

## APPENDIX B: THREE-YEAR EDI COMMUNITY PROCESS

The following is the draft copy of the Three-Year EDI Community Process. It has been developed by Communities Together for Children (in 2007) and is based on a three-year cycle; it is an evolving process that is currently being worked through. The process contains six steps and begins with item #c in Step 1: *Host Community Reporting Event*. When the new Early Development Instrument (EDI) results are received, they are reported to the community (as occurred on January 11, 2008 at the “Bringing the Community Together for the Children” event). **Note:** *The revenue generated (via registration fees) for this event is reinvested back into the community to fill gaps as part of the funded proposals resulting from Step 5.* Based on these results, an *Area of Focus* is selected to address areas of weakness identified by the EDI and supported by other data (Step 2 - refer to figure 3 for an enlargement of this step). A Community Needs Report is produced for the Area of Focus and used by the Champion of Children Council to issue a Call for Proposals (Step 3). The submitted proposals are then prioritized by a Community Network and the Council (Step 4) and used to issue a Call for Sponsorships (Step 5). The funded proposals are implemented (Step 6) and then reported on at the next “Bringing the Community Together for the Children” event.



Figure 2

This model enables the community to directly match dollars (\$) to identified community gaps/needs, based on data. It provides a mechanism for funders to support multiple agencies directly and indirectly i.e. those agencies that have programs focused in the age range, pre-natal up to and including six years of age, and those agencies who deal with intervention-based programs and will benefit by reduced strain on the system due to the effectiveness of prevention-based programs. The model is based on:

- the science of early child development as documented in the *Early Years Study 2: Putting Science Into Action* report (which details how children's early experiences impact how their brain is wired, which in-turn determines their future life-long health, learning and behaviour; it also clearly articulates the business case of this type of preventative approach);
- the EDI data, that measures children's early experiences and provides an on-going mechanism to monitor how children in our community are doing; and,
- what the community experts/organizations have offered as solutions to address the identified needs.

### Three-Year EDI Community Process: Step 2 - Determine an Area of Focus

Once an *Area of Focus* is selected, based on weaknesses identified by the EDI results and other sources of data, agencies that have mandates for the selected area will be contacted to form a team. This team will identify gaps that exist in the community as well as the goals needed to fill the gaps, as related to the area of focus. To accomplish this, a scan of related programs/services that are in-use in the community will be undertaken to compile an inventory of what is available to children and families; when available, input as to best practices will be included. This process will uncover gaps and goals, and will form the basis of the Community Needs report that will be delivered as input to Step 3: *Issue Call for Proposals*.

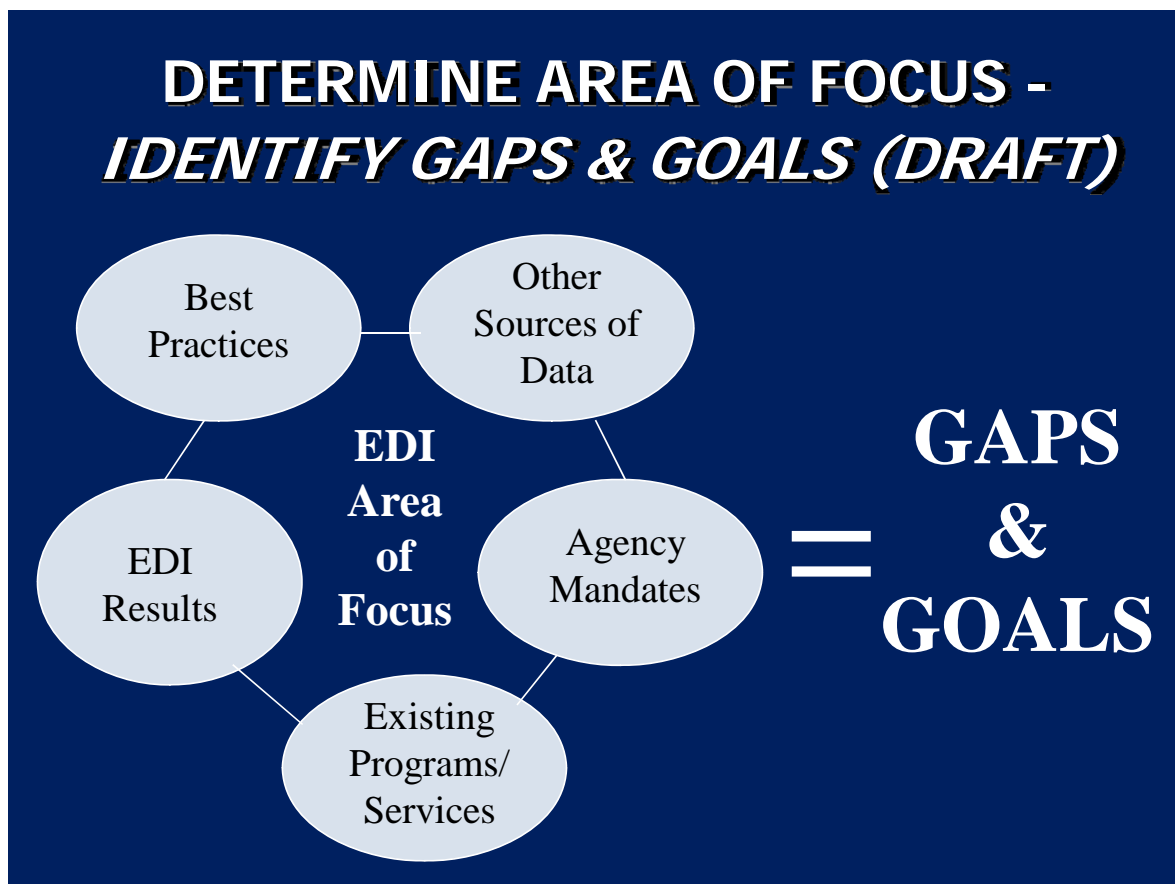


Figure 3