

Child & Youth Agenda

London's Future:

Will Our Children and Youth Be Ready?

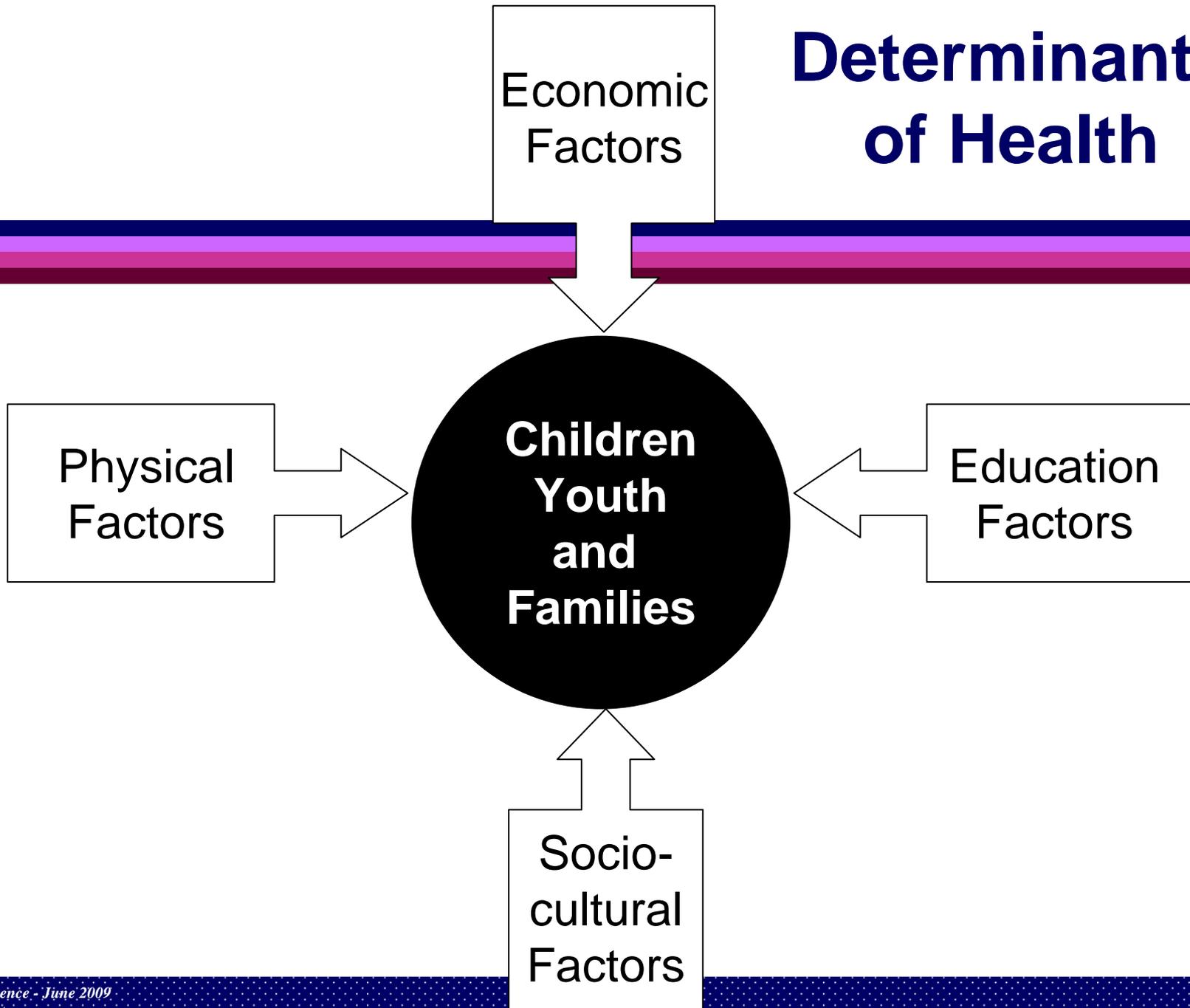


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Director, Family Health Services, Senior Nurse Leader
Middlesex-London Health Unit
June 18, 2009 - CHNAC Conference, Calgary Alberta

“Without leaps of
imagination or dreaming,
we lose the excitement
of possibilities”

Gloria Steinem

Determinants of Health



Determinants of Health - London Data

ECONOMIC

- 19% of families with children live below LICO (4 of 10 single parents)
- 40% food bank users are children and youth
- youth unemployment rate 14.5% (double adult rate, >province)
- average family income \$70,000

