

P E R R Y C O U N T Y



2011 - 2012

Integrated Children's Services Plan

September 13, 2010

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2011-2012 ICSP Plan Cover Page (Appendix A)

COUNTY INFORMATION	
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SIGNATORIES

Program: Cumberland/Perry MH Director: Silvia Herman Signature: <i>Silvia Herman</i> Date: 8/1/10	Program: Holy Spirit Hospital Rep: Cynthia Howard Signature: <i>Cynthia Howard</i> Date: 08/18/2010
Program: CBHNP Rep: Megan Barton Signature: <i>Megan Barton</i> Date: 8-18-10	Program: Perry County Children & Youth Rep: Lori Lower Signature: <i>Lori Lower</i> Date: 8/18/10
Program: Cumberland/Perry EI Rep: Amy Reed Signature: <i>Amy Reed</i> Date: 8-31-10	Program: Perry County Family Center Rep: Shelley Dreyer-Aurila Signature: <i>Shelley Dreyer-Aurila</i> Date: 9/2/10
Program: Cumberland/Perry SCO Director Rep: Mark Evans Signature: <i>Mark Evans</i> Date: 8-18-10	Program: Susquenita School District Rep: Holly Sawyer Signature: <i>Holly Sawyer</i> Date: 8-31-10
Program: Diakon Rep: Desiree Prinz Signature: <i>Desiree Prinz</i> Date: 8/11/10	Program: West Perry School District Rep: Dorothy Andrews Signature: <i>Dorothy Andrews</i> Date: 8/31/10
Program: Perry Human Services Rep: Glenys Dilissio Signature: <i>Glenys Dilissio</i> Date: 8/31/10	Program: Parent Representative Rep: Sue Kissinger Signature: <i>Sue Kissinger</i> Date: 9/7/10
Program: Stevens Center Rep: Angie Burge Signature: <i>Angie Burge</i> Date: 8.30.10	Program: Cumberland/Perry Cross Systems Coordinator Rep: Erin Sanno Signature: <i>Erin Sanno</i> Date: 9/2/10

PERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

John J. Amsler, Commissioner	Signature: <i>John J. Amsler</i>	Date: 8/30/10
Brenda K. Benner, Commissioner	Signature: <i>Brenda K. Benner</i>	Date: 8/30/10
Stephen C. Naylor, Commissioner	Signature: <i>Stephen C. Naylor</i>	Date: 8/30/10

Cross-System Team Members (Appendix A)

Name	Organization
Silvia Herman	Cumberland/Perry MHMR Administrator
Megan Johnston	Cumberland/Perry CASSP/County Mental Health Program
Amy Reed	Cumberland/Perry Early Intervention Coordinator
Amy Swartz	Cumberland/Perry Early Intervention Supervisor
Becky Kichman	Cumberland/Perry Early Intervention Service Coordinator
Mark Evans	Cumberland/Perry MR SCO Director
Chris Sechrist	Cumberland/Perry MHMR & Cumberland Commissioners Office Coordinator
Erin Sanno	Cumberland/Perry County Cross Systems Coordinator
Megan Barton	CBHNP Clinical Care Manager
Desiree Prinz	Diakon Case Manager
Cynthia Howard	Holy Spirit Hospital Continuity of Care Coordinator
Lori Lower	Perry Children & Youth
Shelley Dreyer-Aurila	Perry County Family Center
Glenys Dilissio	Perry Human Services
Sue Kissinger	Parent Representative
Angie Burge	Stevens Center BSU Administrative Coordinator
Holly Sawyer	Susquenita School District Director of Special Education
Dorothy Andrews	West Perry School District Social Worker
Cindy Vriens	Parent Representative

Other Community Stakeholders involved in ICS planning:	
Perry Link	Perry County Family Center Parenting Classes
Perry Partnership	Truancy Taskforce
Independent Living Group	Youth Aid Panel
TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families)	Cumberland-Perry Youth Advisory Board
Accountability Works	Annual School Meeting
CASSP Advisory Board	YDC / Loysville Youth Development
CASSP Elementary Program	Family Group Conferencing
Managed Care	Cumberland-Perry Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition
Cyber Academy	SAP Teenline
Human Services Group	Teen Group
Elect Program for Teen Moms	Diversionsary Program
Judge Dan McGuire, MDJ	

I. Executive Summary:

Perry County is a rural class size seven county, located north of Harrisburg. It is largely agricultural with several small boroughs and villages scattered throughout the region. On May 20, 2009 the current Integrated Children's Service Plan workgroup (ICSP), consisting of 12 members, met for the first time to develop a foundation for the 2011-2012 ICSP Plan.

