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Ready by 21 Webinar: Landscape Mapping

On May 14, 2009, the Forum for Youth Investment hosted a webinar on the topic of “Landscape Mapping.” The session, part of the Ready by 21 Webinar series, offered the opportunity to hear from presenters who led Program Landscape Mapping processes in Richmond, VA and in five communities in the state of Illinois. The webinar explored the foundational concepts of why a community would want to gather information regarding the program landscape, and how the information can be used to help leaders make decisions and take action.

The first speaker was Ian Faigley, Program Manager at the Forum for Youth Investment, who introduced Landscape Mapping as one tool that helps communities understand what services, supports, and opportunities are available to children and youth.

The second presenter was Sandra Booth, Manager of Community Initiatives: Children, Youth, and Families at the United Way of Richmond and Petersburg. She discussed the Program Landscape Mapping process conducted in Richmond, specifically how partners were engaged in the process, the development of the survey, collection of data and using data to shape an Action Plan. Ms. Booth shared Richmond’s survey tool and emphasized the importance of collaboration throughout the Landscape Mapping process.

Kiley Bednar, Program Manager of the Forum for Youth Investment, and former Special Initiatives Manager at Prevention First in Illinois, concluded the session. Kiley shared her experience of leading five pilot sites in a Landscape Mapping process in Illinois, highlighting the data gathered and used by Grundy County. Kiley discussed how the program landscape data informed Grundy County’s Healthy Community Action Agenda.

Q & A

In response to questions submitted via chat during the webinar, please find the following follow-up documents at:

<http://www.forumfyi.org/content/ready-21-webinar-landscape-mapping-may-14-200-300-pm-est>

- **Richmond OST Landscape Map:** This document is an example of a Landscape Mapping survey developed by the Richmond and Petersburg Partnership for Out of School Time.
- **Ready by 21 Guide to Program Landscape Mapping:** This document provides the rationale and key steps to consider when conducting a landscape mapping process in a community.