

COMMUNITY PLAN

# Monroe County Coalition for Children and Families, Inc.

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- Goal 1: Monroe County parents will have adequate resources to protect, nurture, educate and support their children - see link to Strong Families
- Goal 2: Monroe County children will be ready to succeed in school - see link to Ready for School
- Goal 3: Monroe County citizens will achieve and maintain good physical and mental health - see link to Healthy People
- Goal 4: Monroe County's children will live in permanent, stable homes - see link to Stable Homes
- Goal 5: Monroe Countains will be safe in their homes and community - see link to Safe Communities
- Goal 6: The FRN will meet all contractual requirements of its funder and be organized to respond to the needs of Monroe County.

Background: The Monroe County Coalition for Children and Families, Inc. (Family Resource Network) was one of the first five Family Resource Networks funded in West Virginia in 1992. Since 1992, working teams have planned and are providing much needed resources in our rural county in Southern West Virginia..

- Goal 1: Oversight of this goal is provided by the Service Delivery System Committee and FCOC team.
- Goal 2: Oversight of this goal is provided by TLC Early Childhood Collaborative and Community Baby Shower Committee.
- Goal 3: Oversight of this goal is provided by Monroe/Summers Counties Tobacco Prevention Coalition and Breast Cancer Awareness Committee.
- Goal 4: Oversight of this goal is provided by Volunteer Carpenter's Club, Ministerial Outreach and FRN.
- Goal 5: Oversight of this goal is provided by the STOP Domestic Violence team under the umbrella of the Family Refuge Center.
- Goal 6. Oversight of this goal is provided by the Family Resource Network Board of Directors.

# Strong Families

**Monroe County parents will have adequate skills and resources to protect, nurture, educate & support their children in a family-centered, family friendly atmosphere.**

- unmet needs of 100 Monroe County families a year will be identified and met.
- Service Delivery System Committee will coordinate with other agencies, individuals, civic groups to aid needy families
- Work on Service Array Capacity process to assure that "Families have an enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs"
- Educate the public about families with children with no cash income living in Monroe County, in West Virginia and the in the United States

The Service Delivery System Committee provides oversight of the FCOC flex fund. The FCOC flex fund is used to identify unmet needs of families in Monroe County and to coordinate a maximum of \$200 per year per family to pay for a service identified as an unmet need for the family. In 2008, this fund helped 106 families of which 30 had no cash income and 18 of the 30 families with no cash income had children. There is no safety net for low income and no income families in the current recession. The FRN works to help families by coordinating free clothing distributions, SHARE food co-op, free semi-truck loads, tax-aide and Christmas Giving.

# Ready for School

**Monroe County children will be ready to succeed in school.**

- Find children ages birth to five and invite parents to have children screened at annual "Kiddie Fair." Refer those with developmental delays and health problems to appropriate helping programs.
- Monroe County parents of babies up to age one will receive resources and parenting education to help them reach their maximum potential as a parent. This will provided at Community Baby Showers.

"Kiddie Fair" Every year in March or April, Monroe County has a "Kiddie Fair." Parents or custodians of children birth to five are invited to come and get their children screened at no charge. The Developmental Screening includes language, speech, health, vision and hearing. The screenings are held at the Linside United Methodist Church Community Center. Agencies that serve Monroe County are also invited to come and offer their services directly to families. It also gives the agencies time to visit with one another and educate themselves about services available. If you have a child ages birth to five or are an agency that would like to participate, please call Jeana Comer-Carr, Head Start Director at (304) 772-3284 to be a part of the yearly "Kiddie Fair" in Monroe County.

"Community Baby Showers" The Monroe County Coalition for Children and Families (Family

Resource Network) is awarded a grant from PIP-Partners In Prevention. Funding for the initiative comes from the West Virginia Children's Trust Fund, West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources and Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation. Monroe County holds Community Baby Showers with the funding. Some objectives of the project include (1) Parents will receive help with items a baby needs (2) Parents will be educated about the importance of the first few years of life in brain development. (3) Parents will learn the importance of bonding and interacting in a loving way with their baby. (4) Parents will be educated about nutrition needs of the baby and mom, child car seat safety, Dad's role in a child's life, child abuse and neglect and CPR (5) Parents will have an opportunity to connect with other parents and the community to talk and share concerns and stories about their babies. If you are expecting a baby or have a baby up to age one, call Shirley Hall at (304) 772-5960 to find out how you can be a part of our next Community Baby Show.

## Healthy People

**Monroe County citizens will achieve and maintain good physical and mental health.**

- Provide research based information on wellness to the public at least six times year.
- Continue monthly Monroe/Summers Counties Tobacco Prevention Coalition Meetings.
- Educate the public on breast cancer health issues
- Educate the public on CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program)
- Publish at least three Wellness Topics Newsletters a year

The Breast Cancer Awareness team and Monroe/Summers Counties Tobacco Prevention Coalition have teamed up together to combine meetings and efforts.

The Monroe/Summers Counties Tobacco Prevention Coalition provides oversight of a grant that enables this Coalition to publish at least three issues of Wellness Topics Newsletter that is inserted into the Monroe Watchman and Hinton News reaching a minimum of 5,000 households in both counties. We are dedicated to educating the public about the health risks of tobacco use. click [Tobacco Prevention Grant](#) Application 2007-2008.

The Breast Cancer Awareness Committee plans and coordinates a yearly Cancer Walk in Monroe County in October. Money raised from the walk provides screenings for women that have no insurance or are underinsured.

# Safe and Stable Communities

**Monroe Countians will be safe in their homes & community and will live in permanent, stable homes.**

- Continue STOP Domestic Violence team meetings in Monroe County.
- Educate the public and service providers on domestic violence, date rape, sexual assault, child abuse and other safety issues.
- Continue the "Volunteer Carpenter's Club" developed to help low income families with small home repair.