



**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 24, 2011
Hyannis Transportation Center ~ 9 – 10:30 AM**

Barnstable County Council for Children, Youth & Families:
Barnstable County Human Rights Commission:
Behavioral Health:
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 Health Network Area (CHNA):
Consumer:
Disability Network (At Large):
Grant Makers Collaborative:
Legal Aid Coalition of SE Mass:
Lower Cape Councils on Aging:
Mid Cape Councils on Aging:
Power in Aging Collaborative:
Regional Network to End Homelessness:
Substance Abuse:
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)

Kristin St. Onge (Rep)
Caronanne Procaccini (Alt)
Heidi Nelson (Rep), Karen Gardner (Alt)

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

Estella Fritzing (Rep)

Katherine Wernier (Rep)
Jeanne Adams (Rep)

Liz Smith (Rep)

Roberta Kaiser (Rep), Marleen Spengler (Alt)
Caronanne Procaccini (Rep)
Kate McHugh & Karen Cardeira (Rep), Kristin Carboni (Alt)

BL Hathaway (Rep)
Jim Long (Rep)
Karen Cardeira (Rep)

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

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

Guests: Belinda Centeio - BMC HealthPlan, Ingrid Muzy Murray – HRC, Marcy Hendricks, Stephanie Tobey-Roderick & Rita Lopez – Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, Stefanie Coxé – Cong. Keating's office, George Bryant, Elysse Magnotto, Rep Turner's office

Unable to attend: Diane Casey-Lee, Gail Wilson, Jan Timmons, Deb Battles, Steve Brown

Welcome/Introductions

Distributed contact info sheet for Cape & Islands Legislative Delegation and updated Health & Human Services Advisory Council member contact information.

Approval of December minutes:

Motion by **Estella Fritzing**, seconded by **Jim Long** to accept the December minutes as written – Motion approved.

Healthy Connected Cape Cod – Christine Stein: A "draft" document of the vision and goals for Healthy Connected Cape Cod was distributed. Beth Albert noted that the HCCC coordinator contract ended in December

2010. The Dept. of Human Services is issuing a new RFP for a Project Manager for this initiative to be paid for by the Barnstable County Dept. of Human Services. The maximum amount available for this contract is \$20,000 for a 6 month period. In addition, Beth has requested funding for a 12 month period for this contractual position in the DHS FY2012 budget. That FY12 budget has not yet been approved. Beth also reported that several County departments have been meeting to discuss collaborative opportunities around a county wide health initiative. Beth will report back with more information as planning goes forward. Christine Stein is working on updating the Healthy Food Resource Directory on the BC Human Services website.

Christine distributed Healthy Food Donation list and update of Healthy Foods on Pantry Shelves Initiative. She reported that this is an initiative of the Hunger Network in partnership with Stop & Shop and noted that the Dept. of Human Services has helped with the collection of data to monitor volume and types of donations. This pilot program started with the Falmouth Service Center, Falmouth Stop & Shop & Upper Cape CapeAbilities agency. With a notable increase in donations and excellent collaboration the decision was made to expand the project Cape-wide in December 2010 to include all Cape Stop & Shops and additional disability agencies. Goals were to encourage shoppers to purchase healthy foods for donation to food pantries and increase the volume of food and necessity donations overall. Disability agency staff and client volunteers place brightly colored "shelf talker" tags next to desired foods/necessities in Stop & Shop markets to prompt shoppers to make purchases for their local pantry and place their donation in the marked bin at the front of the store. The disability agency staff and client volunteers return weekly to pick up donated items, check shelf tags, transport donations to the food pantry, inventory the items and send inventory lists to the BC Dept. of Human Services for data entry and analysis. Christine has noted a substantial increase in volume and types of donations. Brenda Swain thanked Christine and the Dept. of Human Services for their valuable assistance and noted that this project has promoted greater collaborations resulting in successful outcomes.

