



**BARNSTABLE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
BARNSTABLE COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL  
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**Barnstable County Health and Human Services Advisory Council  
Thursday, February 25, 2010  
Hyannis Transportation Center ~ 9 – 11 AM**

Barnstable County Council for Children, Youth & Families:  
Barnstable County Human Rights Commission:  
Cape & Islands HIV/AIDS Service Coordination Collaborative:  
Cape & Islands Regional Domestic Violence Council:  
Cape & Martha's Vineyard Community Health Center Network:  
Cape Cod Council of Churches:  
Cape Cod Healthcare (At Large):  
Cape Cod Hunger Network:  
Cape Cod Neighborhood Support Coalition:  
CAREER Collaborative:  
Community Action Committee of Cape & Islands (At Large):  
Community Benefits:  
Community Coalition of Cape Cod:  
Community Health Network Area (CHNA):  
Consumer:  
Disability Network (At Large):  
Grant Makers Collaborative:  
Leadership Council to End Homelessness:  
Legal Aid Coalition of SE Mass:  
Lower Cape Councils on Aging:  
Mid Cape Councils on Aging:  
Power in Aging Collaborative:  
Substance Abuse/Behavioral Health System:  
Town Health Departments:  
Tri County Collaborative for Oral Health Excellence:  
Upper Cape Councils on Aging:  
Upper Cape Health & Human Services:  
Wampanoag Tribal Health Center:

**In attendance (Members):**

Kathy Quatromoni (Alt)  
Elisabeth Dolby (Alt)  
Liz DiCarlo (Alt)  
Mary Ann Mills-Lassiter (Rep)  
Claire Goyer (Rep)  
  
Brenda Swain (Rep)  
Beverly Costa-Ciavola (Rep)  
  
Estella Fritzingler (Rep)  
Diane Munsell (Rep)  
Kristin Carboni (Rep)  
Katherine Wernier (Rep)  
Jeanne Adams (Rep)  
  
Estella Fritzingler (Alt)  
  
Marilyn Nouri (Rep)  
  
BL Hathaway (Rep)  
Jim Long (Rep)  
Karen Cardeira (Rep), Gail Wilson (Alt)

**Staff:** Barnstable County Department of Human Services: Beth Albert, Chair & Kathleen Seymour, AmeriCorps VISTA

**Elected Officials:** Assembly of Delegates: George Bryant      Commissioner: Sheila Lyons

**Guests:** Belinda Centeio – BMC HealthNet, Katie Mueller – Cape Cod Foundation (AmeriCorps), Alan Trebat – Regional Network to End Homelessness

**Unable to attend:** Pat Fecher, Diane Casey-Lee, Caronanne Procaccini, Carol Summersall

**Welcome Introductions**

Introductions were made by all in attendance. Kathleen reviewed sign-in procedures.

**Approval of January minutes:**

Motion by **Jim Long**, seconded by **Estella Fritzingler** to accept the January minutes as written – unanimously approved.

## **Presentation: Regional Network to End Homelessness**

Beth Albert introduced Alan Trebat, who presented on the Regional Network to End Homelessness. Alan distributed PowerPoint handouts of his presentation. Alan reviewed the 1995 establishment of the Cape and Islands Continuum of Care, noting that this group is comprised of individual representatives from "service providers, government, business entities, and consumers." (slide 2) In 2004, the Cape and Islands Coordinating Council for the Homeless was renamed as The Leadership Council to End Homelessness on the Cape and Islands. The group function was changed from "managing homelessness" to "the targeting of resources at actions to end homelessness." (slide 3) In 2005, the Council established a 10-year plan to end homelessness, and in 2006 the Massachusetts legislature established The Special Commission Relative to Ending Homelessness in the Commonwealth. The Special Commission's role is to house the current homeless population, and prevent further homelessness for those at risk. In 2007, the Special Commission developed a 5-year plan to end homelessness, focused on permanent housing rather than the shelter system. The Commission recommended that the state's Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness (ICHH) oversee the 5-year plan. In 2008, a \$765,000 grant was awarded to fund prevention and diversion on the Cape and Islands from the ICHH, thereby establishing the Cape and Islands Regional Network to End Homelessness. The Cape and Islands region is one of ten regional networks state-wide. Alan reviewed the focus of the Regional Network, stating that it is centered on prevention, diversion, rapid re-housing, and stabilization. (slide 8) Alan stated that there are 17-18 individuals on the Regional Network's Policy Board who will serve as the Network's "primary decision making entity." (slide 10) A Regional Network Executive Committee has also been established, and this 8 member Committee is responsible for steering the Policy Board. Alan described how the Regional Network has created two critical components----the Client Coordination Council and the Telephone Triage Hotline. The Client Coordination Council will be identifying best practices and providing collaboration between case managers and advocates. The Telephone Triage Hotline is intended to provide 24/7 emergency assistance for those facing a housing crisis. The Triage Hotline provides immediate access to assistance, uniform intake and screening, as well as client assessment and support for long-term solutions. Alan described how the program was initiated May 15, 2009, and that \$322,000 of the grant money was allocated for prevention (keeping families in their homes) and diversion (keeping families out of shelters.) He noted that approximately \$280,000 of the \$322,000 has been used in about 200 cases thusfar. Alan emphasized that a funding match is required, and that for every dollar spent, each agency must provide an equal match.