The ICSP workgroup took immediate action by addressing several key issues that severely impact the ability of families and children to function as a cohesive group within the community and schools. During our monthly meetings the topics of student truancy and dropout rates were a common part of our discussion and the group collectively agreed that the increasing number of student truancy and withdrawal rates are alarmingly high compared to other class seven Counties. The potential impact on the ability of students to have a successful future without a diploma or GED is questionable and the trickle down effect on the community is of great concern. Individuals that do not have a high school education are more likely to seek out state funded assistance and programs which, in turn, greatly impacts the community system. Our mission is to have a strength based, child and family-focused system in which families and schools are able to access supports that foster stability, safety and wellness within the family and the community. In keeping with our mission, the focus of our vision is to connect families and children to the appropriate services at the right time.

Since its inception of the Perry County ICSP workgroup has focused on:

- a no wrong door approach
- prevention and earlier intervention of services
- cross systems training and outreach, and
- incorporating the Child and Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP) Principles in the development of integrated approaches.

The team views CASSP as the cornerstone of integration efforts. CASSP has made several changes to provide earlier intervention and identification, as well as implementing a more integrated approach. The development of the CASSP comprehensive service plan clearly identifies the roles and responsibilities of schools, providers, and/or family members. The CASSP Coordinator has convened with middle and high school guidance counselors to rejuvenate the CASSP process and discuss the extensive beneficial changes that have occurred. All of the Perry County public elementary schools have a CASSP Elementary Base Worker who provides an early connection and support for families and children within the community. This program is guided by the CASSP principles and strives to work collaboratively with school staff. The Cross System Coordinator (CSC) role offers integration between Juvenile Probation and Children & Youth workers to provide further resources and assistance for families with Mental Health needs. The CSC

conducts weekly office visits with Juvenile Probation staff to brainstorm and discuss cases that are in need of resources, as well as participating in court hearings on an as needed basis. The CSC has also provided assistance by attending meetings at individual family homes and in school with JPO and CYS. Additionally, the CASSP coordinator and CSC attend monthly Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings. These meetings, facilitated by CYS, discuss cases that specifically relate to physical and sexual abuse that have been processed through Childline. The MDT team consists of CYS, Guardian ad Litem (GAL), law enforcement, Children's Resource Center, Department of State Health Nurse, MH/MR, and School Guidance Counselor.

II. Description of Stakeholder/Family/Youth Input:

Cross-System Team Activities:

The Integrated Children's Service Workgroup (ICSW) is represented by the following constituencies: Drug and Alcohol, Children and Youth, NHS Stevens Center Administrative Case Manager, Holy Spirit Administrative Case Manager, West Perry Home and School Visitor, Early Intervention, Mental Retardation, Perry County Family Center, District Justice, Special Education Directors, Diakon Life Services (Mental Health), United Way, and the Cross System Coordinator. The ICSP workgroup facilitator also reports to the Perry County Partnership Board to provide monthly reports on the status of the workgroup. The Partnership Board was initiated in 1995 in response to the Family Service System Reform Initiative. It continues to thrive as the chief collaborative group in the County that makes recommendations to the Perry County Commissioners. This committee consists of the Commissioners, Local County Assistance Office, Department of Aging, Department of State Health Nurse, etc. (*see Appendix A*). The ICSP Workgroup met on: 5/20/09, 6/17/09, 7/15/09, 8/19/09, 9/16/09, 10/21/09, 11/18/09, 12/17/09, 1/20/10, 4/21/10, 5/19/10, and 6/30/10.

