

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 26, 2009
Hyannis Transportation Center ~ 9 – 11 AM

In attendance (Members):

Academy for Life Long Learning (At Large)	
Barnstable County Council for Children, Youth & Families:	Kerry Bickford & Kathy Quatromoni (Nominees)
Barnstable County Human Rights Commission:	Mary Lohan (Alt)
Cape & Islands HIV/AIDS Service Coordination Collaborative:	Pat Fecher (Rep)
Cape & Islands Regional Domestic Violence Council:	Mary Ann Mills Lassiter (Nominee)
Cape & Martha's Vineyard Community Health Center Network:	Claire Goyer (Rep)
Cape Cod Council of Churches:	Shirley Lamson (Nominee)
Cape Cod Healthcare (At Large):	
Cape Cod Hunger Network:	Brenda Swain (Rep), Mary Anderson (Alt)
Cape Cod Neighborhood Support Coalition:	Jennifer Sheehan (Rep)
CAREER Collaborative:	Deb Battles (Rep)
Community Action Committee of Cape & Islands (At Large):	Estella Fritzingler (Rep)
Community Benefits:	
Community Coalition of Cape Cod:	Kristin Braun (Rep)
Community Health Network Area (CHNA):	Beverly Costa-Ciavola (Rep), Josie Bouvier (Alt)
Consumer:	Jeanne Adams (Nominee)
Disability Network (At Large):	Sue Johnson (Nominee)
Grant Makers Collaborative:	
Leadership Council to End Homelessness:	Caronanne Procaccini (Rep)
Lighthouse Health Access Alliance:	
Lower Cape Councils on Aging:	Elizabeth Smith (Rep)
Lower Cape Health & Human Services:	
Mid Cape Councils on Aging:	
National Association for the Mentally ILL:	
Substance Abuse/Behavioral Health System:	
Town Health Departments:	
Upper Cape Councils on Aging:	
Upper Cape Health & Human Services:	Karen Cardeira (Rep)

Staff: Barnstable County Department of Human Services: Beth Albert, Kathie Callahan, Warren Smith

Elected Officials: Assembly of Delegates: Ø County Commissioners: Ø

Guests: B.L. Hathaway – Tri-County Collaborative For Oral Health Excellence, Ray Yox – South Coastal Counties Legal Services, Kate McHugh – BCA, Neva Flaherty – Congressman Delahunt's office, Jocelyn Andrade – BMC HealthNet, Andrew Murray – HRC, Julie McCarthy Keir & Greg Powell – County Resource Development Office

Unable to attend: (via email or phone): Jackie Fields – HRC, Carol Summersall – Cape Cod Healthcare

Welcome & Introductions

Introductions were made by all in attendance. Kathie Callahan reviewed the new attendance sign-in sheets procedure: Members will review contact information and initial if present. Guests, staff, elected officials and nominees for the HHSAC will use guest sign-in sheet.

Presentations:

South Coastal Counties Legal Services – Ray Yox, Interim Executive Director

Ray reported on the history of South Coastal Counties Legal Services, where their funding comes from: State & Federal grants, the geographic area they cover: Counties of Barnstable, Dukes, Nantucket and part of Plymouth, and the cases they handle: Civil matters only, in the areas of housing (such as landlord disputes),

family/probate litigation, public benefits (SSI disability, welfare), consumer (i.e. foreclosure), and immigration matters. They also provide public educational opportunities to students & families i.e. legal rights and civil matters and are working on school reform, focusing their resources in the Brockton & New Bedford areas at this time. They have 4 offices: Hyannis, New Bedford, Brockton & Fall River which includes their administrative department. Attorneys provide direct services/counseling to clients who are income eligible (below 187.5% of the Federal poverty level) Those who are not income eligible are referred to private attorneys as well as the Barnstable County Bar Association who does have attorneys who provide some pro bono services without income guidelines. They work in collaboration with the New Center for Legal Advocacy which handles cases primarily off Cape to do intake and counsel & advise clients on legal matters. The Hyannis office covers the Cape & Islands. South Coastal is hooked up "electronically" with the Center for Legal Advocacy to facilitate the sharing of information and services. Their mission focuses on a community-based approach which includes group educational presentations and counseling sessions. For more information on South Coastal Counties Legal Services visit their website at www.sccls.org and for the New Center for Legal Advocacy at www.ncla.net