Jeanne Adams asked Alan what the next step will be, and Alan replied that the Regional Network needs to review what it wants sustained, and where it will be receiving the funding. He noted that fundraising locally and collaboratively for private, federal, and grant monies, would be a next step.

Sheila Lyons praised members of the Policy Board for their work on this issue. She commended Bob Murray, Beth and others for their efforts.

## **Volunteer Initiative Project**

Beth introduced Katie Mueller and her project of the Volunteer Network Initiative. Katie described the need for expanded access to community engagement on Cape Cod. Katie described the aim of the Volunteer Network to create a program solely for community engagement. She outlined the background of the Initiative originating out of the HOPE (Helping Older People Engage) Initiative. The new Volunteer Network Initiative is sponsored by the Cape Cod Foundation, in partnership with the Barnstable County Department of Human Services and the Resource Development Office. Katie expanded on the funding sources for the project, outlining that the monies are coming from the Atlantic Philanthropies' Community Experience Partnership, the Tufts Health Plan Foundation, Bank of America, and The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. Katie described the plan of the Initiative as being centered through a website and a drop-in site. The website would provide regional/world-wide access to a database of agencies with volunteer openings and a matching tool. Non-profits may post their opportunities, and volunteers may search through these opportunities to find a fit. Katie described future plans to open a drop-in site which would serve as a regional access point. The site would have trained staff members to guide volunteers and hopefully diminish the common "fear factor" associated with volunteering. Katie stated that the drop-in center is planned to open in mid-2010, and that there is a potential for two more centers by the end of 2011.

Beverly Costa-Ciavola asked about collaboration between the Volunteer Network Initiative and Mass 2-1-1. Kathleen responded that a link to the Initiative can not be placed on Mass 2-1-1 since it is a state-wide site, and

Beth responded that plans for joint marketing of the Initiative and Mass 2-1-1 are in the works. Brenda Swain commented with her support of the Initiative, and Estella Fritzingler asked if the Initiative would be vetting the volunteers. Katie responded that each agency must do their own vetting. Claire Goyer praised the outlook of the project. Sheila Lyons asked how agencies get into the network, and Katie replied that there is an approval process before agencies are posted. BL Hathaway asked how follow-up is done, and Katie responded that it is the agencies' responsibility to respond to potential volunteers. Marilyn Nouri commented that agencies should reply quickly to retain volunteers. Beth asked Katie to give periodic updates on the Initiative.

### **Healthy and Happy Eating for All Pilot Project Update**

Beth gave an update on the Healthy and Happy Eating project. She spoke about successful launch of the project on MLK Day. Brenda said that CapeAbilities members will be making signs for the Falmouth Stop and Shop to encourage shoppers to purchase and donate healthy items. The members will then bring donated items to the Falmouth Service Center. The Falmouth Stop and Shop Manager may present this idea to other area managers for implementation Cape-wide. Sheila praised the idea, and Beth noted that on MLK Day, people were pleased to be instructed on what healthy items to purchase. Diane Munsell suggested that Eric Williams from Cape Cast (Cape Cod Online) should become involved and tape a segment in support of this initiative. Brenda shared a story of a client at the Falmouth Service Center who had received real rice, and was amazed at how good it tasted. Katherine Wernier commented that excitement drives energy.

