



**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, October 28, 2010
Hyannis Transportation Center ~ 9 – 10:30 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 (Rep)

Mary Ann Mills Lassiter (Rep)

Brenda Swain (Rep)
Beverly Costa-Ciavola (Rep)

Estella Fritzingler (Rep)

Kristin Carboni (Rep)
Katherine Wernier (Rep), Steve Brown (Alt)
Jeanne Adams (Rep)

Kristin O'Malley (Rep)
Caronanne Procaccini (Rep)

Liz Smith (Rep)

Staff: Barnstable County Department of Human Services: Beth Albert, Kathie Callahan, Christine Stein

Elected Officials: Assembly of Delegates: Ø Commissioner: Ø

Guests: Jackie Fields, ex-officio – HRC, Heidi Nelson – Duffy Health Center, Paul Ruchinskas – Cape Cod Commission, Michael Medeiros – Human Rights Commission, Belinda Centeio – BMC HealthNet Plan, Merrill Blum – Veterans Outreach Center, Helene Hastings – Cape Cod Community College, Caroline Marshall-Smith & Olan Smith – Calvary Baptist Church "Nutrition Mission"

Unable to attend: Diane Munsell, BL Hathaway, Harris Contos, Diane Casey-Lee, Gail Wilson

Welcome Introductions

Approval of September minutes:

Motion by Estella Fritzingler, seconded by Beverly Costa-Ciavola to accept the September minutes as written – Motion approved.

Study on Impact of Affordable Housing (40B) and Ballot Question #2 – Paul Ruchinskas, Affordable Housing Specialist, Cape Cod Commission: The Barnstable County Commissioners have taken a position to

vote NO on Ballot Question #2. Paul reviewed Question 2: A YES vote would repeal the state's affordable housing law (40B), a NO vote would preserve the law that has been in existence since 1969.

Paul reviewed the Affordable Housing Needs (excerpts from 2010-2014 Barnstable County HOME Consortium Consolidated Plan). The number of low income households with housing problems, primarily cost burdens, has increased by over 35% since the 2005 Consolidated Plan: from approximately 18,500 households to over 25,000 households. The region's Section 8 waiting list is over 4,000 households, while the region's housing authorities reported waiting lists of over 1,800 for family units and over 2,600 for elderly & disabled units. The need for affordable rental units, especially for very and extremely low income households, continues to be the region's primary housing concern. Higher real estate prices on the Cape combined with lower wages has produced our affordability gap. The region is 4,700 units short of achieving the state's 10% goal for affordable housing.

39% of the Cape's affordable housing units (5,300) have been produced through the comprehensive permit process. 57% of the units in the Cape's 40B developments are affordable. Of the units produced under Chapter 40B, 67% are rental and 33% are ownership. Median 40B project size is 16 units, average size is 25 units. In the last decade, October 2001 – August 2010, 64% of the 1596 affordable housing units added to the region's affordable inventory were the result of Chapter 40B developments. Excluding group home units that were allowed to be counted starting in 2003, 82% of newly added units were permitted via Chapter 40B. Jackie Fields asked what the occupancy ratios were in terms of race/disability. Paul noted that race = 15%, elder = 30% and handicap accessible units = 5% (which is a state mandate). Most of the handicap accessible/"visitable" units are housed in non-profit developments.

Healthy Connected Cape Cod – Steve Brown, Coordinator: Steve introduced Caroline Marshall-Smith and her nephew Olan Smith who coordinate the "Nutrition Mission" at the Calvary Baptist Church in Hyannis. On Behalf of the HHSAC, Steve presented them with a certificate of recognition for their commitment to a culture that promotes and celebrates opportunities to access good, nutritious food on Cape Cod and to share the abundance of this food with neighbors and friends. Caroline, whose husband Bruce is the pastor at the Church noted that the Nutrition Mission has been in existence for almost 4 years. In one year they serve about 42,000 meals. The program is open Monday thru Friday from 3 – 6 PM and the food pantry in the church is open 3 days a week. The Nutrition Mission is open to the public and provides nutritious meals to low income individuals and families. They receive food from local pantries, donations such as surplus lunch food from Barnstable High School and community contributions in terms of food and cash donations. They also collaborate with project "In From the Streets". Olan, who is the cook at the program noted that it is a very satisfying feeling to help feed people who would otherwise go hungry.