Determinants of Health - London Data

EDUCATION

- 27% of children in SK not ready for grade 1 (EDI)
- grade 3 students - 32%-42% below standards for math, writing and reading
- 17% of teens do not pass grade 10 literacy
- 77% of youth graduate from high school

Determinants of Health - London Data

SOCIO-CULTURAL

- London - 96,905 families
(5.8% increase since 2001)
- 78% of population growth between 2001-2006
were newcomers
- 9% of our population are visible minorities
- London is home to 6,000 aboriginal people
- Added 299 new child care spaces 2007/2008

Determinants of Health - London Data

SOCIO-CULTURAL CONT'D

- 1 in 12 children between 4 & 7 years old will witness physical violence in the home
- between 1995 and 2008 the number of children in the care of CAS almost doubled (445 to 870)
- one third of parents use optimal parenting approaches (2/3 do not)
- youth crime rate decreased by 50%
 - designated a Youth Friendly City

Determinants of Health - London Data

PHYSICAL

- 10% of babies born in London are less than 2300 gm
- 27% of families receiving the Parkyn Assessment scored over 9 on the tool
- 88% of mothers initiate breastfeeding in Middlesex
- 53% of women report breastfeeding less than six months (increase)
- 24% of parents agree that a baby solely breastfed for the first 6 months will receive the required nutrition

Determinants of Health - London Data

PHYSICAL CONT'D

- 80% of car seats are installed incorrectly
- 28% of London children are obese
- 90% of youth not active enough for optimal growth and development
- 16% of youth between the ages of 16 and 19 deal with depression (11% national)
- cost of alcohol and drug abuse in London is \$243 million/yr ... another \$220 million spent on social service

Vision

Happy, healthy children and youth today; caring, creative responsible adults tomorrow.

London's Child & Youth Agenda

4 Priorities

1. Poverty

2. Literacy

3. Obesity/Physical Activity

4. Creating a Family Centered System

Goals

- to reduce the proportion of London families who are living in poverty by 25% in five years and by 50% in 10 years
- to be a provincial leader in child, youth and family literacy by 2015
- to create environments, neighbourhoods and opportunities that promote and support daily physical activity and healthy eating for all children, youth and families
- to make it easier for London's children, youth and families to participate fully in their neighbourhoods and communities, and to find and receive the services they need

Principles

- be evidenced-based
- take a life cycle approach and address the needs of children, youth and families in all age groups and at key stages in their lives
- address the mental health, safety and access issues facing children, youth and families
- be concrete and have a positive impact
- build on existing initiatives and partnerships in our community

Poverty

Objectives:

- increase awareness
- engage communities
- reduce impact
- break the cycle

Literacy

Objectives:

- promote literacy to the whole community
- take a neighbourhood approach
- promote literacy before birth
- improve family literacy

*3 year plan...activities and timelines

Healthy Eating & Healthy Physical Activity

Objectives:

- raise awareness and engage community
- more active neighbourhoods
- increase access to healthy foods and physical activities

*3 year plan ... activities and timelines

Create a Family-Centered Service System

Objectives:

- increase awareness of available services
- engage community
- increase access
- implement “hubs”

*3 year plan...activities and timelines

Integration Model

Integrating Process



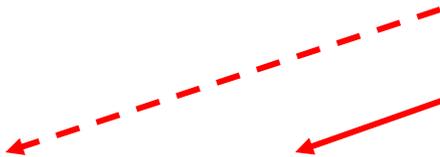
New or existing
Initiative/Issue
(individual, group)



Assessment
(all stakeholders)



