

Healthy Start Redesign Process

Project Duration: April 2011 to March 2013

Update for the period April to June 2011

The goal of the redesign project is to increase delivery of effective, evidence-based services in order to better improve maternal and infant health outcomes for Florida's residents. The redesign process will utilize a Redesign Committee (Steering Committee) for oversight as well as diverse Subject Matter Experts, through committee structure, in a two-year process to:

1. Review and summarize the current literature and best practices nationwide that identifies effective pregnancy, preconception/interconception, and infant support service practices and theories (months 1 – 3)
2. Review and evaluate the Florida Healthy Start program components / support services to assess which are research-informed and evidence-based (months 3 – 6)
3. Develop a comprehensive plan for implementing redesign elements to assure program quality and fidelity (months 7 – 12)
4. Identify key effective program elements, processes, and quality indicators that must be monitored during implementation and maintenance (months 13 – 18)
5. Develop a modular evaluation of the redesign of the program that can be implemented in phased (months 19 – 21)
6. Propose the elements, process, and options for a coalition allocation methodology that promotes quality, fidelity, and productivity (months 22 – 24)

To date, the Redesign Committee (Steering Committee) and Subject Matter Experts have been recruited and work on items one and two have begun.

Redesign Committee (Steering Committee) membership is comprised of Florida Department of Health and Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions representatives for a total of 10 members with equal representation from the Association and Department. The committee will (1) communicate both process updates and content of the redesign effort with the Healthy Start stakeholders, (2) will review and comment on deliverables to ensure appropriateness and feasibility, and (3) will help facilitate the redesign effort as needed, including promoting the redesign process, resolving conflicts, and removing barriers. The Redesign Committee will be complemented with a work team of subject matter experts. Although the Redesign Committee is requested to review and approve all components of the redesign, the actual content and responsibility for the recommendations rest with the subject matter experts. Note: The Healthy Start redesign implementation will occur only after the final recommended redesign is reviewed and approved by the Department's senior leadership.

Subject Matter Experts are representatives from Florida Department of Health, Florida Healthy Start Coalitions, Florida Healthy Start providers, county health departments, consumers (as indicated), academia, and other state and federal programs. The membership may change to reflect the knowledge and skills required for each component from program development to funding methodology to evaluation. Subject matter experts will provide structured input and make the final recommendations to the Redesign Committee on all components of the redesign process to ensure the end result reflects the best available knowledge, is relevant to practice, and that information is complete.