



# Permanency Enhancement Project Technical Assistance Annual Report Update

---

## **Southern Region Carbondale Action Team**

*This two-part report provides an update of all PEP Action Team and University Partner activities during the 2018 fiscal year (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018). Information herein is based off of communication and correspondence with key Action Team members and all other stakeholder group members. These individuals potentially include action team lead contact persons, PEP regional staff, other division employees, area community members, and families involved in the PEP initiative in the related counties.*

### **Action Team Catchment Area**

The **Carbondale Action Team** encompasses the following counties listed below:

- Franklin
- Jackson
- Perry
- Williamson

### **University Partner Activity Overview**

During fiscal year 2018 the Department of Children and Family Services worked with the University Partner (Southern Illinois University Edwardsville- SIUE) to retain faculty researchers and graduate students (who serve in the role of PEP Action Team Community Liaisons) to explore barriers to permanency, including but not limited to trends in racial disparity and disproportionality as it impacts child outcomes in the Southern Region of Illinois.

During the year, the Department of Children and Family Services Quality Assurance Department did not provide updated annual county level permanency data. Thus, this report is based on the last data received. That data was received in Quarter 4 of FY 2016. Consequently, the analytic report, provided by the University research team documents permanencies, by age and race, over the 2016 period and not the current 2018 fiscal year. This data analysis will be provided in a **supplementary Permanency Action Team Data Report**.

In addition to analyzing permanency data, the PEP Community Liaison (University Graduate Student **Megan Miller** contacted representatives who had been identified as leaders of the **Carbondale action team** and explored PEP goals, accomplishments, barriers and activities. Communication with the following individuals occurred:

Name	Role in DCFS or PEP Action Team
Janelle Pulcher	Previous Carbondale Action Team Leader
Shelly Glasco	Current Carbondale Action Team Leader

Research assistant made several attempts to communicate with action team leaders and the 3 attempts were successful. New Action team leader was very responsive till Feb 2018. Several attempts were made to contact the Action team leader which turned unsuccessful due to no response.

*\* To see dates of contact and method of communication please refer to attached contact log document*

*[https://siuecougars-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/kimcart\\_siue\\_edu/EZsx-7eJYf5KtiTi9HZVWz8BUKDJf-pQLUIYR9RQxVVx1Q?e=SP5RVm](https://siuecougars-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/kimcart_siue_edu/EZsx-7eJYf5KtiTi9HZVWz8BUKDJf-pQLUIYR9RQxVVx1Q?e=SP5RVm)*

### **Context of Permanency Barriers for Action Team Catchment Area**

*This section includes a list of the permanency barriers discussed by action team members that are prevalent in the action team catchment area.*

- Re-constituting action team and renewing membership
- Team is in Transition period, due to new leadership (i.e. the action team leader is new)

### **Fiscal Year 2018 Action Team Goals**

*This section includes a current list of goals identified by the action team membership.*

- Action team goal was to rebuild the membership of the Action team
- Action team wanted to keep up with the new membership
- Action team was keen in conducting frequent meetings with the membership to discuss permanency concerns
- Action team was determined to support new action team leader and assistance.
- Action team wanted to explore innovative ways of communication with the membership

## **Action Team Goal Related Activity Overview**

Action team has outreached to different community partners to identify the potential members of the action team.

### **Discussion of Action Team Activities to Improve Permanency in the Catchment Area**

Team has the concerns with the action team membership. The major concern is with Reconstituting the team with eligible members. This being the reason, action team has been inactive since November 2017. Not having a consistent leader has been a hinderance to the team to being able to keep it active. Team was still trying it's best to keep up with the transition period due to new leadership.

Team was diligently working to explore use of innovative communication strategies (i.e. phone conference call or video conference meetings such as Skype to overcome barriers with traveling time and accessibility). Team was also working to support new Action Team Leader, in new role and offer assistance. Team is involved in several outreach activities to identify the potential members of Action team.

### **Action Team Next Steps:**

Carbondale Action team majorly wanted to focus on Building Action Team membership. Action team wanted to continue the outreach in identifying the potential members. Team also has set regular meeting schedule for Action Team and market to constituents and prospective members. Team a wanted to Implement survey to assess support needs of 'Action Team' to garner ongoing specified support form University partner which will further specify work with local community.

**Attached you will find related meeting minutes, correspondence, event flyers, and/or other relevant materials that document Action Team activities.**

[https://siuecougars-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/kimcart\\_siue\\_edu/ERpfkaA5PI1GoIKPLvJlonMB4ziH7dNyvQdbqOeeJcekPw?e=IXE8V7](https://siuecougars-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/kimcart_siue_edu/ERpfkaA5PI1GoIKPLvJlonMB4ziH7dNyvQdbqOeeJcekPw?e=IXE8V7)

[https://siuecougars-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/kimcart\\_siue\\_edu/EZsx-7eJYf5KtiTi9HZVWz8BUKDjf-pQLUIYR9RQxVVx1Q?e=CpYK57](https://siuecougars-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/kimcart_siue_edu/EZsx-7eJYf5KtiTi9HZVWz8BUKDjf-pQLUIYR9RQxVVx1Q?e=CpYK57)

