Planning Structure Noteworthy Practice:

Clear Frameworks Guide Collaborative Planning

A well-defined framework helps coordinate across partners, set goals, and maintain progress over time.

Noteworthy Practices for Clear Planning Structure Frameworks:

- Involve diverse stakeholders to capture local expertise and lived experience
- Coordinate planning efforts across agencies and jurisdictions for consistency
- Define clear objectives and outcomes to align expectations
- Develop a phased timeline to track progress and maintain accountability
- Establish a structured meeting schedule centered on defined focus areas

The following success stories highlight how SS4A grant recipients have applied these practices in their grants.

Safety Planning Through Structured Oversight

Whitley County
Indiana, Rural, FY22
View Whitley County's Action Plan to learn more

Whitley County strengthened coordination and accountability in its safety planning process by **forming a steering committee to align goals across departments**, anticipate challenges, and maintain steady progress. Whitley County:

- Convened a range of City and County stakeholders to provide a variety of expertise and perspectives.
- Built realistic timelines to manage expectations and proactively mitigate potential delays or unexpected challenges.
- Remained adaptable to changes and leveraged the committee's insight to navigate challenges effectively.

Whitley County Steering Committee

County Leadership
- County Commissioners
- Commissioner's Assistant

Planning & Development
- Planning and Building Director
- Planning Commission Members

Public Works & Infrastructure
- County Engineer
- Highway Director
- Highway Department

Public Safety
- County Sheriff
- Emergency Management Director
- Fire Chief*

**Held a dual role as the representative for the largest incorporated town in the county.*

Source: Adapted by Guidehouse from content provided by Whitley County

Aligning Planning Efforts through Coordination

Midland County
Texas, Rural, FY22
View Midland County's Action Plan to learn more

Midland County **partnered with the City of Midland to synchronize planning efforts,** improving communication, reducing redundancy, and fostering mutual accountability throughout plan development. Midland County:

- Created a joint task force with representatives from both the City and County to promote coordination and implement joint projects.
- Formed subcommittees within the task force to evaluate and respond to specific focus areas.
- Developed a three-phase workplan and project timeline outlining goals, milestones, and expected outcomes for each stage of the planning process.



Midland County's task force combined two broad planning meetings with three focused subcommittee sessions, building alignment early.

> **"The [task force] ... will continue to serve and be instrumental in helping to spread awareness and education related to the plan implementation."**

Source: Midland County, used with permission by Guidehouse