

SmartBabies: Early Childhood Initiative

Steering Committee Composition:

Our community is one of great need, but also one of wealthy resources. The work of the SmartBabies Steering Committee has rich implications for the children of our community, who require a committee that represents a multitude of organizations and fields. The goal is to have representatives from healthcare, business, general community, as well as a home visitation expert, evaluation expert, early childhood and child development expert and a trustee of Waco Foundation's board.

Committee Charge:

Be fully informed of the findings in the Early Childhood Quality of Life Report.

Advise the development and implementation of a strategic plan that will raise the Early Childhood Quality of Life Index by 10% within five years and 25% within 10 years in McLennan County, specifically focusing on efforts to improve conditions in all zip codes where the Quality of Life Index is below the County's overall score of 41.67%.

Oversee the plan to measure progress in the community.

Promote the work of the SmartBabies Initiative in Greater Waco.

Committee Goals:

To develop a shared understanding of the status of Waco's youngest, most at-risk residents.

To advise the development of a plan, which includes targets that are attainable and will result in real change for Waco's youngest residents in high-need zip codes. The plan will reflect the current state of Waco's young children in those high-need zip codes; the capacity and existing work of the local early childhood organizations and infrastructure already in place; and the most current research from the field about needs and effectiveness of evidence-based practices that are proven to make an impact on the target population: potentially pregnant females, expectant mothers and their children 0-3.