

MINUTES: Healthy Carolinians of Macon County – Strengthening Families Committee

DATE: October 15, 2009

PLACE: Health and Human Services Building

TIME: 12:00 N – 1:30 PM

ATTENDEES: Rhonda Blanton, Jim Bottomley, Margaret Freeman, Jennifer Garrett, Paula Ledford, Jan Lee, Linda Mathias, Kathy McGaha, Cindy Phipps, Yvonne Robinson and Brenda Walker

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 two meetings. Jim Bottomley motioned for the approval of both sets of minutes. Paula Ledford 2 nd the motion, with a unanimous vote for approval.		
Informing Agencies in Day Count	<p>Kathy McGaha explained that one of the first steps in this process was to inform local agencies of the upcoming homeless count and ask them if they would be willing to participate in this count.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha asked the committee members to suggest possible local agencies to contact. The following suggestions were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social Security• Mental Health• Social Services• Veteran’s Administration• Health Department• Local schools• Macon Program for Progress• CARENET• Local thrift stores• Local churches• Local ER’s• Local doctor’s offices• Hot Spot		
Homeless Count Event	Kathy McGaha next asked the committee members to consider and discuss all aspects involved in this event. Ms. McGaha suggested to first think about what aspects of this process would need to be covered that day and asked for volunteers to act as coordinators		

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	<p>. The following suggestions were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location – Vanessa Bailey • Transportation- Linda Mathias/Kim Angel/Jan Lee • Donations – Vanessa Bailey • Volunteers- Jennifer Garrett/Anne Hyder • Development of survey form – Paula Ledford/Kathy McGaha/Cindy Phipps • Publicity – Yvonne Robinson/Marci Holland • Event Services- Jane Kimsey <p>Ms. McGaha next asked the committee members to consider what agencies would need to be contacted to provide support services for this event. The following suggestions were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medication Assistance • Social Services • Job Link • CARENET • Mental Health • HUD/Habitat for Humanity <p>Ms. McGaha also asked the committee members to consider what volunteer positions would be needed for this event. The following suggestions were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transit assistants to help with the process of picking everyone up • Food Preparers and Servers • Interpreters • Set-up and Clean-up • Greeters • Survey helpers • People to contact agencies and gather the information • Donation assistants (if needed) 		

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Other Items for Discussion	<p>Other Items for Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brenda Walker of The Children’s Home announced that the grant for crisis beds was not approved. Ms. Walker asked the committee members to consider and suggest possible ideas for future use of their building and available beds. After a group discussion, the committee members suggested the need in our community for emergency bed housing specifically for this winter season. 		
Next Meeting Date	The next meeting of the Strengthening Families Committee will be held on Thursday, November 5 th , from 12:00 N – 1:30 PM in a location to be determined.		The time for the next meeting has been changed. The meeting will be held on Thursday, November 5th from 2:30 – 4:00 PM at CARENET.