The team began to build a plan by discussing barriers that all departments viewed as challenging.

Identified Barriers:

- lack of parental education
- lack of transportation
- Perry County is a rural county
- teen pregnancy
- parental denial of D&A
- lack of psychiatric time
- peer pressure and drop out rates
- lack of support workers willing to travel to Perry County
- student academic failure
- lack of customer service skills from educators to families
- cultural barriers
- schools not having necessary tools to work with complex students and families

- more mental health training needed for educational staff
- the myriad of rules and regulations issued by various state agencies that impede service integration
- the inadequate funding necessary to achieve high quality service integration

Community Behavior Healthcare Network of Pennsylvania (CBHNP) (Managed Care) and the CASSP Coordinator held a cross-system training with CYS and JPO on June 2, 2010.

Topics Covered:

- the role of CBHNP
- meeting medical necessity criteria
- how to prepare for a grievance and file a compliant
- continuum levels of care, and
- how to prepare for an Interagency Service Planning Team (ISPT) meeting responsibilities of JPO/CYS in collaborating with Clinical Care Managers

Additional supports are given to Perry County through the Penn State Extension Office which provides research based, impartial, practical information to the citizens of Perry County. Project Alert, a research based program, offers students the opportunity to identify harmful effects of drugs and alcohol and demonstrates peer pressure resistance skills. The Strengthening Family Program (SFP), offers parents an opportunity to learn productive communication skills with their children. At the conclusion of the program, SFP youth are able to demonstrate how to resist peer pressure. The West Perry PROSPER Team conducted two sessions of the SFP, with 17 families participating and 16 families graduating. A total of 25 parents and 17 youth were represented at the program. Pre and post survey results indicated that youth increased their abilities to recognize the qualities that are important in a true friend by 54%; appreciating the things their parents did for them by 44%, knowing how to take one step to reach one of their goals by 29%, and feeling truly loved and respected by their parent by 28%. Youth participants were asked to name the most valuable thing they learned during the program. Comments included: *"I learned not to yell at my parents"; "to be a leader, not a follower - if your friends are doing something bad and you know it's wrong, don't do it"; "how to respect your family better"; "how to pick your friends and deal with peer pressure and drugs and alcohol."* Parents also reported their own behavior changes: taking time to do something fun together as a family by 40%; seeing things from their child's point of view by 40%; following through with consequences each time their child breaks a rule by 35%, and giving compliments and / or rewards when their child follows the rules by 32%. Parent comments included: *"to compliment them on the good instead of harping on the bad all the time"; "that it's okay to set rules and expect results"; "to work with children instead of ruling with an iron fist"; "the I statements and rewards vs. consequences"; "using family meetings."*

In 2009 a total of 210 seventh grade students participated in the school Project Alert Program as a part of their health curriculum. Parents participating in the SFP identified character traits they wanted their children to develop. The families worked to determine ways to support future dreams and goals identified by their child. These activities foster and support collaborative efforts between parents and youth, as well as, increase positive communication skills.

The Base Service Unit (BSU) serves as a connection point of community resources and supports for individuals residing in Perry County. Residents can access the BSU through Holy Spirit or The Stevens Center (NHS) to acquire supports for their needs. Children and adolescents can get support or an administrative case manager who can assist them throughout their course of needs. Families and providers can access a case manager for assistance in linking them to community resources, additional MH supports, etc. Each case is uniquely individualized to the needs and desires of the person working to achieve recovery.

The Elementary School Based CASSP is a program that is offered within public elementary schools in Perry County. The program is designed to enhance opportunities for the successful educational, emotional, physical and social functioning of elementary school-aged children who may be at risk in one or more of these areas. Working closely with families, teachers, counselors, nurses, and administrators, the CASSP social service workers are professionals who help with solving problems that affect children and their families. Often, the solutions involve using resources available within the community. Social service workers help families explore options and develop plans that will meet the needs of the children and the family. Some supports assist families in accessing basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter/housing, behavioral management, counseling, financial matters, medical needs, school supports, summer programs, support groups, etc.

