

MINUTES: Healthy Carolinians of Macon County – Strengthening Families Committee

DATE: May 14, 2008

PLACE: Macon Program for Progress Annex

TIME: 12:00 N – 2:00 PM

ATTENDEES: Vanessa Bailey, Rhonda Blanton, Sandra Conaty, Margaret Freeman, Jennifer Garrett, Anne Hyder, Jane Kimsey, Jeff King, Paula Ledford, Kathy McGaha, Jennifer Turner-Lynn and Rick Westerman

GUESTS: Amber Clayton, Ginger Hill and Susie McCoy

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	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. Jane Kimsey motioned for the approval of the minutes. Rick Westerman 2 nd the motion, with a unanimous vote for approval.		
Introductions	Kathy McGaha asked everyone to introduce themselves and tell what organization they represented.		
Action Plan	Ms. McGaha next briefly reviewed the action plan listing the three interventions and the lead agencies for each intervention. The three interventions are: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Develop a Family Resource Center to provide information about services, referrals, and education to Macon families. The lead agency will be the Strengthening Families Committee.2. Establish a Soup Kitchen that is open 7 days per week for lunch and dinner. The lead agency will be CARENET of Macon County.3. Establish Emergency Housing for Homeless Families. The lead agency will be Macon County Habitat for Humanity’s Board of Directors.		
Family Resource Center	Kathy McGaha next introduced today’s guests - Ginger Hill and Amber Clayton. They are from Jackson County’s Family Resource Center. Margaret Freeman and Sandy Conaty recently toured this facility for this committee. Ginger Hill gave an overview to the committee members of how this program is set up and funded. Ms. Hill stated that the Jackson County Family Resource Center offered a safe, friendly place where individuals and families can		

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	<p>come to learn about and access a variety of opportunities, services, and resources for mental, physical, and emotional enrichment.</p> <p>Ginger Hill and Amber Clayton reviewed and explained some to the classes being offered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adventures in Reading ▪ Love and Logic ▪ Strengthening Families ▪ The Nurturing Parenting Program <p>The committee members thanked both Ms. Hill and Ms. Clayton for attending today’s meeting and explaining the set-up and operation of Jackson County’s Family Resource Center.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha also asked Susie McCoy with Macon Program for Progress to briefly explain the programs they offer. Ms. McCoy said that the main focus for Macon Program for Progress is child care.</p>		
Emergency Housing	<p>Rick Westerman gave a brief update on emergency housing. Mr. Westerman said they are still working on the process of obtaining land and hope to have this issue resolved in the next six months. Mr. Westerman told the committee members that his office is located on the Highlands Road in the old hotel.</p>		
Soup Cafe	<p>Vanessa Bailey updated the committee members on the status of the Soup Café. Ms. Bailey said the plans are to increase service first on Tuesdays, then Thursdays and finally add Tuesday nights.</p> <p>Ms. Bailey said the numbers of people being served have increased. Ms. Bailey said she definitely needs more volunteers and also needs more chairs for the new room addition. Ms. Bailey said she is also still looking to start the backpack program.</p>		

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	<p>Ms. McGaha and the committee members thanked Ms. Bailey for hosting the last meeting and providing lunch. The committee members also thanked Ms. Bailey for the very informative tour of the building and its operations.</p>		
<p>Update on Status of Committee</p>	<p>Kathy McGaha informed the committee members that she had met with the Steering Committee and they had approved the formation of the Strengthening Families Committee. The Child/Adolescent Health Issues Committee would be absorbed into the Strengthening Families Committee.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha asked the committee members to consider who to nominate for the chairperson position. Rick Westerman said Vanessa Bailey would make a great chairperson. Several committee members agreed. Susie McCoy volunteered if no one else wanted to chair the committee. Ms. McGaha will talk with Vanessa Bailey and will inform the committee members at the next meeting if one accepts.</p>	<p>Kathy McGaha will talk with Vanessa Bailey about the chairperson position and report back to the committee members at the next meeting.</p>	
<p>Other Items of Discussion</p>	<p>Kathy McGaha reminded the committee members about the upcoming Full Partnership Meeting being held on May 21st, starting at 8:30 AM in the Cafeteria at Angel Medical Center. Ms. McGaha asked the committee members to please RSVP regarding the invitation to Rhonda Blanton.</p> <p>Kathy McGaha asked Susie McCoy to continue with this committee as a member and Ms. McCoy accepted.</p> <p>Jane Kimsey announced she is looking into a 211 phone information system that could be used in Macon County. Ms. Kimsey said Buncombe County currently has a 211 system. Ms. Kimsey said it would be nice to have all resource information for Macon County available in one location.</p>	<p>Committee members are to RSVP to Rhonda Blanton for the Full Partnership Meeting.</p>	

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TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
Next Meeting Date	The next meeting date of the Strengthening Families Committee will be held on Wednesday, June 11 th , from 12:00 N – 2:00 PM at the Macon Program for Progress Training Annex.		