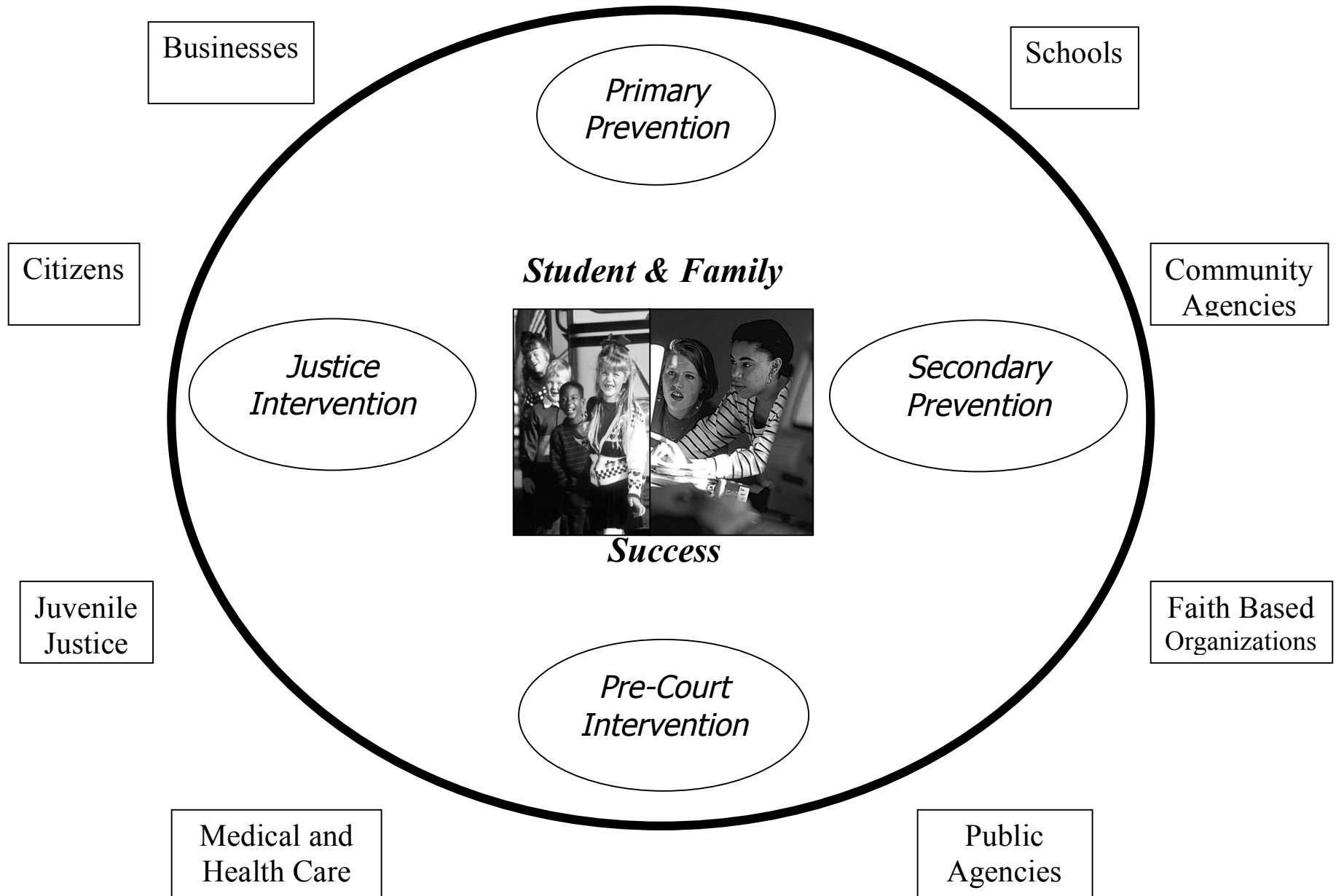


Making Attendance A Priority

Douglas/Sarpy Truancy Initiative



Making Attendance a Priority

Douglas/Sarpy Truancy Initiative

Purpose: *To support students and families in maintaining regular school attendance*