Determine role of
various stakeholders



None

Awareness

Communication

Cooperation

Collaboration

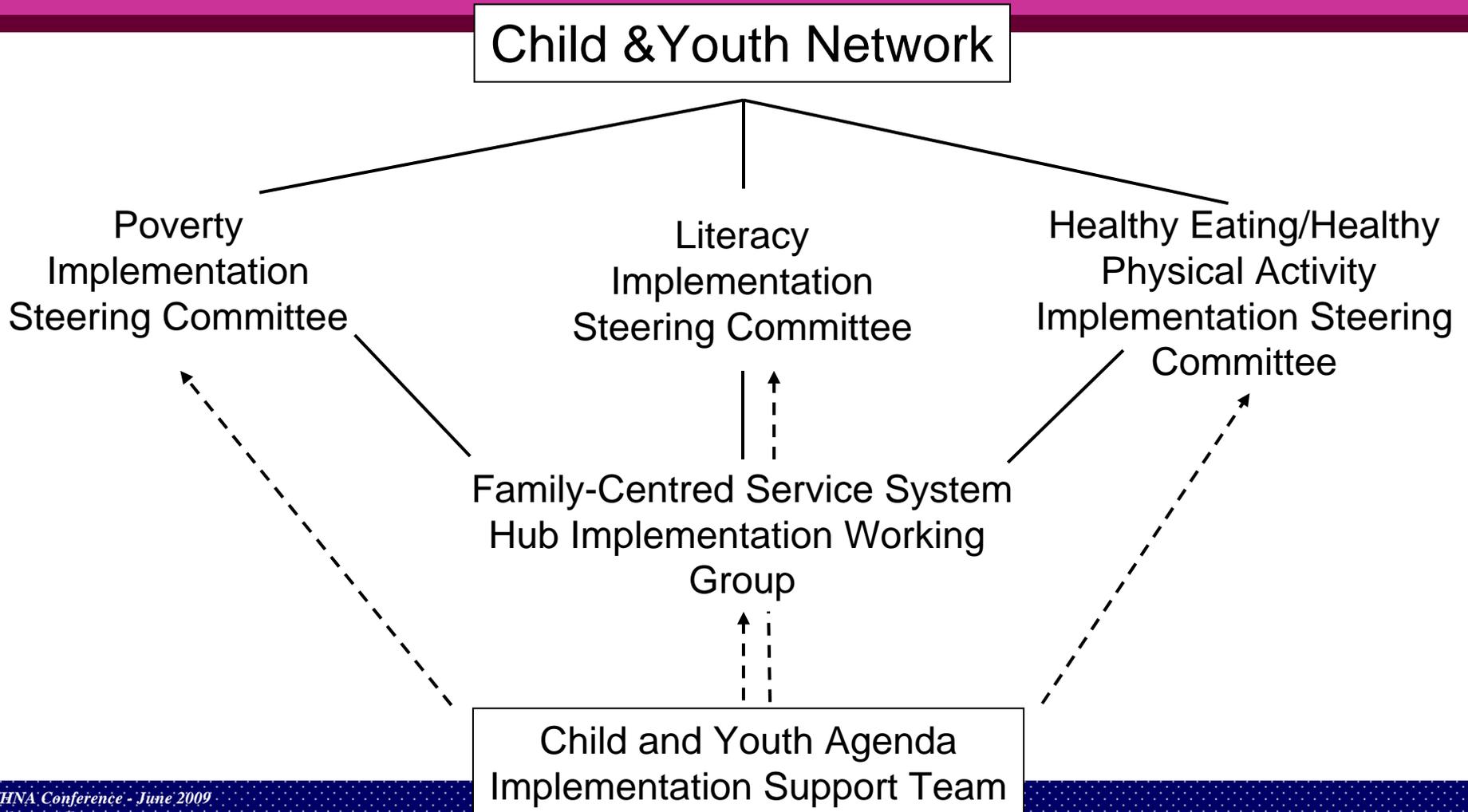
Communication
Plan

Planning & Evaluation Group

- service agreement
- joint planning and implementation
- evaluation



Child & Youth Agenda Proposed Implementation Structure



The Best for Our Children,

Youth and Families

The First Three Years
of London's Child and Youth Agenda to 2015



Child and Youth Network
Sept 2008

Ontario

Public Health Standards

London

Child & Youth Agenda

Child Health

Goal: To enable all children to attain and sustain their optimal health and developmental potential



- positive parenting, family dynamics, healthy eating, physical activity, growth and development, speech/hearing/vision, literacy, safety, social supports, alcohol and substance misuse,

Vision: Happy, healthy children and youth today; caring, creative responsible adults tomorrow.

Priorities:

- poverty
- literacy
- healthy eating/physical activity

Ontario

Public Health Standards

Reproductive Health

Chronic Disease

Vaccine Preventable
Diseases

Sexual Health

Injury Prevention &
Substance Misuse

London

Child & Youth Agenda

Vision: Happy, healthy children and youth today; caring, creative responsible adults tomorrow.

Priorities:

- poverty
- literacy
- healthy eating/physical activity

“Never lose an opportunity of urging a practical beginning, however small, for it is wonderful how often the mustard-seed germinates and roots itself”

Florence Nightingale, 1914

Child & Youth Agenda

Website

http://www.london.ca/d.aspx?s=/Child_Care/childand youthagenda.htm