



Strategic Thinking to Align Initiatives and Integrate Management, Supervision, and Practice

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Purpose Today

- Distinguish between strategic thinking and strategic planning
- Explore how strategic thinking has been used to align multiple plans and create more effective tools for moving agencies forward in three States:
 - North Carolina
 - Connecticut
 - Florida



What is strategic thinking?

- Creating an ideal future by defining and achieving results that add value
- It is the way you think about, assess, view and create the future
- Considers:
 - Agency priorities
 - Drivers of those priorities
 - Leverage points



How is strategic thinking different from strategic planning?

- Strategic planning:
 - Continual formal process for increasing organizational performance by developing strategies to produce results
- Strategic thinking:
 - Way of understanding the fundamental drivers of an agency
 - Supplies the 'input' to produce strategic plans
 - Uncovers opportunities, challenges existing assumptions



Why focus on strategic thinking vs. strategic planning?

- Maximize scarce resources
- Maintain focus on organizational vision and mission
- Create alignment
- Build on synergy created by common efforts across organizations and within the larger community