

Communities of Opportunity Initiative

Community Progress Report
January 1, 2010 – March 31, 2010
Due: Wednesday, March 31, 2010

Name of Community: Thomas County **Local Champion:** Kathy Megahee, Family Connection Director
Date: April 6, 2010

Co-Op Strategies	List Measures of Success, (Or Barriers If Applicable)	Action Items Completed for Each Strategy	Cost Estimate	Provide a Brief Description of Issues and Action Items to be Addressed Next Quarter
Increase Literacy within the County	Community Literacy/Resource Fair	Fair is scheduled on April 29 at the Public Library. To date, 20 vendors will participate.	\$1,000	Begin planning process for next year's event.
	<p>Promote Literacy Awareness: Thomas County CLCP (Literacy Committee) temporarily suspended the Ferst Foundation (free books for children birth to age 5) project due to funding issues. Archbold Auxiliary has agreed to fund the project and to review it annually. Each child born at John D. Archbold Hospital and a resident of Thomas County will receive the books until they reach the age of 5.</p> <p>Adult Spelling Bee was a success promoting adult literacy.</p> <p>Resource Fair scheduled at Southwest GA Technical College</p> <p>Housing Fair scheduled at Douglass Alumni Building</p>	<p>The Thomas County CLCP Committee received a \$20,000 donation from John D. Archbold Memorial Auxiliary to fund Ferst books for children.</p> <p>Twelve Community Teams participated, to include Southwest GA Technical College, Thomas University and Thomas County Schools.</p> <p>Completed in February 2010</p> <p>Completed in March 2010</p>	N/A	<p>Continue to promote literacy awareness.</p> <p>Partner with Archbold Auxiliary making certain children are enrolled in the Ferst Foundation and receiving books.</p> <p>Encourage parents to read to children.</p> <p>Ensure that vulnerable families in Thomas County have access to educational and support services promoting high school completion or its equivalent to improve the literacy rate and workforce development.</p> <p>Plan the Back to School Blitz which helps students and parents prepare for a successful school year.</p>

	Recruit Volunteer Mentors	The NAACP partnered with the Thomasville Community Resource Center to assist City/County students with after school tutoring prior to graduation testing.	N/A	Review report from graduation coaches and TCRC.
	Increase the number of GED recipients	14 individuals received GED attainment	5 X \$95 = \$495	Ensure students have access to support services.
Expose Community to Life Skills	Target population, train, purchase materials,	No report		Key partners will meet to discuss Target population, training, and purchase of materials, etc.
	Ensure graduation coaches refer H/S drop outs to GED program, Promote Lunch and Learn program and coordinate existing community programs.	This is an on-going process through the Family Connection Collaborative. Planned monthly collaborative meetings give community partners an opportunity to network, coordinate existing programs and discuss needed programs. A Lunch and Learn program is planned for 2nd quarter.	N/A	Follow up on graduation rates, promote Lunch and Learn program and continue the coordination of existing and needed programs.