Steering Committee Membership

Schools	Community Agencies	Public Agencies	Justice
Steve Snodgrass (RPS) Laurie Cooley (PLV) Wes Galusha (OPS) Sue Evanich (Westside) Ann Luther (Consultant)	Joanna Lindberg (HFS) Julie Hefflinger (AOK) Regina Williams (B/G Club)	Kim Culp (JAC) Shawne Coonfare (JAC) Doug Kreifels (HHS)	Sandra Markley (SarpyCtyAtty) Capt. Popp/ S. Petersen (OPD) Nicole Goaley (DoCtyAtty) Rachel Warne (Probation) Judge Daniels (Douglas) Judge Gendler (Sarpy)

Steering Committee Objectives:

- Determine the current state of metro area programs that address the attendance / truancy issue.
- Determine the area(s) of focus to support students and families in school attendance.
- Determine key supporters/players to include in the community-wide effort to address attendance / truancy.
- Create and support the infrastructure of sub-committee work to determine potential strategies / programs to address attendance / truancy.
- Identify financial support for the program/strategies to address attendance / truancy.
- Champion the development and implementation of an action plan that provides the structure for successful support and intervention in attendance / truancy issues.
- Monitor and report progress to vested stakeholders within the metropolitan area.

Potential Sub-Committee Membership

Primary Prevention <i>Attendance Supports</i>	Secondary Prevention <i>Attendance Issues</i>	Pre-Court Intervention <i>Truancy Patterns</i>	Justice Intervention <i>Court Involvement</i>
Cross constituent membership to assist all committees in collaborative design and communication to supporting students/families in regular school attendance.	Cross constituent membership to assist all committees in collaborative design and communication to support students/families experiencing school attendance issues.	Cross constituent membership to assist all committees in collaborative design and communication to support students/families experiencing truancy patterns.	Cross constituent membership to assist all committees in collaborative design and communication to support students/families involved in the court system.

Potential Sub-Committee Objectives / Assigned Tasks

Primary Prevention <i>Attendance Supports</i>	Secondary Prevention <i>Attendance Issues</i>	Pre-Court Intervention <i>Truancy Patterns</i>	Justice Intervention <i>Court Involvement</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share/enhance school strategies that maintain a safe and engaging school climate for all students. • Share/develop best practices for engaging academically and socially struggling students. • Explore and bring forward processes to assist and support families in school access (i.e. homeless children) • Bring forward dollar requests for strategies that support regular school attendance for all students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share current school/agency strategies in place to support school attendance. • Identify current school-based programs in place to address school attendance issues. • Explore root causes and common themes of attendance issues. • Explore and bring forward a process to address issues impacting school attendance. • Bring forward dollar requests for strategies that address attendance issues facing some students/families. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share district and agency practices/policies/terminology/definitions regarding absences. • Develop a model for uniform reporting process. • Gather community list of family resources and determine access. • Develop strategies and programming options to work with students/families in diversion. • Bring forward dollar requests for strategies that impact student/family truancy patterns. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisit uniform report form and level of use. • Design / update school – court communication protocol. • Explore uniform procedures (i.e. time convenience of stakeholders, location of court session) • Develop strategies and programming options to work with students/families in the court system (i.e. LPS model) • Determine effective practices regarding truancy cases in the court system. • Bring forward dollar requests for strategies that support students/families involved in the court system.

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Activities To Support Students and Families in Maintaining Regular School Attendance

Agency/Organization			
Contact Name/Phone #			
<i>Category Definitions</i>			
<i>1. Primary Prevention – Attendance Supports</i> <i>2. Secondary Prevention – Attendance Issues</i>		<i>3. Pre-Court Intervention – Truancy Patterns</i> <i>4. Justice Intervention – Court Involvement</i>	
Programs/Strategies			
Activity Description	Category Definition	Target Population	
1. Program /Activity _____			
2. Program /Activity _____			
3. Program /Activity _____			

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Activities To Support Students and Families in Maintaining Regular School Attendance

<i>Category Definitions</i>		
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Programs/Strategies		
Activity Description	Category Definition	Target Population
Program /Activity _____		
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Program /Activity _____		