Steve reported that the Healthy Connected Cape Cod planning group continues to meet regularly and are brainstorming ideas to continue outreach in the community. Steve and Beth Albert taped a show for WPXY which will be featured on October 31st at 6:00 AM.

Veterans Outreach Center – Merrill Blum, Exec. Director: The Center, located at 569 Main St. in Hyannis, provides individual and group support for veterans and their families for all 15 Cape towns and the Islands. The Veterans Outreach Center is the only center specifically serving the needs on Cape Cod & the Islands. It was established in 1982 by the Nam Vets Association of C&I originally to serve the needs of the veterans of the Viet Nam era. Membership and service has since been expanded to include veterans of ALL eras. The Nam Vets Association is a non-profit tax exempt organization and the Outreach Center is partially funded by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through the Dept. of Veterans Services. Additional funding comes from the NVA by means of grants, contributions and fundraising events. The Center's primary purpose is to provide counseling for veterans and their families. Programs also include advocacy, assistance with state & federal benefits, military records acquisition, legal assistance, health care assistance, employment and career training, needs assistance, housing and service delivery to the homeless. The Center manages two transitional housing programs which contain 16 beds.

Merrill noted substantial increases in veterans deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan who are now seeking services. Data shows that within one year of returning home, approximately 20% of Iraqi/Afghanistan veterans are becoming homeless. There is also an increase in the need for PTSM services. He also noted there is an increase in women now being deployed for combat, however, women seeking services is still low. NOTE: There are 330

women veterans living on Cape Cod. There are also services available for women through the Women's Network which is state supported.

Human Rights Commission Strategic Plan – Michael Medeiros, Vice Chair: Michael distributed and reviewed the HRC Mission Statement and Strategic Plan which was developed over the past 6 months by the HRC Commissioners (9 - appointed by the County Commissioners) and Town Representatives (15 reps chosen by Town Selectmen) to guide its ongoing decision making and activities. The Mission of the BCHRC, through its appointed Commissioners and Town Representation Council, is to provide for community awareness of and direct response to possible human rights violations through mediation and/or legal action; to provide opportunities for members of the public and local organizations and agencies to discuss incidents and/or concerns about human rights violations; and to promote understanding and appreciation of the diverse cultures in Barnstable County and beyond through education, programming and community action.

Michael reviewed the BCHRC strategic plan which includes: Voice: to increase its public presence in the County; Education: Human Rights Academy will continue to be offered to County high school students with strategies to expand to middle school students and eventually elementary grades; Partnerships: The HRC needs to operate as a collaborative partner on a range of projects and issues affecting the County; Funding & Fundraising: The HRC needs to increase its financial support in order to better carry out its mission; Projects: The HRC will identify projects that respond to identified needs in the County.

The HRC is currently funded by the County for a part-time Coordinator and a minimal operating budget. The HRC is also funded through the "Friends of the HRC", a 501 (c) (3) organization. The HRC is housed in donated office space in the Federated Church on Main St. in Hyannis. The HRC receives complaints re: human rights violations and responds with case review through investigative means, mediation and seeks legal resources to address the complaints.

