

The Mental Health & Well-Being of Young People in County Kerry

A Needs and Resource Assessment

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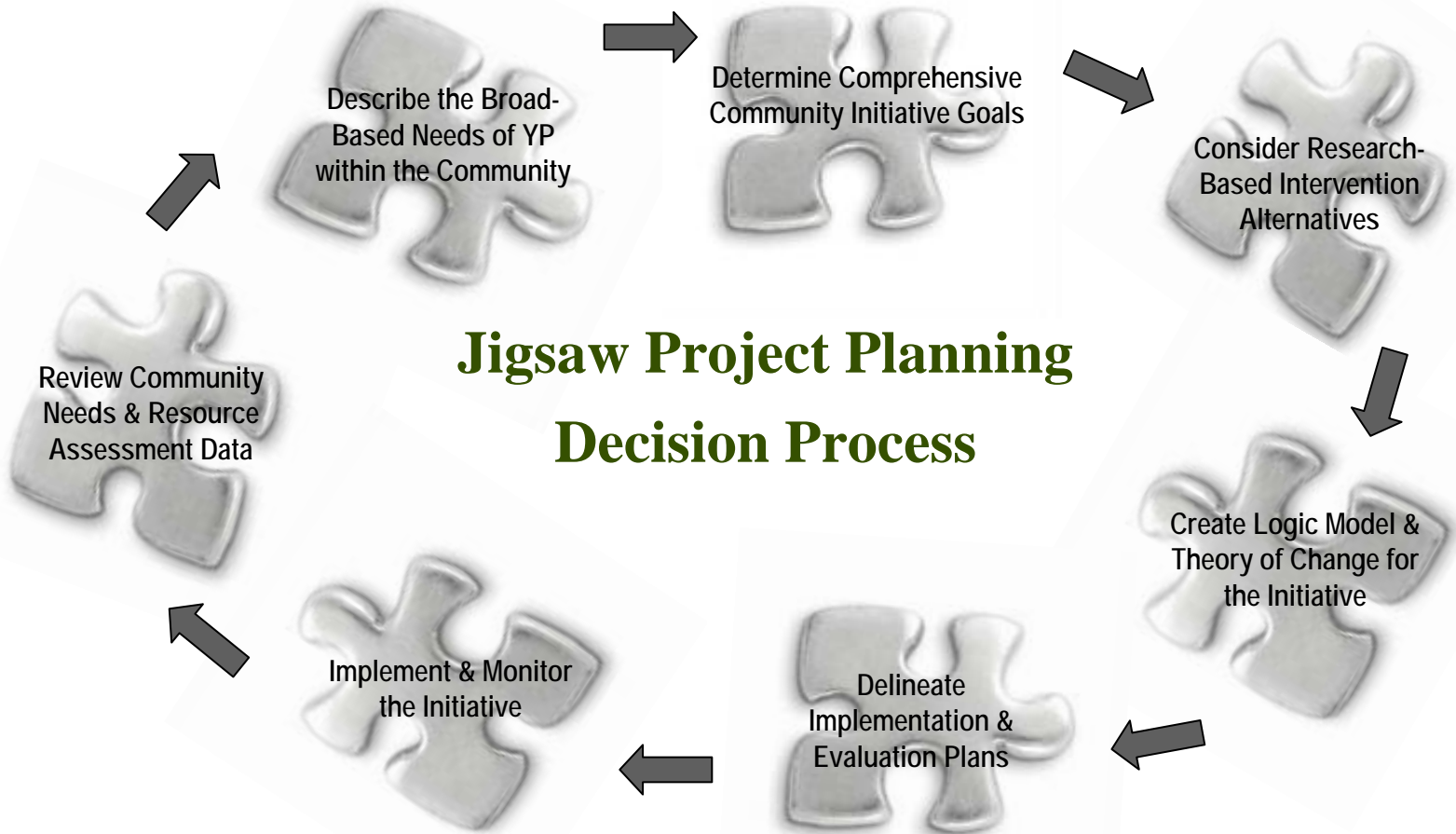
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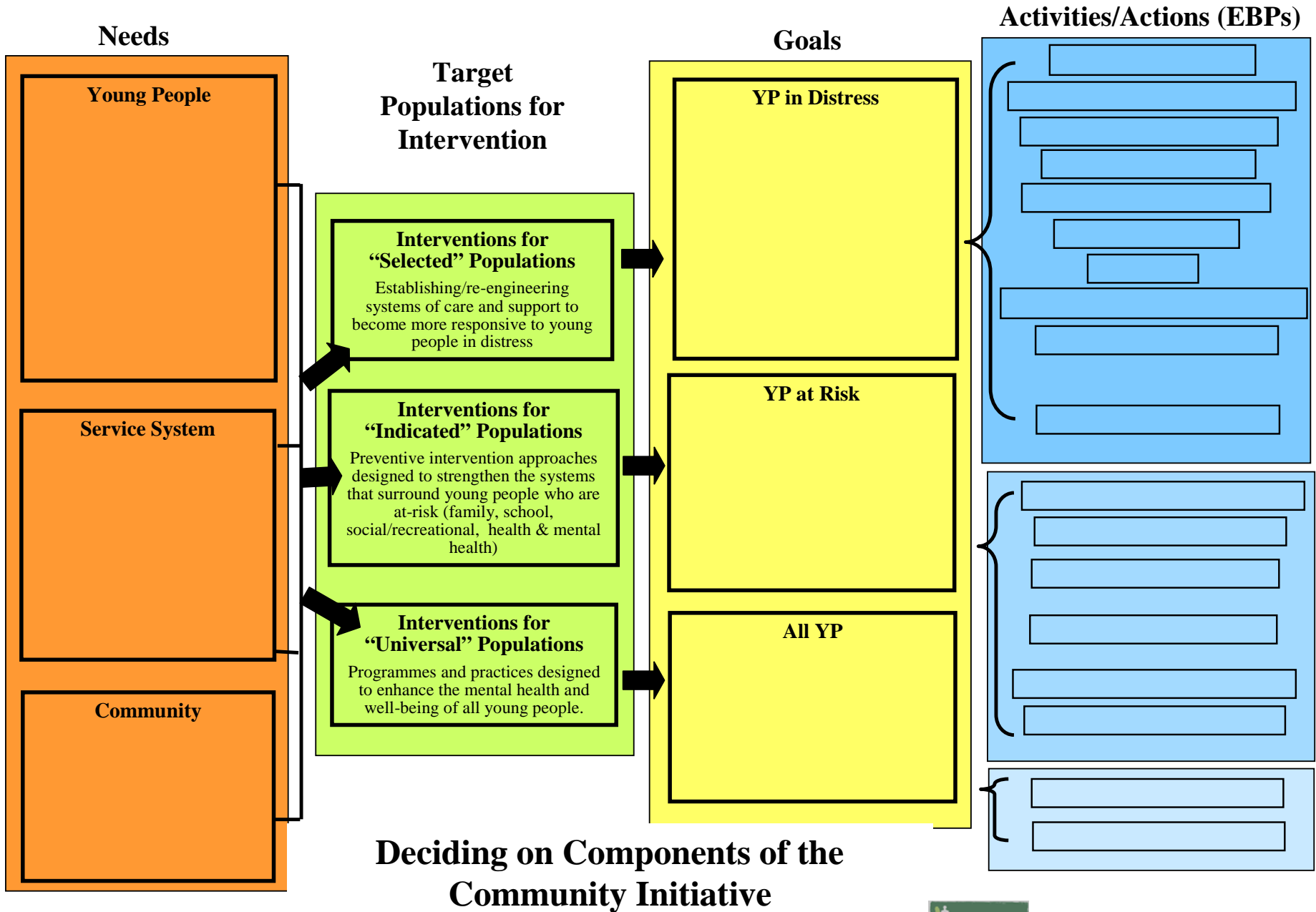
Opening Comments

