Best Start LA

Community Based Action Research (CBAR) Technical Assistance

Information Session

January 7, 2009

1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
Program Officer Information

• Marcella Manzanedo, Program Officer
• cbar@first5la.org
• Tel: 213.482.7505
Introduction

Purpose of Best Start LA

• To increase the number of children who achieve appropriate social, emotional, cognitive, language, physical and motor developmental milestones to the best of their potential

• To engage all elements of a community in creating a “baby and toddler friendly” environment
Best Start LA Outcomes

- A comprehensive place-based investment where each strategy works together to positively affect child, family and community level outcomes:
  - Strengthened ability of families to understand their child’s cues and actively address their child’s health, development, needs, and uniqueness
  - Increased ability and efforts of families to foster the developmental function of their children so that they are ready for school
  - Strengthened attachment and bonding between members of families and children
  - Strengthened personal and social relationships within and between families
  - Community resources will meet the needs of the community so that their usage is increased
Best Start LA Outcomes (cont’d)

- Strengthened local community mobilization and advocacy
- Improvements to home and community built environments to support optimal child development
- Developed/improved policies that impact the Best Start LA population
- Increased capacity to meet the needs of families through improved workforce competencies in infant and toddler issues in three sectors (health, early care and education, mental health/social services)
- Improvement in information and technology systems that support the common use of data and information for family access and support, community planning and organizational efficiency
Best Start LA
Demo Community Strategies

• Family Engagement (aka Welcome, Baby!)
• Place-Based Activities
• Community Mobilizing
Best Start LA Building Blocks

- In addition to efforts in the 5 demonstration communities, Best Start LA will also invest in:
  - Workforce Development
  - Volunteer, Leadership and Organizational Development
  - Data Infrastructure
  - Training and Technical Assistance
  - Leveraging and Partnerships
  - Building Public and Political Will
Community Based Action Research (CBAR)

- CBAR is a community mobilizing, capacity building, and empowering method for the community, which is organized around three key integrated elements:
  - Research
  - Education
  - Action
CBAR Data

CBAR data will:

• Deepen First 5 LA’s understanding of hard to reach communities
• Expand ability to impact targeted communities

Assist First 5 LA and lead entities’ knowledge of:

• Community concerns
• Ideas of local residents
• Innovations of organizations
CBAR Objectives

The objectives for a CBAR technical assistance partner are to assist communities in:

• Building their capacity to use research in order to create sustainable, grassroots strategies to improve the lives of children 0-3, their families, and the communities that they live in

• Generate data from the target population in order to increase the Commissions’ understanding of the context, strengths and concerns of these communities and to help inform current and future initiatives
CBAR TA Scope of Work

Assisting the lead entities in engaging all relevant agencies, key champions, informal organizations and community members in the CBAR process to:

- Define local issues and concerns and define what CBAR participants want via an environmental scan
- Develop questions relevant to the issues and vision identified
- Gather and analyze relevant data
CBAR TA Scope of Work

Assisting the lead entities in engaging all relevant agencies, key champions, informal organizations and community members in the CBAR process to:

- Provide technical assistance, including training, coaching, and mentoring
- Document and disseminate the lessons learned from CBAR
- Prepare recommendations for the Best Start LA Partnership
- Meet regularly with First 5 LA staff
CBAR Process

• Demonstration Community Collaborative Network
• Community Engagement
• Community Input/Research
• Best Start LA outcomes
• How the Work Will Be Accomplished
CBAR Technical Assistance
RFQ Timeline

- RFQ Release: December 5, 2008
- Informational Session: January 7, 2009
- Deadline to Submit Questions: January 14, 2009
- Due Date for RFQ: January 28, 2009
- Selection for Interview Notification: February 11, 2009
- Interview for Qualified Applicant/s: February 13 or 18, 2009
- Selected Contractor Notified: February 27, 2009
- Scope of Work Development Commences: March 4, 2009
- Work Commences: June 1, 2009
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Q & A Session

• Submit questions on note card provided
• Answers to be posted on website

www.first5la.org