The Role of Family and Youth:

The ICSP team has discussed ways to involve and encourage family and youth participation in the ICSP process to develop a strong Plan. The Director of Perry County Family Center provides parenting classes for families, including those families that have been fined as a result of their child's truancy. The Director acts as a liaison, providing updates and newsletters about the development and progress of the ICSP meetings and reporting relative information back to the ICSP workgroup. The team has also suggested that a spokesperson participate in local support groups to promote and discuss the collaborative efforts of ICSP and bring back valuable information to the ICSP workgroup. Plans are being formulated to promote ICSP to local school districts through a number of different venues such as back to school nights, teacher in-service

days and other school programs, as well as by developing a handout packet of helpful community resources and services. The schools have offered to post information about ICSP, CASSP, and other important resources on their school website. The schools also conduct several parent education/training nights and have asked CASSP to present information at these meetings. The Perry LINK and Partnership meetings are other avenues available to reach out to families and the community.

III. Self Assessment of Community Level Outcome Indicators (Appendix B)

Outcome: School Success

Indicator #1: Truancy in Public Schools

Discussion: further analysis of local data, comparison to other community, state or national trends, current efforts to address outcome area

The average truancy rate for Perry County was 3.59% between 2005-2010, significantly higher when compared to the other four class seven Counties; Wyoming, Union, Snyder, and Juniata. In the 2005-2006 school year the truancy rate was 3.92% which increased to 4.08% in 2006-2007 and decreased in 2007-2008 to 3.21%. The current data for this year indicates the truancy rate is at 3.15% which has decreased by .06% from the previous year. Perry County school districts are not currently conducting Truancy Elimination Plans (TEP).

Proposed Strategies to Improve the Outcome Area:

The Perry County ICSP workgroup has focused its efforts since May, 2009 on challenges, barriers, and trends concerning youth and their families in the County. The group discussed several possible Indicators relative to the most common barriers before developing strategies to improve the outcomes regarding truancy in Perry County public schools.

These action steps included:

- conducting a study of the TEP through other school districts,
- reviewing the Lackawanna County Preventive After School Program (STARS),
- developing a worksheet to track yearly truancy trends in each school district, and
- developing a presentation geared toward school-wide positive behavioral support.

Perry Family Center, CYS, and Cumberland/Perry MH/MR had an opportunity to observe Lackawanna's truancy prevention program on March 30, 2010. The truancy prevention program (STARS) includes representatives from CYS, JPO and a primary provider of outpatient mental health services. The STARS team assesses the needs of children and families identified in truancy petitions and makes recommendations to the presiding Judge. Joint delinquency/dependency cases are centralized in one unit that requires clear communication and service planning. In addition, they have a Status Offense Unit that is managed by one CYS caseworker and one JPO probation officer. Both workers share the cases so each can lend their areas of expertise to the identified family. They are also able to provide assistance to each others families when one worker is not available. Children in the Status Offense Unit must be declared dependent or on a Consent Decree. All families participating in services through the Status Offense Unit are also involved with the Family Peace Program that is administered by a psychologist to help bring about lasting family changes to improve the stability, conduct, and well-being of adolescent children and their families. These preventive programs also provide an opportunity to integrate children into community based activities such as art programs, etc.

Perry County Family Center introduced parenting classes for families within the County in September 2009. One of the two residing District Justices utilizes the classes for students that have been fined for truancy. These two hours classes are held once a week during an eight week period. The curriculum is based on the program, *"Building Your Family"* and includes four home visits made by the facilitator to ensure continuity of care. The director of Family Center plans to visit each of the truancy officers this year to introduce the parenting classes and encourage other types of alternative supports and services. These early alternative programs offered to families help to avoid Court and CYS involvement. Currently, CYS is utilizing Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) and the parenting classes for open cases that have truancy involvement. The ICSP team discussed ways to track outcomes for this program and identified the need to ensure that these measures are monitored to further evaluate program effectiveness.

Measure of Short Term Goal:

The Perry County ISCP workgroup began to establish a baseline of truancy behavior in each of the Perry County school districts and will continue to track the data on an annual basis. The team will network with agencies to develop ways to encourage student participation in after school programs at the elementary level and provide outreach to families via school websites, during back to school nights, and at other family geared venues. The ultimate goal is for students to attend school on time each day with a successful academic career to reach graduation.

