverse childhood experiences, such as domestic violence, are at much higher risk of becoming the next generation of abusers and/or victims. Yet, many of these children go on to lead healthy lives. Research tells us that by taking a strength-based approach, both adult and child victims can be helped to build resilience and, thereby, create protective factors that break the cycle of abuse. Children's futures are greatly enhanced by facilitating their relationships with other significant people in their lives. Uncovering children's specific needs will help improve the community responses.

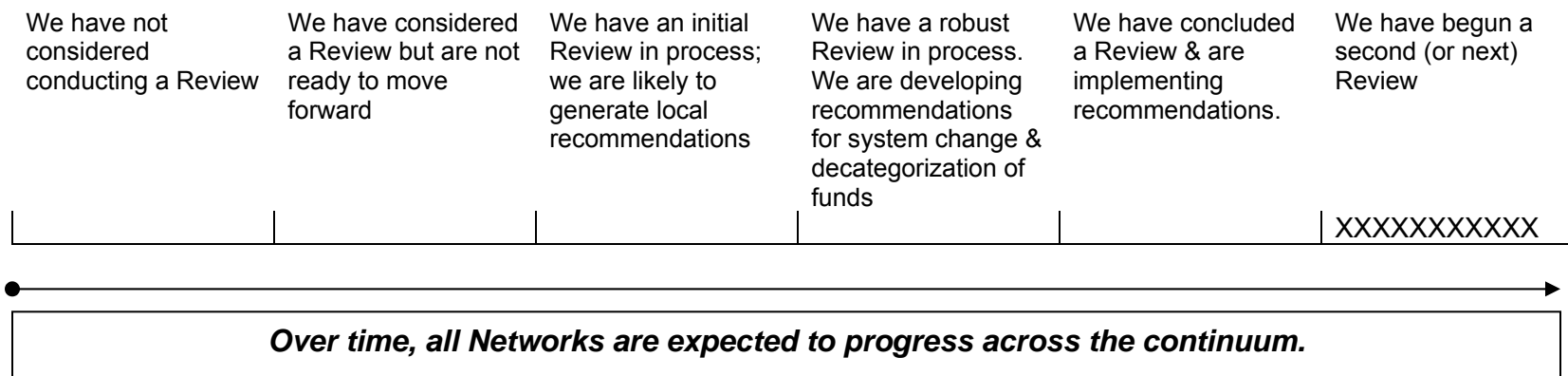
Adopted 9/12/07 by SKCCN Board

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<sup>1</sup> Please refer to resource section of the Transition to 2007-2009 Biennium packet for more information on logic models and theory of change.

- **Review of Community Efforts**

Based on what we have learned to date about local conditions, community capacity, and Network leadership, where would we locate our Network across the Review continuum?



Note: While SKCCN has begun a second Review process in Tukwila, it is continuing its work with Federal Way. SKCCN has found that the Review process is a long term partnership with a community to improve its responses to children exposed to domestic violence.

- *How will our Network move forward with Review of Community Efforts?*

SKCCN will take several steps over the next two years:

1. Complete the Tukwila initial review process
2. Review decategorization options  
Both Federal Way and Tukwila teams need time to better analyze options for decategorization. It may serve SKCCN purposes better to invite both cities to examine this issue since victim services are primarily either county, state or federally funded.
3. Continue work with Federal Way  
It is time to evaluate the outcomes from their recent efforts, including the impact of the new ordinances. Furthermore, there is an outstanding commitment to work with Federal Way Schools to demonstrate a community-based team approach to improving responses to children exposed to DV. Finally, the community Call to Action

campaign needs to be evaluated and expanded on if initial efforts have been successful.

4. Expand Review process to more cities

Other South King County cities, and others from outside SKCCN boundaries thanks to publicity surrounding the Association of Washington Cities award, are expressing interest in a Review process of their own. SKCCN has worked closely with seven city DV task forces to develop collaborative relationships and regional activities (e.g. now annual Walk-a-thon to raise funds for children's services). SKCCN will study the feasibility of broadening the Review process to run through the Collaborative so that more cities can take advantage in the near future.

5. Test the Safety & Accountability Audit model as a tool for future Reviews.

SKCCN has become aware of, and has sent a team of three to be trained in, the Safety and Accountability Audit process. This audit is a method of assessment and analysis for exploring institutional responses to domestic violence: how workers within agencies and systems are organized and coordinated to think and act on cases. This approach has been developed by Praxis International, an Office on Violence Against Women-designated technical assistance provider. More information is available at [www.praxisinternational.org](http://www.praxisinternational.org). This type of audit examines *institutional* responses related to domestic violence. It is not an evaluation or performance review of individual employees in particular agencies. Courts, victim service providers and batterer intervention providers face many challenges to ensure safety for victims and accountability for perpetrators of domestic violence. When children are also exposed, there are even greater challenges. State batterer intervention regulations are intended to help protect victims and hold batterers accountable. They call for educating batterers who are parents about the impact of their violence on their children. An audit would help our community understand how the system is going in our community. The South King County Community Network is recommending that a community partnership be formed in South King County to conduct a safety and accountability audit to explore the following question:

*How do batterer intervention programs address batterers' violence and its impact on their children?*

SKCCN is hopeful that this kind of audit will prove to be a valuable tool in conducting future Reviews of Community Efforts on a variety of topics.

