**Dubuque Community Schools**

### 2012-2013 Planning Guide

#### Situation
- Needs Analysis
- What does the data say?
- What do you think you should do?

#### Input
- Dubuque Community School District had an average of 141.25 drop-outs per year from 2007-2011. We need to decrease the number of students who drop-out from DCSD.
- We need to re-engage drop-outs in meaningful ways and support them in gaining meaningful employment.

## Needs Assessment:
- DCSD dropout numbers:
  - 2007-08: 123
  - 2008-09: 171
  - 2009-10: 135
  - 2010-11: 136
- A drop out is twice as likely to have a job below the poverty guidelines and have a lifetime earning potential of $1,078,097.
- Earning potential is closely correlated to education. A greater range of career options will be available to those that have post secondary education and/or advanced degrees. In Iowa, it is anticipated that less than a high school education will mean earning $9.81 an hour, while those that receive a diploma or earn a GED will earn $13.66 per hour. Those who complete a post secondary degree will earn $16.30 an hour and those that complete an advanced degree will earn $25.97 per hour.

## Activities

#### What will you do?
- See the Re-engagement Center Goals and Strategies Document.
- Staff and open a Community Re-engagement Center.
- Conduct marketing campaign to advertise Re-engagement Center.

#### Short Term Goals
- Develop a quality intake process.
- Re-engage 25% of drop-outs each year.
- Support re-engaged youth so that they obtain a diploma or GED and obtain meaningful employment.

#### Intermediate
- Increase the economic well-being of the Dubuque Community.

### Goals
1. Establish a Re-engagement Center for youth ages 16-21 who drop-out of the Dubuque Community Schools.
2. Re-engage 25% of the students who drop-out of the Dubuque Community Schools each year.
3. Develop an individualized plan for each drop-out who re-engages.

## Evaluation: How do you know what you did and was it effective?

### Data Collection for Implementation Questions

#### Implementation Evaluation

1. Is the Re-engagement Center established, staffed, and open by August 2012?
2. To what extent did we conduct a marketing campaign?
3. Did we re-engage 25% of DCSD drop-outs each year of operation?
4. How many re-engaged youth earned a diploma or GED?
5. How many re-engaged youth gained meaningful employment?

### Student Outcome Evaluation

- More youth earn a high school diploma or GED and gain meaningful employment.
- Drop-out number decreases each school year.

### IMPACT Evaluation

- Dubuque has a better educated workforce; the schools have less drop-outs and more graduates.