

Partners for a Prosperous Athens-Clarke County
Education Subcommittee
Small Group Discussion Facilitator Notes
May 22, 2006

1. Bring yellow contact/data sheets to ALL meetings so newcomers can sign up!
2. Would like to hear a "Day in the Life" from people who deal with poverty in their lives on a daily basis. How do they make it? What are their concerns?
3. Make efforts to go to the communities to meet with people living poverty including kids.
4. How do we assess ourselves? How do we know if we are being successful?
5. How, who, and when do we identify children who are at risk?
6. How do we make home environments safe and nurturing?
7. What models are working nationally? Locally? How do we use these models?
8. Special needs children represent a huge need.
9. How do we get more diversity in our process?
10. How has funding cuts effected social services?
11. What vocational and other educational opportunities are available for the non-college bound student?
12. How do we learn from those who have a greater understanding of the poverty issues?
13. How do we maximize the web-site?

Follow-up from May 22 Meeting

1. What else do we need to do?

- Get a clearer picture as to the root causes of poverty and how is education involved in addressing these root causes.
- Strategically involve Oconee County in our discussion.
- Focus on Adult Literacy, ESL, and Family Literacy
- Explore Vocational options
- Get more service providers involved.
- Look at successful Clarke county schools and try to replicate their success
- Look at best practice models
- Focus on prisons, and other correctional areas.
- Visit Drew Charter School, Neighborhood Community Schools
- Look at Eastlake Foundation
- Workplace education
- Look at Community School models.
- Meet with parents where they live.
- Develop classes to teach relationship building
- Make schools inviting places for parents.
- Talk to unemployed.
- Explore alternative education options
- Stay focused and simple-discipline, rigorous study, responsibility, faith
- Look at alternative models-(i.e. Boys Hope, Boarding Schools,)
- Look at radical solutions
- Focus on modeling 2 parent families.