

# Eckerd Family Foundation

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# EFF Planning Document

- **Vision**

The Eckerd Family Foundation is committed to promoting meaningful and lasting change in the lives of vulnerable youth and their families.

- **Mission**

The Eckerd Family Foundation provides leadership and support for innovative educational, preventative, therapeutic and rehabilitative programs for vulnerable children, youth and their families.

## **Success Measures**

- A. The activities of the foundation are board driven.
- B. Our work is derived from positive family relationships.
- C. We have initiated and replicated successful programs.
- D. We have had a major focus and impact in one or two discrete areas.
- E. We have supported programs and organizations in ways that are successful and can be sustained.
- F. We have changed public thinking through advocacy.
- G. We have increased our effectiveness by collaborating with other organizations.

## **Governance**

**Family members have support for their involvement and for their governance role with the foundation.**

- 1. Board members adhere to agreed upon standards.*
- 2. Board members agree upon and understand their responsibilities.*
- 3. Board meetings are energizing and offer learning experiences.*

- **Impact-**

**“What has changed or is different because of our investment that is measurable and fact”**

- **Influence-**

- **What has changed or have we materially contributed to knowledge or current thinking on an issue**

- **Influence through demonstration**
- **Influenced through leadership**
- **Influenced by recognizing the value of youth voices**
- **Influence by spotlighting an issue**

- **Leverage**

- **Multiplying our investments through private or public support**

# Foster Care

- **A. The foundation works proactively to build a strong foster care system for Hillsborough/Pinellas counties and for the state of Florida.**
- *The foundation will support the networking of the foster care system and create a continuum in which youth are physically and emotionally safe and have their needs met in a timely manner at every stage of their development. Older foster youth will be prepared to transition to independence. The foundation will support and expand services for children entering or at risk of entering the foster care system. All foster youth, foster parents and families have an informed voice in decisions that impact their lives.*

# Juvenile Justice

- **B. The foundation works proactively to promote and provide better care for delinquent youth.**
- *With a combination of advocacy and traditional grantmaking, the foundation shall change the mission of the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice to ensure that youth are properly assessed and placed, receive effective treatments and are able to return to their communities to pursue meaningful educational and vocational opportunities. Public funds shall be redirected to support changes promoted by the foundation as the knowledge of effective system reform is disseminated. This will be achieved through relationships with local and national partners. Geographic priority areas will be scanned for opportunistic grantmaking that promote the foundation's values and reform principles.*

# Replication

- **C. The Foundation will seek to replicate programs that have been created or funded in the past and provide leadership tools and strategies for sustainability.**
- *The foundation will continue to adhere to the grantmaking philosophy of promoting “what works.” All grants shall reflect a systematic look at evidence from previous attempts to solve problems and then borrow, build on, combine or adopt that success to a particular situation, location and budget. Programs started or substantially supported by the foundation will be strategically and opportunistically reproduced. In other instances, a proven strategy will have been exported to a new location. All work would have been supported by appropriate investments in advocacy and communication.*



# Education

- **D. The Foundation seeks to support educational and nontraditional opportunities for youth and families. Currently such support is in the following areas:**
- *The foundation explores educational opportunities for youth and families through its Education Support Initiative so that through a combination of guidance and self-determination, grantees are given the ability to enable their participants to take advantage of the full spectrum of possibilities that spring from education. Regular contact with grantees afford the foundation the nimble flexibility needed to adjust to changing needs. The definition of “education” shall be flexible and considered by the Board regularly.*

# Advocacy

- **E. The foundation has influenced and changed political structures through advocacy.**
- *The foundation will adhere to the strategic principles of advocacy which hold that lasting change occurs when public opinion and policymakers are persuaded through a process of communication that is strategic and long term. Advocacy will touch all elements of our grantmaking portfolio and initiatives.*

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