1. **What strategic actions will our Network undertake in the next two years?**

SKCCN will continue its multi-pronged approach of

- A. Collaborative partnerships
- B. Training targeted audiences
- C. Review of Community Efforts
- D. Safety & accountability
- E. SKCCN Board Development
- F. Training for professionals

2. **How will we measure the results we hope for?**

**Indicators 1a and 2:** survey of collaborative partners

**Indicator 1b:** pre and post surveys of PTA parents who are trained, of youth trained in dating violence and of health care providers;

Walk through of health care offices to conduct an environmental scan for approachability by victims

**Indicator 1c:** survey of partners and review of written policy and procedures changes

**Indicator 1d:** survey of partners and providers and focus groups of survivors whose perpetrators have been in batterer intervention programs.

**Indicator: 1e:** survey of SKCCN Board

**Indicator 1f:** training evaluation surveys

## Draft Work Plan for 2007 - 2009

<b>1. Child/ Family Outcomes<sup>2</sup></b> A. Increase child safety B. Increase parenting skills for offending and non-offending parents C. Strengthen families by increasing their resiliency D. Reduce perpetration of DV			
<b>2. Community Outcomes<sup>3</sup></b> A. Improve community and system response to children exposed to DV and other adverse childhood experiences			
We will do what core strategy or action...	To produce what change for whom?	We will assess change with which indicators <sup>4</sup> ?	In order to achieve what longer term change <sup>5</sup> ?
1a. collaborative partnerships	To create a workable system of community responses to children exposed to DV so that more children can get the level of support they need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increased alignment of vision &amp; goals</li> <li>● Improved communication among agencies and systems</li> <li>● Improved trust among partners</li> <li>● Decreased duplication of efforts</li> <li>● Increased protective factors</li> <li>● Increased understanding of roles and appropriate actions to take</li> <li>● Increased recognition of safety and resiliency/protective factors</li> </ul>	CF Outcomes: A -D, Community Outcome A
1b. Training targeted audiences	Educate parents about family violence through the PTAs in Tukwila School District so that they will be able to recognize DV and know what actions	Increase parents knowledge about DV, how exposure to DV impacts children and the skills to safely support vulnerable parents.	CF outcomes A & D Community outcome A.

<sup>2</sup> Means a measurable change in the knowledge, skills, attitude, behavior or status of a child or family that can be expected to occur within one (1) to two (2) years, and with sufficient scale and duration, may be logically related to long-term results.

<sup>3</sup> Means a change in the skills, practice, awareness, and/or response to human needs on the part of service providers, policy and other decision makers, systems, organizations, and communities that can be expected to occur within one (1) to two (2) years, and with sufficient scale and duration, is expected to lead to long-term results in the lives of children and families.

<sup>4</sup> means observable data expressed as a precise statement of a result (outcome) or learning

<sup>5</sup> means a measurable change in the knowledge, skills, attitude, behavior or status of a child or family that can be expected to occur within two (2) to ten (10) years.

	<p>to take if they suspect DV.</p> <p>Train youth about healthy relationships so they can avoid being in abusive dating relationships</p> <p>Train health care providers about ACEs with a focus on exposure to DV so they create a healthcare system that is friendly to victims</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth will recognize healthy and unhealthy relationships and will increase support for healthy relationships</li> <li>• Increase healthcare providers knowledge about how childhood exposure to violence affects patients and increase their skills in identifying and responding to family violence among their own patients.</li> <li>• Increase friendly environments that invite disclosure of DV</li> </ul>	
1c. Review of Community Efforts	To help cities determine how they can improve their response to children exposed to DV.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase knowledge about the impact of child exposure to violence</li> <li>• Improved skills in identifying and responding to family violence</li> <li>• Changes in policies &amp; procedures to protect child safety</li> </ul>	Child & family outcomes A-D and Community outcome A
1d. Safety & accountability audit	To determine how batterer intervention providers are educating batterers about the impact of their violent behavior on their children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve knowledge among DV systems about batterer intervention programs (BIP)</li> <li>• Improved quality of BIPs education about impact on children</li> <li>• Improve availability of specialized parenting programs for batterers.</li> </ul>	CF outcomes A, B, & D Community outcome A
1e.. SKCCN Board Development	So they can make informed decisions about strategies and outcomes to reduce and prevent negative impacts of DV on children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• understand processes for policy development, Review of Community Efforts, local service needs</li> <li>• Increased knowledge about DV</li> <li>• Understand open public meetings and records requirements</li> </ul>	CF 1A-D Community outcomes 1A-D and Community Outcome 2

1f. Training for professionals	Provide staffing support for the annual Children's DV conference so providers will learn and apply evidence-based practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increased knowledge of ideas they can apply to their own practice</li> <li>● Increased understanding of barriers for victims services</li> <li>● Increased connections with other providers</li> </ul>	CF outcomes 1A, B, & C Comm Outcome A
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Name of Network Person Completing Form Three: Network Strategy and Work Proposal

Denese Bohanna and Dianne Heide (Name)

Network chair (or Chair's designee from the Board) Form Three: Network Strategy and Work Proposal

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Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Date Form Three: Network Strategy and Work Proposal was reviewed by Network Board in an open public meeting:

9/12/07

Date