County Resource Development Office – Americorps Vista Program – Julie McCarthy-Keir & Greg Powell

Julie reported that the County Resource Development Office (RDO) writes and manages grants for the county and towns on the Cape. They also oversee the Americorps Cape Cod program which is committed to the conservation and management of the Cape's natural resources, providing community disaster services, increasing the availability of environmental and disaster education to residents and visitors and volunteer engagement.

Greg Powell is a grant writer with RDO. Greg noted that the County had applied for a Commonwealth Corp grant (a program of Governor Patrick which focused volunteer efforts in Human Services areas) but unfortunately did not receive the grant award. The County is now looking at the Americorps-Vista program which is a national service program. Assignments *may* involve starting new programs, recruiting and training volunteers, writing grant proposals, seeking out sponsorships, planning community meetings or handling public relations. The Americorps Vista program has few restrictions but does not provide direct client services but rather supports services of human service agencies. Greg noted that RDO is currently researching applying for two Vista volunteers: ideas at this point are that one to be housed in the Barnstable County Dept. of Human Services. Another suggestion is that one position would be housed at RDO to work on grant writing projects. Feedback requested from group on need for grant writer to specifically help nonprofits. BL Hathaway encouraged the group to consider collaborative projects that could benefit the entire community i.e. coordinating a volunteer pool. Greg noted that at this time they are looking at two positions but that this number could possibly be increased in the future. A requirement of having the Vista program is that a consumer Advisory Board comprised of 51% low income consumers be convened and the HHSAC is in a position to brainstorm and identify people in the community for these Board positions. Beth Albert will email HHSAC members and gather nominations for this Board.

Greg also distributed a brief survey to those in attendance and asked that it be completed and returned to RDO by March 9th. The survey focus is to identify human service agency needs, resources needed to provide the desired services, and barriers securing grant funds in the past. Beth Albert will also email this survey to HHSAC members not in attendance.

County Budget Updates – Commissioner Sheila Lyons

Commissioners Lyons sent her regrets but due to a scheduling conflict she was unable to attend the meeting. Beth Albert gave a brief overview of the budget process noting that the County Commissioners have reviewed the full budget and forwarded it to the Assembly of Delegates for approval. A meeting of the Assembly's Health & Human Services sub-committee will be held on March 18th to discuss the Dept. of Human Services budget and there will be a public hearing @ 2 pm on April 1st to discuss the full budget. Beth also noted that all County departments were asked to submit 10% budget reduction in their fiscal 2010 budgets. Beth requested that fiscal 2009 salary funds for the unfilled position in the Dept. of Human Services be moved into a contractual budget line item to be used over the next 12 months. This was approved by the Assembly and an RFP has been issued. This may be viewed on the County Purchasing Dept.'s website.

January minutes reviewed

Motion by Beverly Costa-Ciavola, seconded by Karen Cardeira to approve the January minutes as written – unanimously approved.

Status of request to amend HHSAC ordinance

Beth reported that she had put forth to the County Commissioners a list of HHSAC members with 2 year terms beginning in January 2009. Commissioners requested that the terms be 3 years and membership should be staggered. This ordinance change has been submitted to the Assembly of Delegates for approval at their March 4th meeting. Beth suggested that proposed new membership groups be put on upcoming meeting agendas to do presentations on the work of their consortiums.

