

Building a Sustainable Coalition

Some First Steps

- ❖ Identify team participation and engage membership
- ❖ Conduct community inventory of attitudes, assets, resources and challenges
- ❖ Articulate community development design and vision with regard to FASD. (What would you like it to look like in 10, 25, and 50 years?)
- ❖ Connect existing service systems and natural community helpers to create collaborative circles of family care
- ❖ Identify and leverage educational mandates that will provide immediate assistance and funding
- ❖ Identify potential sources for private (foundations) and public (government) funding that match your vision
- ❖ Begin increasing capacity (quality and quantity) of service systems by efficient and respected use of volunteers and mentors (natural helpers) and by implementing appropriate intervention strategies. Manual training handouts as a template but can adapt the specific strategies which include community traditions and practices
- ❖ Capitalize on your Early Childhood school and educational settings as non-stigmatic sources of shared community strength and services, wrapping them in the family resource collaborative circle of care model that identifies and provides family and child support from infant through school age opportunities. There is much evidence that suggests adults make the most rapid and sustainable behavioral change when it is proactively focused on bonding, development and advocacy with young children
- ❖ Train, facilitate and provide ongoing technical assistance throughout all services so that all community systems and structures are knowledgeable about the cognitive and behavioral manifestations of an F.A.S.D. Insure they receive consistent support in designing individual and family intervention plans
- ❖ Identify natural community helpers, mentors and volunteers
- ❖ Design procedural flow of your community's collaborative circle of care model, insuring all plans and approaches proceed from a comprehensive

family focused perspective. (See enclosed forms for example of how within our systems we identify supportive participants in a family's life while complying with laws of confidentiality