Old Business:

- **Membership Subcommittee Report** – Beth Albert reported that the Membership Subcommittee met following last month's meeting to review membership categories based upon a request to consider representation from new substance abuse coalition. Recommendation from that meeting is to take the current designation of Substance Abuse/Mental Health and replace it with two new coalitions – Substance Abuse and Suicide Prevention. A letter will be sent to the leadership of these groups to request that they put names forward for appointment to HHSAC. Beth noted that there are currently two substance abuse prevention coalitions on Cape and representation will have to be coordinated. A second recommendation is to do away with At-Large designation.
- **HRC Nomination Subcommittee Report** – Jeanne Adams reported there will be one vacancy on the HRC in January 2011 and additionally one Commissioner has expressed interest in continuing for another term. Broad announcement was made of the vacancy through media outlets and "e-blasts" from the Dept. of Human services. Resumes & cover letters are being accepted at the Dept. of Human Services through November 1st. The Subcommittee, including representation from the HRC and Town Representation Council will review resumes, interview eligible candidates and make recommendations to the HHSAC for appointment to the HRC by the County Commissioners.

New Business:

- **Agenda items for next meeting:** Suggestions: Cape & Islands Regional Network to End Homeless update and COAST (Councils on Aging Serving Together).

Updates from Coalitions and Networks:

- Mary Ann Mills-Lassiter announced that she will be leaving CCCDP for a position in Family Support Services in Hanover, effective 11/5. She is resigning as representative from the Domestic Violence Council. Best Wishes.
- November 16, Domestic Violence Council Quarterly meeting, 9 – 10:30 am. Networking and brief business meeting followed by a presentation by South Coastal Legal Services & Independence House. For more info contact Caronanne Procacinni at CACCI, 508/771-1727.
- Retirement Party for Warren Smith – November 4th, 5-6:30 PM at the Barnstable Tavern

- Helene Hastings: 4C's now has a Human Services certificate program.
- November 13, Spaghetti Supper for Savings Lives, 5-8 PM at St. David's Episcopal Church, Nelson Hall, 205 Old Main St. Yarmouth, \$8.00 per ticket. To raise awareness and funds to prevent teenage suicide. For more info or to purchase tickets contact Stephanie Heaney, a senior at Cape Cod Tech at 508/398-0704
- November 7, GALE Fund is holding a pot luck dinner at 5 pm at the Cotuit Center for the Arts
- Liz Smith: Liz & Katherine will do a presentation at next HHSAC meeting about Cape COAST – (COA's Serving Together).
- Cape Cod Neighborhood Support Coalition is hosting a Grandparents raising Grandkids Forum on November 2nd at 12 Noon.
- National Suicide Survivors Day, November 20 from 12 Noon to 3:00 PM at MSPCC, 206 Breeds Hill Rd., Hyannis. Program includes a candle lighting ceremony and broadcast of a live 90 minute program.
- QPR training (Question, Persuade & Refer) is being held in Falmouth on November 18th from 6 – 8 PM at the Falmouth Library. This training is sponsored by the C&I Suicide Prevention Coalition and the Youth Suicide Prevention Project.
- Katherine Wernier: CHNA 27 (Combined Health Network Area) is reflecting on the focus & direction this group is heading going forward. All are welcome to attend. CHNA 27 meetings the 2nd Thursday of the month from 9 – 11 AM in Rms 11/12 at the Barnstable Superior Courthouse.
- Steve Brown: Suicide Prevention Youth Project is sponsoring a training at the United Cultures Resource Center on November 3rd from 5 – 7:00 PM.
- Kristin O'Malley: A grant writing workshop, hosted by the Cape Cod Foundation and The Falmouth Fund, will explain about the grant application process. The workshop will be held 10 a.m. to noon on Friday, October 29, at the Coonamessett Inn in Falmouth.
- Kristin Carboni: Kristin announced the closing of the Community Coalition of Cape Cod.
- Freedom from Addiction Network will be meeting on November 26th.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 AM

NEXT MEETING: December 2, 2010, 9 – 10:30 AM at the Hyannis Transportation Center

NOTE: Due to holidays, the November & December meetings have been combined and rescheduled to: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, 9:00 am, Hyannis Transportation Center.