Are you requesting ICSP funds to implement this plan? (Tier One only)

NO.

BENCHMARK DATA FOR INDICATOR #1: *Truancy in Public Schools*

ANALYSIS LEVEL 1: LOCAL COMPARISON

Comparisons of School Districts within Perry County; Susquenita, West Perry

Truancy Rate in Perry County Public Schools (2009 - 2010)

School District	Total # of Students		Student Absences	
	First Day of School	Last Day of School	Students with 20+ days	Students with 30+ days
Susquenita	1901	1891	165	46
West Perry	2683	2668	303	132

Note: Newport and Greenwood data unavailable

ANALYSIS LEVEL 2: STATE COMPARISON

PA ChildStat Comparisons of five Class 7 Counties; Perry, Juniata, Snyder, Union, Wyoming

Benchmark Truancy Rate in Public Schools - Class 7 County Comparisons

County	2005-2006 %	2006-2007 %	2007-2008 %	2008-2009 %	↑↓ in 2009
Perry	3.92	4.08	3.21	3.15	↓
Juniata	1.31	1.89	4.24	3.16	↓
Snyder	4.17	2.25	1.31	.91	↓
Union	2.96	1.53	1.08	.69	↓
Wyoming	0.41	0.8	2.97	2.28	↓

Source: www.humanservices.state.pa.us/CommunityLevelOutcomeIndicators/viewer.asp PACHildStat, Community Level Outcomes for Pennsylvania's Children and Families. Student Truancy Rate 2005-2006, 2006-2007, & 2007-2008.

Note: Although Perry County truancy has steadily declined, it remains significantly high when compared to the other class seven counties.

Measures to reduce truancy rate in Perry County schools:

- 1) Track truancy data annually.
- 2) Develop methods of continued networking with other agencies concerning participation in after school programs at the elementary level.
- 3) Provide outreach to families via school websites, during back to school nights, and at other family geared venues.
- 4) Study the truancy polices from each school district.

Outcome: School Success

Indicator #2: Student Withdrawal Rates from Public Schools

Discussion: further analysis of local data, comparison to other community, state or national trends, current efforts to address outcome area

Perry County's student withdrawal rates from 2005-2009 are significantly higher when compared to the other four class seven counties: Wyoming, Union, Snyder, and Juniata. During the 2006-2007 school year the student withdraw rate increased to 1.9%. The rate dropped by .1% during each of the next two years, however, it remains high in comparison.

Proposed Strategies to Improve the Outcome Area:

The ICSP workgroup has convened monthly since May, 2009 to discuss challenges, barriers, strategies, and trends for the Perry County ICSP Plan. The group discussed several possible Indicators relative to the most common barriers before developing strategies to improve the outcomes regarding student withdrawal rates from Perry County public schools.

A representative presented the School-Wide Positive Behavioral Support program to the workgroup on April 21, 2010. The team discussed the importance of improving school communication and timely engagement with families and students so that positive relationships are formed at an earlier stage. As noted during multiple ICSP meetings; schools often observe that parents who hold little to no value in the importance of their child's education did not have a positive school experience themselves. This cycle of negative attitudes continues from generation to generation, creating future barriers for their children to have positive school experiences. District Justice Dan McGuire noted that he has seen students enter his Court with truancy related issues and spoke of the cyclical pattern of truancy and drop out rates between students and parents. Using grant monies, West Perry School District recently hired a PBS specialist.

Measure of Short Term Goal:

The Perry County ISCP workgroup began to establish a baseline of withdrawal rates in each of the Perry County school districts and will continue to track the data on an annual basis. The team will develop ways to engage students and their families at the elementary level and provide outreach to all families via school websites, during back to school nights, and at other family geared venues. The ultimate goal is for students to attend and remain in school with a successful academic career to reach graduation.

Are you requesting ICSP funds to implement this plan? (Tier One only)

NO.