Report from Ad Hoc Government Liaison Committee – Kristin Carboni: Meeting on January 19th and included Beth Albert, Kristin Carboni, Estella Fritzingler & Beverly Costa-Ciavola. Group convened at the request of the HHSAC to begin to develop recommendations for the HHSAC on how to effectively communicate health and human service priorities and needs to our elected officials including the Assembly of Delegates and County Commissioners on a more routine basis in a coordinated purposeful manner. The group reviewed the County ordinance creating the HHSAC and the Council's responsibilities i.e. establish priorities for human services, provide relevant information on human services to state, county and local officials to promote public support and utilization of services, and to produce an annual report. A major responsibility is to assist the Dept. of Human Services to develop a Barnstable County Health and Human Services Plan to prioritize issues for action by County government. Group agreed to bring the following points back to the whole HHSAC for approval to use as a framework to communicate to elected officials:

1. Establish an ad-hoc "Government Liaison Subcommittee" of the HHSAC, duration TBD
2. Develop a standard format/tool for gathering information by network/coalition or by topic or broader area of need
3. Produce an Annual Plan to be completed for FY12 by September 30, 2011
4. Develop a systematic an on-going communication framework including sharing minutes, making period reports to County Commissioners and Assembly of Delegates.

Discussion included reconvening the Data/Strategic Planning Sub-Committee who would forward findings and recommendations to the Government Liaison Subcommittee for their annual report. Beth will write up a description of the Data/Strategic Planning Sub-committee and bring back to HHSAC. Kate McHugh suggested not only an Annual Report but 5 and 10 yr plans be developed as well. Also noted: submit report to State officials. After much discussion **Katherine Wernier** motioned, seconded by **Kristin Carboni** to approve #'s 1, 2 & 4 as written above. #3 – produce an Annual Plan will be put on hold pending more discussion.

Response on proposed State & Federal FY2012 Budgets: Kristin St. Onge reported \$2.5 million in budget cuts will greatly affect the AIDS Support Group of Cape Cod. Voters voting in December 2010 to repeal the tax on alcohol will significantly impact funding on substance abuse programs. 7% cut in Mass Health budget will affect funding for adult day care programs. Cuts will also affect child care voucher program, EA reform, shelter budgets, homeless prevention, funding of clubhouses and much, much more. Noted: state and federal government are

looking at alternative reimbursement structure to save on health care costs. There is a Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Forum with Senators Therese Murray and Dan Wolf and other Cape legislators planned for March 25, 2011 at 1:00 PM at Community Action Committee of C&I in Hyannis. Estella reminded agencies of the continued importance of good data collection as it will pertain to funding going forward. Stefanie Coxe, District Rep for Congressman William Keating noted that she is available for discussion regarding needs and issues at any time. She can be contacted by telephone at 508/771-0666 or email at Stefanie.coxe@mail.house.gov.

New Business:

- **Mental Health Services** – request by Katherine Wernier: Katherine discussed the decline in emergency emergent/urgent mental health services available in Barnstable County indicating that the closure of the Urgent Care Center has left us with limited places to refer someone in timely need of an assessment and/or medication. It was observed that the hospital emergency room is often the only and not always the best option. It was suggested that emergency rooms have seen a substantial increase in the need for mental health services. Katherine asked the group about the use of Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners as potential option. These RN's can prescribe and manage psychiatric meds. Karen Gardner from the Community Health Center Network reported that his is the model of care they use. She also noted there has been discussion on convening a Mental Health Summit to discuss these issues and access and barriers to care i.e. transportation, limited resources and insufficient providers on Cape to meet need. After much discussion **Kate McHugh** motioned, seconded by **Beverly Costa-Ciavola** that the HHSAC endorse efforts to convene a Summit around mental health issues i.e. access to care, barriers and capacity issues on Cape Cod. Motion unanimously approved. Also noted, the need to develop a comprehensive resource directory for both consumers and providers for mental health services.
- **Agenda items for next meeting:** Beth Albert distributed a fact sheet on "Unnatural Causes", a series addressing health equity. Lee Wotherspoon and Jackie Fields have requested the opportunity to do a one-hour presentation on these issues at the March HHSAC meeting. Group agreed that this would be an informative and important presentation. Beth will contact Lee & Jackie about scheduling for March meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM

NEXT MEETING: March 24, 2011, 9 – 10:30 AM at the Hyannis Transportation Center