“Discussion and Examples of Various Guiding Principle Vernacular”

Guiding Principles Definition

Guiding principles are any principles or precepts that guide an organization throughout its life in all circumstances, irrespective of changes in its goals, strategies, type of work or the top management (source: The Business Dictionary).

Guiding principles can be seen as guidelines that drive behavior or mindset when executing the strategic and operational plans that lead to an organization's success.

Health and Human Services Guiding Principles

County officials recognize the importance of adequately providing for quality health and human services to protect and assist citizens in need. As a critical link in federal/state/county/agency human services partnerships, formulating and implementing policies that protect the health, safety and welfare for all is important.

GP #1: We support allowing for flexibility in the delivery of health and human services within communities to achieve the desired levels of services based on local needs and priorities.

GP #2: We support expanding health care access and believe that efforts to refine and enhance state and local programs that provide access to affordable health care are essential.

GP #3: We support policies that increase access to acute care behavioral health services for individuals and families.

GP #4: We support policies that increase supportive housing, jail diversion, and employment and education initiatives for people with mental health, substance abuse issues, behavioral health issues and/or disabilities.

GP #5: We support the implementation of discharge protocols and/or procedures for hospitals, correctional facilities, and mental health facilities when releasing homeless persons.

GP #6: We support the development of policies to serve target populations: the chronically homeless, veterans, and families and children.

GP #7: We support policies that lessen fragmentation and costly duplication of transportation disadvantaged services.

GP #8: We support, when feasible, directing existing funding from institutional care to community-based care programs.
GP #9: We support that the health and wellbeing of a community is a function of its quality of life, including the delivery of health and human services supported by public policy and funding those in need of such services.

PBC Securing our Future Guiding Principles:

GP #1: All workers should be able to earn a living wage and be provided an opportunity to develop their skills over time to facilitate upward mobility.

GP #2: Structural and institutional racism must be dismantled in order to address the economic disparities that currently exist.

GP #3: Elected officials, institutional leaders, employers, non-profits, foundations, workers and other members of society all play a role in individuals entering and staying in the workforce.

GP #4: All residents should have the opportunity to work to their fullest potential, earn a decent income as a primary way to meet their personal, social and economic responsibilities.

GP #5: Business and other organizations play a critical role in providing quality work and providing opportunities for upward mobility.

GP #6: Employment support benefits should provide enough economic stability for families to stabilize and advance economically and live in dignity.

The HHS Element and Guiding Principles

The Goals, Objectives and Policies within the HHS Element convey the County’s intent to:

- Use Guiding Principles for health & human services decisions
- Provide direction on how to use the HHS Element to make decisions/recommendations
- Describe and codify the purpose and role of the HHS Element with other Comprehensive Plan components, supporting documents and implementation measures.
- Define how components of the HHS Element and Comprehensive Plan work together.
- Define the relationship between the HHS Element, Comprehensive Plan and regional plans.
- Establish consistency with the HHS Element and coordination among agencies.

The Goals, Objectives and Policies within the HHS Element cover a wide variety of topics, but they are all written for the purpose of informing and guiding health & human service decisions.

Achieve Palm Beach County Guiding Principles
In designing and implementing this work, this initiative is committed to the following guiding principles:

And education beyond high school means any form of post-secondary criteria, including professional certificates and licenses as well as college degrees.

The voices of students and parent are essential in designing approaches to increase access and completion of educational programs and support.

The initiative must intentionally consider all types of students and be inclusive of the many diverse communities with PBC.

The route to and through an education beyond high school may different for each student, requiring individual options and supports that meet student’s unique needs and interests.

Collective impact provides a framework for collaboration, alignment and synergy that will most efficiently maximize community efforts to improve post-high school access and completion outcomes.

Randy Palo Recommendations

Add “Guiding Principles” in the Introduction and include statements, among others, committing to:

- Collective impact
- Racial equity
- Engagement of community residents
- Provision of services to vulnerable populations, such as Special Needs, LGBQT, etc.
- Engagement of the faith-based community in the system of care

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