Beth gave status update report on Happy and Healthy Eating project, and noted that there was only 1 response to the RFP for a Coordinator. The RFP will be re-issued on 2/26/2010 for an additional two weeks. Diane asked about the qualifications for the position. Beth noted that community organization and interest in the subject matter are key components for candidates. Beth stated that some media interest in project has been generated but more is needed. Beth distributed Warren Smith's (absent) Certificates of Appreciation to Kathy Quatromoni, Katherine Wernier, Caronanne Procaccini, Pat Fetcher, and Kathleen Seymour for their work on the project.

Kathleen spoke briefly about data collection and upcoming plans for data usage. Beth praised Warren for his efforts and thorough collection of data.

### **Updates from Coalitions and Networks:**

- Liz DiCarlo: Falmouth Wellness Center on March 2, 2010 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Sponsored by Preventative Medicine Associates. It was noted that this is a for profit organization.
- Marilyn Nouri: Power in Aging has received a Compassion Massachusetts mini-grant. They will be focusing on transportation issues.
- Beverly Costa-Ciavola: The next forum for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren will be held in April on Martha's Vineyard, and another will be held in May on Nantucket - dates and times TBA. The Cape Cod Neighborhood Support Coalition is working with Family Continuity. The CCNSC "Take a Child to Heart" annual event will be held on May 23, 2010 at the Cape Cod Cultural Center in Yarmouth. The Suicide Prevention Coalition is hosting a community forum on March 15, 2010 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Coonamessett Inn. RSVP required.
- Diane Munsell: Distributed flyers for "iCrash: Teens, Cars, Technology, and the Media," the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Automobile and Youth Safety Summit, will be held on Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at the Mashpee High School Auditorium. The event is sponsored by the Cape and Islands End Driving Deaths among Youth. (EDDY)
- Kathy Quatromoni: The District Attorney's Office is sponsoring an event on March 9, 2010 [need more details]
- Mary Ann Mills-Lassiter: The speaker scheduled for the February 10, 2010 meeting of the Cape & Islands Regional Domestic Violence Council was not able to attend.
- George Bryant: The Assembly of Delegates will be reviewing the budget in March.
- Katherine Wernier: The CHNA is under-writing an educational event entitled "Depression in Later Life" that will be held at the Dennis COA on March 12, 2010 from 11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. Dr. James Ellison will be speaking at the event. Reservations required, contact REACH.
- BL Hathaway: There are new regulations for tooth-brushing requirements in pre-schools. The Tri-County Collaborative is working with the Child Care Network and a variety of funders to provide supplies to pre-schools.
- Claire Goyer: The Health Center Network has served about 110 people, with a 97% increase in employment, and a 100% increase in housing. They are monitoring the state budget development.

- Kristin Carboni: The Community Coalition of Cape Cod has contacted Senator Tolmin's office to sponsor events. The Coalition has lost funding for dental care, and is seeking funding sources. They will also be collaborating with the Tri-County Collaborative.
- Karen Cardeira: Falmouth Human Services is hiring a new Coordinator, and accepting resumes through 2/26/2010.
- Kerry Bickford: Noted the upcoming BCCCYF Summit that is coming up on March 12, 2010. The Summit will be held at the Harwich Community Center from 7:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.
- Liz Dolby: Noted that Elizabeth Swansen-Goldberg is the new chair of the Human Rights Commission, and that there are four new Commissioners. The Spring Human Rights Academy is in the planning stages, and will be held at Camp Burgess in Sandwich. She announced that the Commission is seeking town representation council members for Chatham, Truro, and Provincetown.

#### **New Business:**

Sheila Lyons announced with a heavy heart that Beth Albert will be leaving her position as Director of the Barnstable County Department of Human Services. Beth responded that she is leaving the position for personal reasons, and will be purchasing an inn in Brewster. She will remain Director through 4/30/2010, and then will be available per-diem. Both Claire Goyer and Liz DiCarlo praised Beth's phenomenal work with the Department of Human Services.

Beverly Costa-Ciavola mentioned that Paul O'Connor had passed away last month, and that he was very passionate about his work in human services. Sheila also commented on Paul's spirit and support of the Health and Human Services Advisory Council.

Beth noted that additional copies of Monitoring the Human Condition and its Executive Summary were available for those who did not yet receive their copies.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM**

**NEXT MEETING: March 25, 2010, 9 – 11:00 AM at the Hyannis Transportation Center**