BENCHMARK DATA FOR INDICATOR #2: *Student Withdrawal Rate from Public Schools*

ANALYSIS LEVEL 1: LOCAL COMPARISON

Comparisons of School Districts within Perry County; Susquenita, West Perry

Student Withdrawal from Perry County Public Schools (2009 - 2010)

School District	Total # of withdrawals due to family relocation	Total # of withdrawals due to student decision	Total # of student withdrawals	Total # of students on 1 st day of school	% of total student withdrawal (2009-2010)
Susquenita	80	5	111	1901	4.2%
West Perry	131	20	151	2683	4.9%

Monthly Student Withdrawal from Perry County Public Schools (2009 - 2010)

Month	Susquenita			West Perry		
	Total # of withdrawals due to family relocation	Total # of withdrawals due to student decision	Total # of student withdrawals	Total # of withdrawals due to family relocation	Total # of withdrawals due to student decision	Total # of student withdrawals
August	2	0	4	2	0	2
September	0	0	2	10	3	13
October	8	0	11	12	1	13
November	8	0	10	7	1	8
December	8	0	11	16	4	20
January	8	0	12	16	2	18
February	12	1	16	14	3	17
March	21	0	22	27	3	30
April	6	3	12	13	2	15
May	7	1	9	9	1	10
June	0	0	2	5	0	5
Total	80	5	111	131	20	151

Note: Data was collected directly from the school districts in Perry County. Data for individuals who withdrew due to placement are indicated in the total # of student withdrawals column only. Those students who withdrew due to enrollment in Cyber School or the Home Bound program are included in the withdrawals due to family relocation column.

ANALYSIS LEVEL 2: STATE COMPARISON

PA ChildStat Comparisons of five Class 7 Counties; Perry, Juniata, Snyder, Union, Wyoming

Student Withdrawal from Public Schools - Class 7 County Comparisons

County	2005-2006 %	2006-2007 %	2007-2008 %	2008-2009 %	↑↓
Perry	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.5	↓
Juniata	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.7	↓
Snyder	1.4	1	1.1	1	↓
Union	1.1	.04	.7	.03	↓
Wyoming	1.2	1	.7	1.2	↑

Source: www.humanservices.state.pa.us/CommunityLevelOutcomeIndicators/viewer.asp PACHildStat, Community Level Outcomes for Pennsylvania's Children and Families. Student Withdrawal from Public School 2005-2006 and 2006-2007.

Measures to reduce the withdrawal rate in Perry County schools:

- 1) Track withdrawal data annually.
- 2) Develop methods of continued networking with other agencies concerning participation in after school programs at the elementary level.
- 3) Provide outreach to families via school websites, during back to school nights, and at other family geared venues.

IV. Update on Integration Accomplishments

(summary of early success, challenges, barriers)

The current Perry County ICSP workgroup began convening on May 20, 2009 and is in the preliminary stages of identifying barriers, challenges, future goals and desired progress. The previously completed ICSP Plans of 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 contained out-dated, insufficient information that does not pertain to the current workgroup's vision of a truly integrated Plan for Perry County. The primary goal of the ICSP team is to work collaboratively in an effort to meet the needs of children and their families in the community.

Strategies for Involving Families & Youth in ICSP (Resource B)

The **role of family and youth** in integrating services is critical to for the success of service delivery. Counties should clearly articulate what steps it will take to ensure families/youth are involved in all steps of system development for integrating services. The following checklist will assist you in the planning process to increase meaningful involvement/engagement of families and youth. This is a priority integration area for the Department.

The following items are evidence of strong family/youth engagement, note which apply to your County or are planned for 2010/11 implementation. Under other, list specific processes that occur in your County which show strong family/youth engagement in the ICSP planning and implementation process.

