

MINUTES: Healthy Carolinians of Macon County – Community Needs Assessment Committee

DATE: February 23, 2011

PLACE: Health and Human Services Building

TIME: 8:30 – 10:30 AM

ATTENDEES: Becky Barr, Rhonda Blanton, Teresa Breedlove, Jim Bruckner, Christopher Carpenter, Dorothy Crawford, John Crawford, Lisa Hilliard, Tim Hubbs, Jane Kimsey, Kathy McGaha, Barbara McRae, Barry Patterson, Derek Roland, Yvonne Smith, Sheila Southard, Lucretia Stargell and Martin Wadewitz

GUEST: Bill Stiles

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
Welcome	Bill Stiles welcomed everyone to today’s meeting of the Community Needs Assessment Committee. Mr. Stiles thanked everyone for volunteering to participate in this process that will benefit their community.		
Introductions	Bill Stiles asked everyone to introduce themselves and tell what organization they represented.		
Facilitated Discussion of Community Priorities	<p>Bill Stiles briefly reviewed the priorities that were chosen from the 2007 Comprehensive Community Health Assessment. These priorities were divided into seven areas of emphasis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Expanding Access to Healthcare➤ Expanding Access to Mental Health Services➤ Strengthening Families and Reducing Youth Risky Behaviors➤ Supporting Seniors and Long Term Care Needs➤ Promoting Environmental Quality➤ Improving Major Health Indicators➤ Advocacy for Increased Awareness and Support <p>Mr. Stiles commented that significant gains had been made in most of these areas over the past four years.</p> <p>The purpose of the Community Health Assessment is to identify health priorities for the community and is conducted every four years.</p>		
Facilitated Discussion of Community Priorities	<p>Bill Stiles next facilitated a discussion that will focus on the current and future health priorities. Mr. Stiles asked the committee members to consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ What community priorities have momentum?		

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	<p>Where is the good work that should be continued?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What community priorities are not getting the attention they need? ○ What community priorities are new, and not yet getting attention? ○ What community priorities are getting too much attention? <p>The committee members had a lengthy discussion on these topics. Mr. Stiles collected all this information and a summary of the suggestions will be presented at a future meeting.</p>		
<p>Discussion of Perspectives Included in Assessment</p>	<p>Bill Stiles next led a discussion of the perspectives included in this assessment. Mr. Stiles listed the components that would be used in collecting data for this assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Telephone Interviews ▪ Focus Groups ▪ Interviews with Community Leaders ▪ Collection and Updating of Secondary Research <p>Mr. Stiles stated that the telephone interviews are currently underway. The survey requires about 15-20 minutes to complete. Mr. Stiles said that in the last survey, senior-aged participants were overly represented. Mr. Stiles said this time these participants will be limited to 20% of the total respondents.</p> <p>The committee members next discussed who should be included as a focus group. The committee members narrowed it down to the following groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hispanic Community Leaders and Advocates ● Franklin High School Students ● Community Business Leaders ● Community Medical/Healthcare Leaders 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Senior Caregivers • Representatives from the Nantahala area • Representatives from the Highlands area <p>The committee members discussed who should be included in the list of community leaders to be interviewed. Mr. Stiles said he would like to keep this number around 20. Mr. Stiles said this information was very helpful in the last assessment. Ms. McGaha will present the finalized list at the next meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Stiles said that the collection and updating of secondary data is very important. Mr. Stiles and Ms. McGaha have been conferring on this list and will discuss it more at a future meeting.</p>		
Review Next Steps	<p>Bill Stiles next reviewed the next steps for this assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Stiles said the telephone interviews started the week of February 14th and he hopes to complete at least 400. • Mr. Stiles will start contacting community leaders once Ms. McGaha and he have finalized the list of names. • Ms. McGaha and Ms. Blanton will work on setting up the focus groups in the community. • Mr. Stiles and Ms. McGaha are currently gathering, reviewing and updating secondary research information. • Ms. McGaha will set up committee meetings as necessary to complete this process. 		
Next Meeting Date	The next meeting for the Community Needs Assessment Committee will be set at a future date.		The next meeting for the Community Needs Assessment Committee will be held on Thursday, March 31 st , from 10:30 –

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TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
			11:30 AM in Meeting Rooms A/B at the Health and Human Services Building.