

**Allen County Board of MR/DD
Children's Services
Program Evaluation Analysis – January to June 2006**

1. Explain the barriers to meeting projected outcomes.

Early Intervention:

The Early Intervention Specialists have greatly improved percentages in meeting mandated timelines. They will need to continue their efforts in this area. Barriers include parents not keeping appointments and difficulty in juggling very busy schedules between our staff and the staff of local school districts. We have been meeting locally and regionally with Help Me Grow and Special Education supervisors to develop strategies to eliminate some of these barriers.

Preschool:

The efficiency and effectiveness measures for preschool were not met. Staff need additional training in teaching literacy skills so students demonstrate progress in this area. This is being addressed by the Early Childhood Education Coordinator.

School Age:

We did not meet the effectiveness or efficiency measures for school age students. An additional concern is the low percentage of students who annually meet all of the IEP goals and objectives. This is an issue for local school districts who are being monitored by ODE. Goals and objectives are to be met annually or the IEP is not in compliance. Teachers will receive additional training and we will be holding additional conferences if students are not making progress.

2. What are the implications for marketing, policy development, programming and resource allocation?

Early Intervention:

Early Intervention is working closely with Help Me Grow to increase the number of Part C children who are found and served. Allen County is below their targeted numbers. The Public Awareness and Screening committees of Help Me Grow will be developing new strategies. If we do not meet these projected numbers, our funding could decrease.

Preschool:

As stated above, the preschool staff has been asked to make major changes in the past year in curriculum & instruction and in assessment of student progress. The Ohio Department of Education will be requiring that all programs follow the Early Learning Guidelines by July 2007. There are requirements in these guidelines that will require additional financial resources. The Early Childhood Education Coordinator and I are meeting regionally with other Preschool Supervisors as this is a common issue. We are hoping to be able to collaborate

with other county agencies providing preschool services to jointly provide some of these requirements.

School Age:

Teachers will continue to improve instructional strategies to align the curriculum with the Ohio Department of Education requirements. Teachers need to ensure that all IEPs are in compliance so local districts do not lose funding.

- 3. Describe follow up data from persons who exited programs:**
See attached summary.