

Staff Report: Strategic Plan/Systems Change Facilitation

Members of the Health and the Strategic Plan and Evaluation (SPEC) Committees have been reviewing and updating their respective initiatives. Of particular interest to the members is the increasing desire to focus on the Systems Strengthening Initiative in order to provide a framework in which the Health and Family Strengthening Initiatives work can occur. Committee members have been discussing the meaning of “systems change” and “systems strengthening” work, recognizing that it is critical the Commission has a clear definition for this kind of work so that it can move forward in a united manner with future programmatic and funding decisions as tobacco tax revenues continue to decline.

At the June 23 Commission meeting, SPEC recommended and the Commission voted to hire a facilitator for its August 25 Commission meeting. Giovanni Tricerri has since been contracted to provide these services. The Admin. Committee reviewed and approved Mr. Tricerri’s proposed scope of work, which includes:

- Help the commission clearly define what “Systems Strengthening” means;
- Identify the commission’s successes in “creating more effective systems for the well-being of children”;
- Identify best practices and definitions among other First 5 commissions across the state;
- Provide a framework for understanding “systems change work”;
- Help the commission identify possible strategies that will determine future funding decisions.