	Strategy for Involving Families and Youth is Currently in Place in the County	YES	NO	2010/11 Plan Will Include
1	<p>Special orientation and training is offered on an ongoing basis to assist families/youth that need a better understanding of administrative, budgetary, and other issues that play a role in planning.</p> <p>Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include families in the planning and delivery of these trainings. ▪ Use existing family leaders from local support groups and programs. ▪ Identify these leaders from community centers, religious organizations, parent groups, disability groups or school family committees. 		✓	
2	<p>Families/youth have more than token representation at meetings and staff are actively asking for their input at both the process and implementation stages.</p> <p>Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offer a variety of methods to give input including going to where families meet frequently, like shopping centers ▪ Having a variety of levels for input, paper surveys, phone surveys, focus groups, and attending the formal County ICSP meetings. ▪ Make sure that all families, including contributing families get regular and informative updates on what actions have occurred even if families could not attend the meetings where decisions were made. <p><i>Perry County families are encouraged to actively participate in a variety of ways; Perry County Family Center is governed by active families and engages family and youth participation via newsletters. Parents provide valuable input into schools by participating in strategic planning. The Early Intervention (EI) Connections Advisory Council gains family input from surveys, newsletters and focus groups. Families are also active in the CASSP Core Team.</i></p>	✓		
3	<p>There are active working partnerships with parent groups within the County. Please list groups in your narrative section.</p> <p>Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ask people charged with collaborating with family groups for a list to identify groups, including the CASSP Coordinator, and Intermediate Unit staff (Migrant worker programs, local substance abuse parent support groups. Autism Specialist, Alternative Education Specialist, Special Education Task Force and Early Intervention Coordinators, Easter Seals/Rehabilitation Services, Clergy etc.) <p><i>CASSP Core Team, PTO, Susquenita Advisory Group, Mom's That Care</i></p>	✓		

Strategy for Involving Families and Youth is Currently in Place in the County		YES	NO	2010/11 Plan Will Include
4	<p>A process is in place to ask other agencies that work with families/youth (such as schools and child care centers) to recommend parents to participate in planning.</p> <p>Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruit families to help develop outreach materials – newsletters, brochures and/or County website information. <p><i>Perry County Family Group provides outreach with family involvement through time limited projects such as the production of newsletters. Schools will provide web-based information as well as participation via back to school night and other school functions.</i></p>			✓
5	<p>Families/youth who participate in planning sessions are compensated in some manner.</p> <p>Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pay a stipend/salary Provide transportation, meals, child care (on site or reimbursement) Offer donations from businesses- meals, gift cards <p><i>Independent Living receives a stipend for participation; Families on the governing board of the Perry County Family Center receive gift cards when attending.</i></p>	✓		
6	<p>Meeting times and locations are flexible to meet family/ youth needs and availability.</p> <p>Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding planning meetings on the evenings or on weekends In locations such as schools, community centers, churches and other settings that may be more familiar and comfortable to families/youth than state or local office buildings. Work with schools to develop capacity for students to use participation to meet graduation or other school requirements. Work with JPO to develop capacity for youth to use participation to meet probation obligations including community service. <p><i>Teen Choices and Consequences Support Group focus groups; evening parenting classes; evening school meetings, parenting support group, grandparent support group, social skills support group</i></p>	✓		
7	<p>Surveys are conducted to elicit the views of a wide range of families/youth.</p> <p>Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use families and youth to design and edit surveys. Make sure they are culturally and linguistically accessible Make sure they are clearly written at a 6th grade level. Provide an option to submit them anonymously. <p><i>CASSP, Teen Group, Supports Coordination, Parenting Classes, PA Youth Survey, Agency Surveys are conducted & share relative information.</i></p>	✓		
8	<p>Parents or others who work regularly with families/youth are utilized to conduct focus groups that probe the views of selected groups of parents such as teenage parents, single parents, grandparents raising grandchildren, foster parents, and adoptive parents.</p> <p>Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop funding that supports the operation of these groups. Direct or in kind, i.e. invite leaders to participate in County trainings. <p><i>School district focus groups, Develop a truancy focus group for parenting classes</i></p>	✓		

