

**MINUTES: Healthy Carolinians of Macon County – Steering Committee**

**DATE:** March 9, 2011

**PLACE:** Angel Medical Center

**TIME:** 8:30 – 10:30 AM

**ATTENDEES:** Rhonda Blanton, Teresa Breedlove, Dan Brigman, Jim Bruckner, Lisa Hilliard, Teresa Mallonee, Kathy McGaha, Holly Rogers, Sheila Southard and Martin Wadewitz

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	<p>Marty Wadewitz welcomed everyone to today’s meeting of the Steering Committee. Mr. Wadewitz asked the committee members to review the minutes of the last meeting. Dan Brigman motioned for the approval of the minutes. Teresa Mallonee 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, with a unanimous vote for approval.</p>		
State and Local Restructuring of Healthy Carolinians	<p>Jim Bruckner led the committee members in a discussion of the State and Local Restructuring of Healthy Carolinians. Mr. Bruckner explained that the state office of Healthy Carolinians had been dissolved and that there would no longer be regional representatives as of July 1<sup>st</sup>.</p> <p>Mr. Bruckner said the current make-up of our local Healthy Carolinians will also be changing, with the changes yet to be determined. One possibility has Ms. McGaha moving into a new position, leaving only Ms. Blanton in Healthy Carolinians.</p> <p>Mr. Bruckner said the Board of Health members have discussed this situation and they hoped it could be kept in place to some degree. Mr. Bruckner reported that Mr. McClellan and the other Board of Health members complimented HCMC on their past successes and all the projects they had completed for our county and its residents.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha asked the committee members to consider what has made HCMC successful. The following suggestions were made:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Communication – Excellent skill and Ms. McGaha and Ms. Blanton are experts in this area</li></ol>		

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Facilitation – experts on running meetings and getting people to work together</li> <li>3. Community Relationships – helps prevent “turf issues”. Also, good at knowing who should be invited to participate in the committees and task forces</li> <li>4. Follow-up on all aspects relating to the committees and their undertakings</li> </ol> <p>Ms. McGaha stated that at the last Board of Directors meeting a suggestion was made to have a retreat to further discuss this topic in depth. After looking at several dates, the date of May 24<sup>th</sup> was picked.</p>		<p>The HCMC Retreat will be held on May 24<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 – 3:00 PM in Meeting Rooms A/B at the Health and Human Services Building.</p>
<p>Committee Updates</p>	<p>Marty Wadewitz asked for an update on the following committees or task forces:</p> <p><u>Access to Care Committee</u> – Lisa Hilliard, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lisa Hilliard stated that this committee is currently looking at integrating mental health into primary care. Ms. McGaha said that this is a topic that Kate B. Reynolds is interested in. Mr. Wadewitz explained that one adolescent stayed in the hospital recently for 11 days before he was placed in a mental health facility.</li> <li>• Ms. McGaha said this committee will also be deciding on what their next access issue will be.</li> </ul> <p><u>Chronic Disease Committee</u> – Teresa Breedlove, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy McGaha reported that this committee is currently reviewing and accessing the County Grounds Tobacco Policy. This committee is discussing whether to promote a change to the current policy by banning tobacco products on county grounds and/or county recreation areas.</li> <li>• Ms. McGaha stated that Macon County did not receive the ACHIEVE Grant. Ms. McGaha stated that we could reapply again in the future.’</li> </ul>		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jennifer Hollifield and Ms. McGaha are currently working on a School Gardens Project. Ms. McGaha said a grant had been received; Union Academy and South Macon would be partnering with Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project.</li> </ul> <p><u>Community Needs Assessment</u> – Marty Wadewitz, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy McGaha reported that this committee is next scheduled to meet on March 31<sup>st</sup>.</li> <li>• Ms. McGaha said the phone survey is currently being conducted.</li> <li>• Ms. McGaha reported that Mr. Stiles is in the process of setting up interviews with community leaders.</li> <li>• Ms. McGaha and Ms. Blanton will next concentrate on setting up the different focus groups.</li> </ul> <p><u>Elder Care and Caregivers Committee</u> – Sheila Southard, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sheila Southard stated that this committee is still working on Universal Design. Ms. Southard said a presentation by Richard Duncan, would be presented locally on March 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Duncan is the Coordinator of Training at the Center for Universal Design and is Senior Project Manager at North Carolina State University.</li> </ul> <p><u>Environmental Quality Task Force</u> – Barry Patterson, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rhonda Blanton explained that this committee is in the process of visiting facilities in our county that pertain to this committee and the projects the members are working on. Ms. Blanton said this committee had visited Coweeta Lab last year and are planning on visiting the Highlands Biological Station in the near future.</li> </ul>		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. McGaha stated that this committee has chosen water as their new main focus. The top areas of interest are:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Sedimentation</li> <li>❖ Conservation</li> <li>❖ Soil erosion</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><u>Strengthening Families Committee</u> – Vanessa Bailey, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy McGaha stated that the Homeless Count was taken January 26<sup>th</sup>. Ms. McGaha said the homeless numbers had increased.</li> <li>• Ms. McGaha said these numbers will be used by MPP in applying for the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Grant. Ms. McGaha said Chuck Sutton is currently working on the Letter of Intent for this project.</li> </ul> <p><u>Substance Abuse Task Force</u> – Robby Holland, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy McGaha said the task force is still looking at prescription drug abuse.</li> <li>• Ms. McGaha explained that this task force is also currently discussing the problem of synthetic drug abuse – especially “bath salts”. Ms McGaha stated that everyone should make themselves aware of this product and how dangerous it is.</li> </ul> <p><u>Mental Health Task Force/Committee</u> - Jim Bruckner, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy McGaha informed the committee members that mental health access had gotten better for students in the school system.</li> <li>• Ms. McGaha explained that NAMI is offering the Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) to local officers in the western counties. Ms. McGaha said this training has been very helpful and beneficial to our local officers.</li> </ul>		

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Other Items of Discussion	Other Items for Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Kathy McGaha reported that she is in the process of conducting this year's YRBS. It will be taken by all high school and middle school students at Franklin High School, Macon Middle School, Mountain View Intermediate (6<sup>th</sup> grade), Highlands School and Nantahala School.</li></ul>		
Next Meeting Date	The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 24 <sup>th</sup> , from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM in Meeting Rooms A/B at the Health and Human Services Building. This meeting is planned as an HCMC Retreat and the HCMC Board of Directors will be invited to it.		