

## **Community Improvement Strategy: Community, Childhood and Leadership Development**

### **Community Improvement Strategy:**

**Miller County will address issues surrounding childhood development and health by creating a playground on property adjacent to the new county K-12 school.**

### **Issues to be addressed**

Play is a critical part of a child's development. Games and play activities can sharpen a child's physical and social skills in ways that will benefit that person for the rest of their lives. Additionally, physical activity helps combat childhood obesity which is a growing problem not only in Miller County and the state of Georgia, but nationwide. To address these issues, Miller County and the City of Colquitt will construct a playground adjacent to the new K-12 school. The playground will also serve as a community gathering place and point of pride. This will be a space where friends and neighbors can meet and watch their children or possibly exercise and play themselves. Alumni from the Leadership Colquitt class will be used as volunteers to complete the different parts of the project. Each class will be given a different part to complete along with a timeline and budget. Utilizing the Leadership Colquitt graduates in this way will enhance leadership in the community and give the alumni a concrete project to complete and to which they can apply the principles they learned in the class. By encouraging play, and thereby better physical, mental and emotional fitness, and increased leadership within the community, Miller County and the City of Colquitt will help improve the future of the community and all of its residents.

### **Strategy**

Over the two year period Miller County will accomplish the following:

1. Build a playground at the new K-12 school
2. Write articles in the local paper, church bulletins, public health publications and PTA/PTSO newsletter promoting the playground and its benefits (articles to be written by Leadership Colquitt alumni)
3. Utilize Leadership Colquitt alumni to complete the different phases of the project

**The community will measure its success at the end of two years, by:**

1. Completion of the playground
2. Successful utilization of Leadership Colquitt graduates to complete the project

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

<b>Issue Addressed</b>	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Responsible Local Partners</b>	<b>Responsible State Partners</b>	<b>Cost Estimate</b>	<b>Possible Funding Sources</b>	<b>Starting and ending dates for completion of action item</b>
Leadership Development	Divide the entire project into parts and assign those parts to Leadership Colquitt classes	Chamber of Commerce; School Board; City of Colquitt; Miller County; Family Connection Partnership, Inc., Miller County Parent Booster	DOE	\$150 – administrative costs	City of Colquitt/Miller County	15 September – 15 October 2009
Leadership Development	Give each Leadership Colquitt class a timeline and budget for their part of the project	Chamber of Commerce; School Board; City of Colquitt; Miller County; Family Connection Partnership, Inc., Miller County Parent Booster	DOE	\$100 – administrative and possibly printing	City of Colquitt/Miller County	15 September – 15 October 2009
Community Development	Create a timeline and budget for the entire project	School Board; City of Colquitt; Miller County; Family Connection Partnership, Inc., Miller County Parent Booster	DCA; DOE	\$100 – administrative and possibly printing	City of Colquitt/Miller County	6 July – 15 September 2009

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Community Development	Write articles to run in the local paper, PTA/PTO newsletter, church bulletins and public health newsletter	School Board; Chamber of Commerce; Leadership Colquitt Alumni; Family Connection Partnership, Inc., Miller County Parent Booster	DOE	\$150 - possible fees to put article in newsletter/paper	City of Colquitt/Miller County	15 September – End of Project
Childhood Development	Research different types of play structures and design the park – possibly utilize students from Bainbridge Community College	Chamber of Commerce; School Board; City of Colquitt; Miller County; Bainbridge Community College; Family Connection Partnership, Inc., Miller County Parent Booster	DOE	\$1000 – possibly less if students are used or friend of person in town volunteers time	City of Colquitt/Miller County	15 September – 31 October 2009
Childhood Development	Accept bids for construction of the project and choose a contractor	School Board; City of Colquitt; Miller County; Chamber of Commerce; Family Connection Partnership, Inc., Miller County Parent Booster	DOE	\$200 – administrative costs in reviewing bids and meeting contractors	City of Colquitt/Miller County	1 December – 1 January 2010

Issue Addressed	Action Item	Responsible Local Partners	Responsible State Partners	Cost Estimate	Possible Funding Sources	Starting and ending dates for completion of action item
Childhood Development	Construct the playground	School Board; City of Colquitt; Miller County; Chamber of Commerce; Leadership Colquitt Alumni; Family Connection Partnership, Inc., Miller County Parent Booster	DOE	\$20, 800	Parent Teacher Organization; Communities of Opportunity; Miller County; City of Colquitt	1 January 2010 – August 2010

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto Agree to adopt the Miller County Community Improvement Strategy.

FOR THE RECIPIENT

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, County

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Program Coordinator

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City