

MINUTES: Healthy Carolinians of Macon County – Strengthening Families Committee

DATE: April 16, 2008

PLACE: CARENET Building

TIME: 12:00 N – 2:00 PM

ATTENDEES: Stephanie Almeida, Vanessa Bailey, Rhonda Blanton, Jim Bottomley, Sandra Conaty, Margaret Freeman, Jennifer Garrett, Marci Holland, Robert Holland, Anne Hyder, Jane Kimsey, Paula Ledford, Kathy McGaha, Sherrie Peeler, Julie Rogers, Sarah Thach, Jennifer Turner-Lynn, Carlos Vargas and Vince West

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	<p>Kathy McGaha welcomed everyone to today’s meeting of the Strengthening Families Committee. Ms. McGaha asked the committee members to review the minutes of the last meeting. Robert Holland motioned for the approval of the minutes. Sandra Conaty 2nd the motion, with a unanimous vote for approval.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha wanted to give a special thanks to Sarah Thach for her time and efforts in helping with the Strengthening Families meetings and everything she has done to get this committee going.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha also gave special thanks to Rhonda Blanton for everything she does, especially taking minutes at all HCMC meetings.</p>		
Lunch	Lunch was provided by Vanessa Bailey and CARENET. Please thank Ms. Bailey and her staff.		
Strengthening Families Committee’s Future	<p>Kathy McGaha explained to the committee members that the future of this committee needed to be decided. Ms. McGaha stated the Child/Adolescent Health Issues Committee had been the host committee for the Strengthening Families action planning process. After the Community Assessment, additional community members were invited to further discuss and evaluate the priority of Strengthening Families and Reducing Youth Risky Behavior.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha stated she will be meeting with the Steering Committee next week and she would take this group’s recommendation to them for formal approval. Ms. McGaha said one option was to disband the</p>		

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	<p>Child/Adolescent Health Issues Committee and to approve the formation of a new committee - the Strengthening Families Committee. After a group discussion, the committee members thought this was the best recommendation.</p>		
<p>Action Plan: Review of Selected Interventions and Assigned Roles and Responsibilities</p>	<p>Kathy McGaha passed out a handout titled – <i>Healthy Carolinians Action Plan 2008: Strengthening Families to Reduce Youth Risky Behavior</i>. Ms. McGaha asked the committee members to specifically look at Interventions #11, #12 and #13. Ms. McGaha informed the committee members that this action plan is in draft form and she asked for final approval.</p> <p>#11 – Develop a Family Resource Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. McGaha informed the committee members that Margaret Freeman and Sandy Conaty have visited the Jackson County Resource Center. Ms. Freeman and Ms. Conaty have invited their director to speak at our next meeting. • Ms. McGaha also announced that Jeff King had researched the feasibility of opening a YMCA. • Ms. McGaha said this intervention will need a lead agency. <p>#12 – Establish a Soup Kitchen that is open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanessa Bailey said the next step for the soup kitchen is to increase service to five days a week. • The biggest need for this project is the hiring of a coordinator. <p>#13 – Establish Emergency Housing for Homeless Families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. McGaha stated that Habitat for Humanity is in the process of obtaining land for this project. • Ms. McGaha said once the land is obtained, the 	<p>Rhonda Blanton will ask Susie McCoy for a Macon Program for Progress representative on the Strengthening Families Committee to discuss the Family Resource Center project.</p>	

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	placement of four doublewide trailers on the land would be the next step.		
Define Disparity Group(s)	<p>Kathy McGaha asked the committee members to consider and define any group(s) that was experiencing disparity regarding this action plan. The committee members identified the following disparity groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Individuals and families in crisis (for example recently unemployed) ○ Seasonal worker’s families ○ Low income ○ Uneducated ○ Elderly ○ Grandparents raising kids ○ Single parent households ○ Families experiencing mental health problems ○ Immigrant/migrant families 		
Evaluation: How are we going to know if we are successful?	Kathy McGaha and Sarah Thach next asked the committee members to consider how we would know if we were successful with these projects. Ms. McGaha asked the committee members to consider what impacts or outcomes they want from these projects.		
Tour of CARENET	Vanessa Bailey next led the committee members on a tour of the CARENET Building and explained what all they do.		
Other Items of Discussion	Rhonda Blanton reminded the committee members about the upcoming Full Partnership Meeting being held on May 21 st , starting at 8:30 AM in the Cafeteria at Angel Medical Center. Ms. Blanton asked the committee members to please RSVP to the invitation.		
Next Meeting Date	The next meeting of the Strengthening Families Committee will be held on Wednesday, May 14 th , from 12:00 N – 2:00 PM at the Macon Program for Progress Training Annex.		