



Wyoming Department of Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2010-006

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Joe Simpson, Deputy State Superintendent 

DATE: January 8, 2010

SUBJECT: Wyoming's Substance Abuse and Mental Health Comprehensive Blueprint

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS REQUESTED

In 2001, the legislature mandated that the Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) “develop a detailed, comprehensive substance abuse control plan for the prevention, early intervention and treatment designed to curb alcohol and controlled substance abuse in the state of Wyoming.” W.S. § 9-2-122. The WDH, per this legislative directive, developed and released the first edition of Wyoming’s control plan titled “Reclaiming Wyoming: A Comprehensive Blueprint for the Prevention, Early Intervention and Treatment of Substance Abuse.” Since 2001, the legislature has significantly impacted Wyoming’s substance abuse and mental health system, requiring an update to the Blueprint.

WDH is partnering with SIGNAL and OPEN MINDS on the Blueprint revisions. These Blueprint revisions will incorporate substance abuse and mental health into an updated plan for Wyoming. The revision of the 2001 Blueprint is an effort to keep up with changes in the behavioral health field and provide a vision of how those elements can be utilized. The Blueprint will serve as a roadmap to provide consumers, providers, legislators, policy makers and other stakeholders with a shared vision of Wyoming's system.

This is an exciting time for Superintendents and Principals to get involved in mental health and addiction services by participating as a focus group/stakeholder member in group meetings. Group meetings are currently being scheduled around the state. If your district/school would like to participate or schedule a group meeting, please contact Nancy VanDeMark at nrvandemark@comcast.net or (303) 808-1960.

Log-on to the Blueprint website at www.wyo-blueprint2010.com and find the latest information about the update process.

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