- Purpose of the day is to reflect on Kerry as a community, with particular reference to young people and their needs, and then to delineate some priority need statements.
- We'll review a lot of material, with frequent opportunities to discuss and explore.
- As we discuss, keep informal notes on what for you seem to be the most important needs of young people to focus on.
- Some of the need statements are likely to focus on individuals (young people themselves), others will focus on service and supports, and still others will be at the community level.
- As the discussion evolves, don't try to evaluate or rate these need statements, we'll do that as a group at the end of the day.
- The most important part of today's work is the discussion and synthesis that will occur upon reviewing the information to be presented. Many of our slides and charts are designed to promote such discussion and frame what is important to consider.
- We'll do our best to make sure everyone has a chance to speak. There is a tremendous richness to the material we will present, but even more important, within the group there are numerous perspectives and experiences represented, and this will insure a depthful and meaningful discussion.

General Outline of the Day's Content

- Consider a conceptual framework that will help us sort and synthesize the various strands of information we'll be examining
- Review broad geographic, demographic, economic, and social data from the *County Kerry Development Board Atlas*, examining the context of Kerry as a community and implications for the mental health and well-being of young people
- Examine more detailed Kerry-specific data generated by Headstrong on variables such as population, family, ethnicity, education, and economic status from the 2006 census, to pinpoint influences and issues related to young people
- Review the themes and findings of prior research and evaluation efforts (including needs assessments) about young people in Kerry
- Consider, in depth, the information gleaned from our needs and resources assessment, including key informant interviews, focus groups, community provider surveys, and social indicators focusing on the health, mental health, and well-being of young people
- Delineate a set of needs statements at the individual, service system, and community levels that can provide the foundation for goal-setting and broad intervention design (the focus of the 20 June session)





**Systems Framework for
Organizing Themes,
Structuring Needs, &
Targeting Interventions**