Status of Budget Cuts

Warren distributed and reported that the budget cuts survey he developed has been pilot tested and will be put on Survey Monkey in the next 2-3 weeks to be forwarded to HHSAC members in order to collect data on real and proposed funding cuts in health and human services programs on Cape Cod. HHSAC representatives and alternates will complete the survey and request that organizations they represent on the Council fill out the survey as well. HHSAC members will be responsible for directing the organizations that they represent to the on-line questionnaire. The time frame for the survey will begin in March 2009 and be on-going during the next few fiscal years. The County Dept. of Human Services will develop and maintain the on-line questionnaire, analyze survey responses and disseminate findings. Estella asked if a questions re: "direct client \$\$" lost be added to the survey. Contact Beth Albert (balbert@barnstablecounty.org) or Warren Smith (wsmithstat@barnstablecounty.org) with any questions.

Community Forums Update

Beth reported that she and Warren have done 2 Community Forum presentations to date: one at Cape Cod Community College for the nursing department and one at Barnstable Human Services Committee. The presentation is approximately 45 minutes. Jeanne Adams reported that the Falmouth Human Services Committee has contacted the Selectmen and are waiting to hear back re: coordinating an evening meeting in the town of Falmouth. Will continue to schedule additional forums to disseminate the information gathered from the Cape Cod Community Survey and report on the emerging trends on the Cape. Beth will follow up on initial contact with Selectman's Association as well as the Town managers/administrators on the Cape.

MASS 2-1-1

Beth reported on status of the Mass 211 project. The information from the Lighthouse Resource Locator has been downloaded and forwarded to Mass 211 for review. Agencies included in the current resource locator will be contacted by email and phone and asked to go to the 211 site to update their information. They will be notified twice each year to update and/or verify their information. Additional agencies will be contacted and encouraged to add their agency information to the 211 site in the hopes that the 211 Call Center will be able to provide full services to the Cape & Islands. Mass 211 is both state and federally funded. The goal of Mass 211 is to divert non-emergency calls from the existing 911 centers. 211 will also include disaster and emergency preparedness resources. The Department of Human Services will oversee this project and the 100/100/100 working group of the CHNA will also be involved in the marketing 211 on the Cape.

Announcements:

- Kathie Callahan reported that the 6th Annual Youth Summit will be held on March 20th at 4 C's. She distributed informational brochures. For more information or to register email the Kate O'Connell at bccyf@gmail.com
- BL Hathaway reported that the Tri-County Collaborative for Oral Health Excellence has hired a patient care coordinator, Sheila Smith, and is now accepting referrals from collaborating agencies. To become a collaborating agency contact BL at 508/771-1375.
- Deb Battles thanked those that had responded to the CAREER questionnaire forwarded on Survey Monkey but noted that they need more responses to produce timely and accurate data so please forward the link to other agencies.

- Deb also distributed information on the Plus 50 program at 4 C's in which Jacquie Scarbrough is an advisor.
- Jennifer Sheehan announced that the March "Parent Education & Support Calendar" is the biggest ever and she highlighted two free opportunities that are much needed on the Cape: "Parenting Pre-teens" starting March 4th and "Understanding Socially Challenged Children" on March 16th which is for professionals as well as parents. The calendar is always online at www.capecoalition.com.
- Estella Fritzinger announced that Lt. Gov. Tim Murray will be in Barnstable on February 27th for a press conference to be held in the Assembly of Delegates Chambers to announce the Interagency Council on Housing & Homelessness grant for \$765,000 that the Cape has received.
- March 11th is Hunger Day on the Hill in Boston
- Kerry Bickford announced that she has been appointed to the Governor's Commission to look at Grandparents raising Grandchildren.
- Beverly Costa-Ciavola announced that the Clothesline Project is holding its 10 Annual concert on March 14th @ 7:00 pm at Nauset High school. She noted it has always been a marvelous event.
- The Multicultural Fair will be held on March 7th at 4 C's

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 26, 2009, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM @ Hyannis Transportation Center.