

WV CHILDREN & FAMILIES FUNDING STUDY WORKSHOPS

SUMMARY REPORT

Understanding State & Federal Expenditures
FY 1999 through FY 2001

Division of Criminal Justice Services • Department of Military Affairs & Public Safety • State of West Virginia

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY REPORT

MARCH 31, 2004

Overview

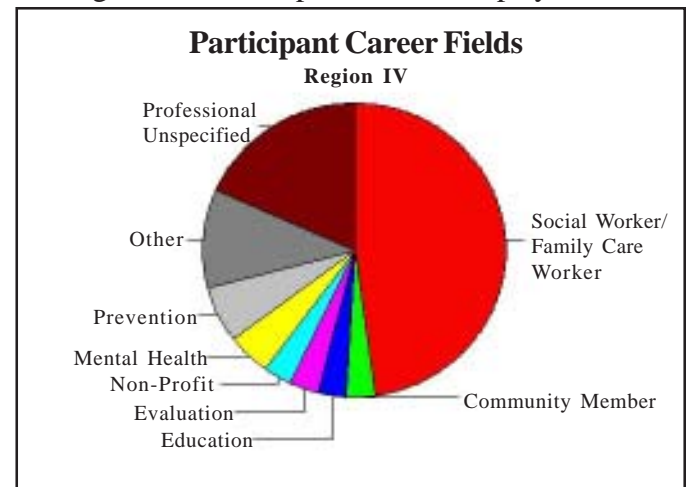
The West Virginia Children and Families Funding Study Report was released in June 2003 to provide citizens with data to make informed decisions and better understand the services provided to children and families in the state. In an effort to distribute the initial findings of West Virginia's first comprehensive funding report workshops were held in each of the state's four DHHR regions. Presented by Steve Heasley of the Governor's Cabinet on Children and Families, workshops began with an overview and history of the study. Spending within each of the six functional categories included in the report, **Education**, **Health Care**, **Economic Support**, **Safety and Family Stability**, **Economic Development** and **Community Capacity Building**, was discussed in detail. Spending patterns and trends in spending were presented as well. Those attending were encouraged to participate in discussions during each of these sections to voice opinions or ask questions. The workshops concluded with an overview of the project website, <http://www.prevnet.org/fundingstudyindex>, where report updates, program descriptions, and grant opportunities can be found.

Workshops

Workshops were well received. Discussion sessions were full of insightful comments that could have broad implications for improving services in communities. Discussion questions and complete feedback will be posted on the above mentioned website. Attendance and overall ratings are displayed in the table below.

Participants

The workshops were developed to host an eclectic audience. Brochures listed a variety of potential participants. Participant career field data was collected at the Region IV workshop with results displayed below.



Comments

When asked "What skills or knowledge did you gain?" workshop participants responded:

- Better overall statewide picture.
- Grants available in WV.
- Overall view of monies coming into our state and where our priorities lie.
- Funding streams that I as an individual or agency employee can tap into.

Workshop participants made the following comments about the training:

- Made a complicated subject as clear as possible.
- The material was very technical, but useful.
- Thank you for all of the hard work in gathering the data.
- A study many would consider boring and complex was made interesting and understandable.

Region	Location	Date	Participants	Avg Overall Rating
Region I	Parkersburg	December 3, 2003	20	Very Good
Region II	Logan	March 24, 2004	30	Excellent
Region III	Moorefield	December 9, 2003	12	Not Available
Region IV	Beckley	January 16, 2004	81	Very Good