

**MINUTES: Healthy Carolinians of Macon County – Strengthening Families Committee**

**DATE:** March 18, 2010

**PLACE:** CARENET

**TIME:** 12:00 N – 1:30 PM

**ATTENDEES:** Vanessa Bailey, Rebecca Barboff, Rhonda Blanton, Kristi Case, Marla Dalrymple, Jennifer Garrett, Marci Holland, Robert Holland, Anne Hyder, Linda Mathias, Kathleen McGaha, Sherry Tilson and Jennifer Turner-Lynn

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	Vanessa Bailey welcomed everyone to today’s meeting of the Strengthening Families Committee. Ms. Bailey asked the committee members to review the minutes of the last meeting. Robby Holland motioned for approval of the minutes. Rebecca Barboff 2 <sup>nd</sup> the motion, with a unanimous vote for approval.		
Introductions	Vanessa Bailey asked everyone to introduce themselves and tell what organization they represented.		
Homeless Count Event	<p>Kathy McGaha first gave a brief review of the events leading up to the Homeless Count Event held at CARENET on January 27<sup>th</sup>. Ms. McGaha complimented all the committee members for their hard work on this event.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha led the committee members into a group discussion on the Homeless Count Event:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Location – CARENET worked out excellent as the host location for this event.</li><li>➤ Flow – The flow of the event worked out well. The committee members suggested that all organizations be in open area with a private conference available if needed.</li><li>➤ Transportation – The transit bus was very busy at first and then had very few riders the rest of the night. The committee members agreed to review this issue before this event next year.</li><li>➤ Donations – Ms. Bailey said plenty of donations had been received: especially with the donations of coats from Patrick Jenkins. Ms. Bailey suggested next year that on the night of the event a voucher will be issued that can be redeemed at the CARENET resale store.</li></ul>		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Volunteers – The committee members agreed that the number of volunteers for that night worked out fine. The volunteers in the parking lot were especially helpful. One suggestion was to possibly start the event earlier next year, starting at 3:00 PM and lasting to 6:00 PM or 7:00 PM.</li> <li>➤ Development of Survey Form – Ms. McGaha said she would cover this topic further when discussing the Homeless Count Report.</li> <li>➤ Publicity – The publicity of the event went very well; especially receiving a lot of media coverage. The one suggestion was to have flyers in both English and Spanish.</li> <li>➤ Event Services – Ms. McGaha thanked all the organizations that had participated in the event this year and invited them back next year. The committee members made the following suggestions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Invite REACH and Job Link to participate next year</li> <li>❖ Anne Hyder suggested making tent cards for all the organizations</li> <li>❖ Have all organizations in outer area and have a private conference room available</li> <li>❖ Vanessa Bailey suggested having all this information available to CARENET’s clients before the event</li> <li>❖ Provide information on the Free Clinic that is now open</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Other Items – The committee members would like to send thank you notes to the following people:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Paul Duvall – Domino’s</li> <li>2. Vic Greene</li> <li>3. C. D. Jenkins/Gene Ledford</li> <li>4. Macon Transit – Bob Bloxom</li> </ol> </li> </ul>		

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Homeless Count Report	<p>Kathy McGaha next reported on the Homeless Count Report. Ms. McGaha passed out handouts for the committee members to review and discuss.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha reviewed the first form – <i>North Carolina Point-in-Time Count Reporting Form</i>. This first page covers the households with dependent children, the households without dependent children and the different defined subpopulations. The second page defines who is Imminently Homeless, Precariously Housed and Housed &amp; At-Risk. The third page and fourth page cover the sheltered count in Macon County.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha then reviewed the second hand-out titled – <i>2009 Point-in-Time Count: Balance of State</i>. This form had numbers from most of the counties in North Carolina. Ms. McGaha questioned why Macon County had separate county numbers and then was also listed in a seven county area. Ms. Case will check on this issue.</p> <p>Rhonda Blanton also passed out a handout that covered the homeless count in Buncombe County. The newspaper article reported that the preliminary data suggested that the homeless population in Buncombe County had declined.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha next asked the committee members what this committee wanted to do with the information collected and how this committee might use this information to help members of this community. Ms. McGaha suggested to the committee members to hold a special meeting and discuss this in detail. The committee members could then develop action plans.</p>	<p>Kristi Case will check on the numbers regarding the seven county area which included Macon County.</p>	
Other Items for Discussion	<p>Other Items for Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Robby Holland informed the committee members about the upcoming Operation Medicine Drop</li> </ul>		

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<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>FOLLOW-UP</b>
	being held on Saturday, March 20 <sup>th</sup> . Mr. Holland said the Macon County Sheriff's Office, the Franklin Police Department and the Highlands Police Department will be collecting unwanted or out of date prescriptions. Mr. Holland said the locations are K-Mart, Wal-Mart and in front of the Highlands Pharmacy. The time frame will be 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Mr. Holland said they hope to conduct another collection date, possibly during the Macon County Fair.		
Next Meeting Date	The date for the next meeting of the Strengthening Families Committee will be determined at a later date.		<b>The next meeting of the Strengthening Families Committee will be held on Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, from 12:00 N – 1:30 PM in Meeting Rooms A/B at the Health and Human Services Building.</b>