Economic Self Sufficiency: Preparing the Next Generation

The Housing Authority of the City of Greenville, SC
Brighter Futures Programs

Case Managing within a Family Plan

- 3 Family Services case managers with at least 4 years clinical assessment experience in Substance Abuse, Mental Health and/or Learning Disabilities. These counselors work with the adults within the home.

- 3 Youth Counselors with at least four years experience in educational intervention services. These counselors work with the children within the home.

- 1 Homeownership Counselor – This counselor works with participants of all ages with budgeting, credit counseling and eventually homeownership.
Brighter Futures Programs

Coordination of Services

- Family Counselor and Youth Counselor work together within the home. Each having their own primary focus of family members.

- Family Counselor is the lead counselor within the home.

- Youth Counselor brings family issues to the Family Counselor when intervention is needed with the parent.

- Family Counselor refers family to homeownership counselor when credit or budgeting assistance is needed or for preparation for homeownership.
Team Review

• All case management staff meets weekly.

• Each counselor presents no less than two of their current clients.

• Case manager’s presentation includes: strengths, goals, barriers, and their current self sufficiency rating.
Purpose of Team Review

• Formal venue for discussion of situations that other counselors may be able to assistance.

• Check and balance for counselor’s activities.

• Team analysis of overall progress of participant.

• Amendments will be made to IDP’s as needed.

• Reduced stress of counselor with team approach.
Self Sufficiency Rating

- Able-bodied adults are rated on 8 different dimensions to come up with the total rating (income, employment, education, social skills, motivation, support system, transportation and childcare.)

- Youth are rated on 7 different dimensions to come up with the total rating (grades, attendance, tardiness, behavior, social skills, support system and motivation)

- Each dimension is broken into six levels.

- The overall rating is the average that rates them from 1-self sufficient to 6-in crisis.
Role of a youth counselor

(Caseload consists of school age youth ages 5-18)

- Complete Assessment of child’s school and home life.
- Academic and Behavioral monitoring
- Intervention Services
- Role Model for Parent and Youth
- Referral Agent for Youth Needs
- Encourager for Youth and Parent
- Provide opportunities to expand youth’s experience
Brighter Futures Programs

Complete Assessment of Youth

Assessment is completed on two different levels:

- **General Assessment**
  - Family Members
  - Family Life and Home Environment
  - Health
  - School Assessment
  - Study Habits
  - After School Activities
  - Youth’s Plan for their Future

- **Risky Behavior (12-18 year olds with parental permission)**
  - Gangs
  - Alcohol and Drug Use
  - Sexual Activity
Brighter Futures Programs

Academic and Behavioral Monitoring

- Academic monitoring
  - Grades are checked no less than every nine weeks and more often with difficult subjects.
  - Classroom observation
- Behavioral monitoring
  - Behavioral reports are requested every nine weeks
- Makes themselves known to all teachers, guidance counselors and specialists working with the child.
- Assists parents in setting up meeting with school officials as needed.
- Attends all Individual Educational Plan (IEP) meetings with parent.
- Arranges intervention services as needed.
Brighter Futures Programs

Intervention Services

- Encourages medical exams annually and as needed.
- Encourages eye exams as needed.
- Mental Health Counseling
- Substance Abuse Counseling
- Teen Pregnancy/Prevention Counseling
- Individual Tutoring
- Speech Therapy
Role Model for Parent and Youth

• Encourages parental involvement in children’s education

• Models advocacy for child’s education for parent

• Models appropriate behaviors and encourages it in youth.
  – Social Interaction
  – Conflict Resolution
  – Decision Making Skills
  – Goal Setting
Brighter Futures Programs

Referral Agent for Youth Needs

- Encourage involvement in extra-curricular activities of choice (sports, cheerleading, music, clubs, fitness programs, etc.)

- Arranges for after school program.

- Arranges for employment preparation training.

- Assists with after school employment opportunities.
Encourager for Parent and Youth

• Encourages parental involvement in child’s education

• Assists the parent in taking a lead role in their child’s education.

• Encourages the children to strive to do their best in all areas.

• Keeps youth focused on future.
Provide opportunities to expand youth’s experience

- Field Trips scheduled on weekends, school breaks and summer vacation
- Group sessions on topics of interest
- Quiz Teams
- College Tours for older youth
- Fund Raising for trips and grade incentive programs
The Housing Authority of the City of Greenville, SC’s
Hope VI Youth Program

289 school age youth (5-18) –
Begin - 99% academic and/or behavioral issues/ 1% parental involvement

Now

45% - Performing at grade level – (C or better)
12% - Performing with A/B or all A grades
19 - Improved grades significantly (more than 1 grade point)
  2 - Significantly strides against the odds
     (Symphony, Sought out by Stanford)
14% - Parental Involvement
  5 - High school graduates
  1 – Attending College

Becky Clement
CSS Administrator
(864) 467-4200
BeckyC@tgha.net