



2007 Foster Youth Focus Series

Focus Session I

Team Action Planning Tool Instructions

Materials

- Career Preparation Resource Map wall chart
- Action Planning Tool wall chart
- Post -its and pens

Purpose

The purpose of the team action planning tools are to develop tactics and strategies over the next 6 months to meet your focus session outcomes in one of the three focus series priority areas (Systems Collaboration, Independent Living Program Enhancement, and/or School and Work-based Learning Activities). Your team will identify action steps to be completed during Action Period 1 and Action Period 2 that will help your county improve employment and career preparation outcomes for foster youth.

Career Preparation Resource Map

- List people/agencies you need in each of the following four areas to accomplish your Focus Series goal:
 - Social Services & Community Based Organizations
 - Employers & Workplace Partners
 - Families & Neighborhoods
 - Schools & Training Organizations
- Determine what the Resource Map will inform. Does it have implications for new partners? Stakeholders to engage, etc.?
- Discuss barriers to overcome or adjustments you need to make in order to include other players. Discuss strategies for addressing those barriers.

Action Planning Tool

- **List team members** who will be involved on this journey. This may include additional members who were not able to attend this Focus Session.
- **Identify "hitchhikers"** or potential team members who you still need to engage. Use the "Career Preparation Resource Map" to inform your decisions.
- **Identify "Road Trips"** - places or other counties and programs you want to explore. These might be counties participating in the Focus Series or others that have promising practices that will inform your journey.
- **Articulate the outcomes** you will achieve by the end of the Focus Series. Are there new partnerships, programs, practices, and/or activities that will be a result of your work together through the Focus Series?
- **Develop your Action Plan.** Using the space between the Focus Session markers, outline your action plan. Be sure to include actionable steps, who is responsible, and a timeframe.
- **Determine "Milestones"** that indicate progress along the way. How will you know you are making progress between now and September?

Team Report Out

Please choose a team member to report the following at the close of Focus Session I.

- What do you want to accomplish by the end of the Focus Series (outcomes)?
- What milestones do you expect to reach by Focus Session II.
- How can the YTAT team support you?