

Listening & Learning Session with Local Attorneys

April 16, 2015

Coltivare

**What works for children?**

* Mental Health Association’s Kids First Summer camp, needs to be available free of charge and to increase enrollment
* Child Development Council provides a database to find child care providers
* Groton Library programs and services creating a community center space
* Faith communities that volunteer
* Advocacy Center has personal care packages for teens entering the shelter
* New Roots and LACS, examples of an individualized approach to education, we need more of this
* GreenStar’s Healthy Food for All
* Advocacy Center’s male and female sexual assault survivors support groups
* Food pantries throughout Tompkins County
* [211](http://www.hsctc.org/index.php?page=information-referral) as a central repository of information
* [Human Services Coalition’s list serve](http://www.hsctc.org/index.php?page=subscribe)

**Needs**

* Free supervised visitation spaces and supervisors, supervised visitation free to parents
* Therapeutic visitation
* Late night child care for parents working irregular schedules
* Dependable transportation for affordable housing communities for needs of families, sick children
* Programs for children with developmental disabilities
* Advocacy support for parents of children with IEPs, working with schools to advocate for their children
* Working with teachers to early identify children at high risk of future legal system involvement for preventative care
* Support for children of substance abusing parents
* Lack of treatment for young children in early phases of their own substance abuse
* More foster families and educating the community what it means to be a foster parent
* Barriers with access to communication and literacy resources, need to connect more families to libraries
* Lack of education of life skills such as literacy, financial skills, sex ed, savings
* Therapeutic foster care homes in this community to ease reunification
* Post adoption services such as after school programs and summer camps
* Education about alternatives to using the legal system to settle disputes
* Ways of bringing Ithaca based services to outlying townships of Tompkins County, could Auburn/Cayuga County be a role model for this?
* Support for foster care youth to attain a college education
* Affordable housing
* Apprenticeship programs, partner with unions to help teach in demand trades
* Child care in the court house
* Child care for attending 12 step programs
* Conceptualizing truancy as diagnostic of literacy and negative school experiences, if I am at a second grade reading level as a seventh grade student, why would I go to school to experience that negative environment every day/
* Programs to encourage parents to read to their children everyday
* Out of county residents who get arrested for drug offenses and are not able to participate in Tompkins drug courts because their home county won’t pay/participate
* Recognition of/for volunteers
* Smaller high schools which would be more focused so that individuals with unique needs do not get lost in the crowd
* Drug use and poverty, more and more entrenched across multiple generations
* Mental health and lack of treatment
* Access to GED services
* Sexual assault survivor services and education about these needs