Vision for Children at Risk LOGIC MODEL

OUR VISION: Vision for Children at Risk (VCR) envisions a community that values and supports the well-being of children and families, where the neighborhood they live in does not determine their future.



Inputs

Staff and Partner Subject Matter Expertise in data analysis, advocacy, and community engagement.

Lived Experience is a core value that our staff bring to our family engagement team, and a key part of the data that we collect, value, and share.

Technology and Data Collection Tools to collect and analyze child well-being data.

Evidence-Based models to support, engage and build capacity within families and community groups.

Board of Directors positioning the organization strategically and supporting a sustainable funding plan of grants, donations and other financial resources.

VCR Focus Area Activities

Informing

 Share data on indicators predictive of or correlated with child well-being, such as maternal & child health and early childhood development, specific to the St. Louis region.

Collaborating

- Host cross-sectoral partnerships to improve coordination of prevention and child welfare services.
- Deliver evidence-based training to service providers on holistic family engagement of community voice.

Engaging

- Provide families with individualized case management and service referral.
- Deploy peer-driven Family Support Services to walk alongside families as they navigate mental health and other child-serving systems.
- Leverage Café Model centered around the protective factors to foster peer exchange and resource-sharing among families.

Advocating

- Build the capacity of community members to advocate for child and family well-being as grassroots leaders through training and café work groups.
- Facilitate Parent and Youth Advisory Councils that integrate community voice and lived experience in state and regional advocacy efforts.
- Align efforts across sectoral partners for a coordinated and unified policy agenda that supports child and family well-being.

Selected Outputs

Local Data Resources, such as the Children of Metropolitan St. Louis (CMSL) Data Book and the online Children's Data Center, highlighting areas of well-being investment for policymakers, service providers and community members.

Cross-sector Partnerships addressing child and family well-being, such as the St. Louis Child Abuse & Neglect Network (STLCANN) and System of Care – Children's Mental Health & Well-Being.

Trained Community Ambassadors advocating for child well-being and family opportunity.

Advocacy Agendas and Campaigns of actionable solutions, aligned across stakeholders and driven by expressed community needs.

Family Support Networks promoting stability through service referral, peer mentorship and case management.

Feedback Loops using surveys, program evaluation, and listening sessions to assess impact and refine strategies based on family voice.

Family Leadership Center operating as a hub for training, support, and family engagement initiatives.

Short-Term Outcomes

- Increased awareness and understanding of child well-being disparities in the St. Louis region.
- Increased communication between and among families, service providers and advocacy stakeholders.
- Increased regional expertise and application of evidence-based models in child-serving systems.
- Increased knowledge and skills among families in protective factors, system navigation, and grassroots advocacy.
- Increased awareness of equitable policies informed by disparity data and community voice.

Medium-Term Outcomes

- Increased support for system transformations and legislation that reduce disparity in child well-being and family opportunity.
- Greater collaboration among the St. Louis region's child and family support services through cross-sector partnerships.
- Increased service matching between family members and service providers.
- Improved support networks for families, enhancing stability and resilience in communities.
- Increased participation of family members and integration of community voice in state and regional advocacy efforts.

Long-Term Outcomes

- Measurable improvements in child well-being metrics such as health, educational attainment, and economic stability.
- Child- and family-serving system transformations that reduce racial and other systemic barriers for families in the St. Louis Region.
- Thriving communities that experience social and economic mobility, multigenerational well-being and resilience, and diverse opportunities for fulfillment.
- A sustained culture of community-led advocacy and co-creation that continuously addresses the evolving needs of children and families.

Assumptions

- Racial and economic inequities exist that adversely impact the well-being of children.
- Family and community voice are critical in creating meaningful change.
- Families and communities must be included as leaders in the (re)creation and implementation of the systems, policies, and practices that impact their lives.
- Child well-being cannot be separated from family well-being.
- Movement toward child well-being requires macro level policy change as well as micro level change in individual lives.

External Factors

- Economic challenges may affect funding sources and increase community needs.
- Changes in population and community demographics might influence child wellbeing indicators and demand for resources.
- Political climate and decisions may significantly impact funding and opportunities.