Strategy for Involving Families and Youth is Currently in Place in the County		YES	NO	2010/11 Plan Will Include
9	<p>A process is in place to work with family and youth support programs to tap into informal networks such as family support groups or youth advisory councils, for example Independent Living Programs.</p> <p>Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop process with stakeholders ▪ Commit decisions to writing and make them public <p><i>Teen Pages and the Perry County Resource Guide are provide to the public via schools, CASSP, Perry County Family Center, C&Y, JPO, D&A, CASSP Elementary</i></p>	✓		
10	<p>A process is in place to work with home-visiting programs, such as Parents As Teachers (PAT) through Family Centers or health clinics to involve families/youth who may be otherwise difficult to reach.</p> <p><i>The Parents As Teachers (PAT) program is offered through the Perry County Family Center. Three Family Educators offer bi-weekly home visits to County residents who are pregnant and/or with children up to age five.</i></p>	✓		
11	<p>A process is in place to work with families/youth involved in specific programs, for example Family Group Decision Making or Independent Living Programs, within children and youth, mental health, early intervention, juvenile justice, drug and alcohol, etc to involve families who have benefited from these services.</p> <p><i>Choices and Consequences Diversionary Group, Accountability Works Program, AGAPE Group</i></p>	✓		
12	<p>Acknowledgment of the contributions of families and youth are done routinely and publicly.</p>		✓	
13	<p>Experienced facilitators are utilized to conduct sessions for planning group members, administrators, and staff when exploring attitudes and stereotypes about different ethnic, racial and religious groups.</p> <p><i>Facilitators are experienced at conducting sessions geared toward rural living</i></p>	✓		
14	<p>Family and youth satisfaction surveys regarding their satisfaction with being actively involved in the ICSP process are routinely conducted.</p>		✓	
15	<p>County resource mapping is utilized to show what services are available, including family support groups.</p> <p><i>Perry Link, EI uses community mapping of resources; Family Center in process</i></p>	✓		✓
16	<p>County staff have attended local family support groups to understand the services they offer and to promote integration activities.</p> <p><i>Grandparent Support Group</i></p>	✓		
17	<p>Articles about ICSP as well as meeting times and places are placed in local newspapers.</p>		✓	
18	<p>Mailings are sent to all school administrators, guidance counselors, and Student Assistance Program representatives to be involved in the ICSP process.</p> <p><i>The CASSP Coordinator contacts school personnel through email</i></p>	✓		
19	<p>There is a system in place to routinely follow up after meetings with mailings or phone calls to individuals who were unable to attend meetings for their input.</p>	✓		

Strategy for Involving Families and Youth is Currently in Place in the County		YES	NO	2010/11 Plan Will Include
	<i>Reminders and information are always sent</i>			
20	There is an assumption that if you generate lots of public participation that you will, by default if nothing else, have people who have a personal stake in seeing things improve.		✓	
21	There is a uniform note taking/ tracking process in place so that all of the groups and meetings can be recorded and used to create a concrete plan that incorporates the spectrum of discussions and input and is available and understandable to all participants. <i>Notes are taken during each monthly ICSP meeting and all handouts are retained as reference in the development of a viable integrated Plan.</i>	✓		
22	OTHER: These other ideas were generated by the ICSW and will be incorporated approaches to increase youth and family involvement in the ICSP process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Provide resource information: ICSP to schools for distribution during parent-teacher nights.</i> - <i>Provide resource information for Back to School Night</i> - <i>Provide outreach during meetings as well as a poster board presentation</i> - <i>Provide parent information via school websites</i> 			✓

For technical assistance on involving and engaging families / youth contact Angie Logan anglogan@state.pa.us or Sherry Peters at shepeters@state.pa.us

Checklist Tool for Plan Submission (Appendix D)

1. Table of Contents	✓
2. Cover Page / Signature Page (Appendix A)	✓
3. Executive Summary and Description of Stakeholder / Family / Youth Input <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Description of activities of cross-systems team in the previous year b. The role of family and youth input and engagement and strategies to address local educational system 	✓
4. Self-Assessment of Community level Indicators (Appendix B)	✓
5. Update on Integration Accomplishments	✓
6. Notification of intent to submit as Tier One (email notification due July 30)	-
7. Planning for Full Integration of Children's Services (Tier One) (5-8 pages)	-
10. Promising Practices for Incentive Grants (Tier One - optional) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Project Narrative B. Project Budget and Outcomes 	-