## MINUTES: Healthy Carolinians of Macon County – Access to Care Committee

DATE: November 15, 2010PLACE: Angel Medical CenterTIME: 10:00 – 11:30 AMATTENDEES: Sarah Altman, Rhonda Blanton, Dorothy Crawford, John Crawford, Jerry Hermanson, Lisa Hilliard, JaneKimsey, Kathy McGaha and Martin Wadewitz

**GUEST**: Kristi Blanton

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	Lisa Hilliard welcomed everyone to today's meeting of the Access to Care Committee. Ms. Hilliard asked the committee members to review the minutes of the last meeting. Jane Kimsey motioned for the approval of the minutes. Martin Wadewitz 2 <sup>nd</sup> the motion, with a unanimous vote for approval.		
Introductions of Guests	Kathy McGaha introduced today's guest – Kristi Blanton. Ms. Blanton is a student in the Nursing program at Western Carolina University. Ms. Blanton is currently taking a course on Community Assessment. Ms. Blanton will present some research findings on Mental Health Free Clinics to the committee.		
	Ms. McGaha said representatives from both Meridian Behavioral Health Services and Appalachian Community Services had been invited, but due to other commitments were unable to attend.		
Integrating Behavioral Health into Free Clinic Setting	Lisa Hilliard next asked the committee members to continue the discussion on integrated mental heath care. This topic has been previously discussed in the last two meetings of this committee.		
	Kristi Blanton passed out several handouts for the committee members to review. Ms. Blanton said she had contacted several local clinics or health departments to gather this information. Ms. Blanton covered information on clinics in Henderson County, Madison County, Jackson County and Haywood County. Ms. Blanton provided information on the set-up of each clinic and how patients are handled.		

MINUTES: Access to Care Committee

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	Ms. Blanton also had gathered additional information specific to universities. Ms. Blanton had information from the University of Iowa and Marquette.		
	<ul> <li>Ms. Blanton also had these additional handouts:</li> <li>Starting a Free Clinic</li> <li>Grants for Primary &amp; Behavioral Health Care Integration</li> <li>The committee members thanked Ms. Blanton for all the time and hard work in gathering this information.</li> </ul>		
	Mr. Hermanson said he would like to add a mental health component to the services offered at The Community Care Clinic in Highlands, since it has worked so well at Franklin. Ms. McGaha said mental health is one component that the Kate B. Reynolds Foundation (KBR) will consider.	Kathy McGaha and Jerry Hermanson committed to contacting KBR to get further information about Integrated Mental Health.	
Other Items for Discussion	<ul> <li>Other Items for Discussion:</li> <li>Clinic at Western Carolina University – Jerry Hermanson announced that WCU is considering the creation of a community medical clinic that would also be open to inhabitants of the surrounding counties. Mr. Hermanson said he would continue to monitor this issue and report back to this committee.</li> <li>Macon County Schools – Kathy McGaha said she had recently met with Paula Ledford to get an update of mental health issues in the school system. Ms. Ledford explained that the needs of the students are being met, but needs that the parents have are not.</li> <li>Crisis Care Services for Counties – Kathy McGaha informed the committee members of a publication by the National Association of Counties. One feature article was titled: Crisis Care Services for Counties: Preventing</li> </ul>		

MINUTES: Access to Care Committee

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	<ul> <li>Individuals with Mental Illnesses from Entering Local Corrections Systems. Ms. McGaha said five counties had been featured in this article, of which, one was Buncombe County.</li> <li>CABHA's – The committee members briefly discussed CABHA's (Critical Access Behavioral Health Agencies). Jane Kimsey said she had recently seen a listing that stated Macon County had five CABHA's. Sarah Altman offered to check on this information and see if that total is correct and who the agencies are.</li> </ul>	Sarah Altman will check on the CABHA listing for Macon County and report back to the committee.	
Next Meeting Date	The date of the next meeting of the Access to Care Committee will be set at a later time.		

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