

**MINUTES: Healthy Carolinians of Macon County – Steering Committee**

**DATE:** January 7, 2009

**PLACE:** Health and Human Services Building

**TIME:** 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**ATTENDEES:** Rhonda Blanton, Teresa Breedlove, Jim Bruckner, Lisa Hilliard, Anne Hyder, Teresa Mallonee, Kathy McGaha, Barbara McRae, Yvonne Smith, Roberta Swank, Jim Thurmond, Carlos Vargas, Martin Wadewitz and Vince West

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	Marty Wadewitz welcomed everyone to today’s meeting of the Steering Committee. Mr. Wadewitz asked the committee members to review the minutes of the last two meetings. Roberta Swank motioned for approval of both sets of minutes. Lisa Hilliard 2 <sup>nd</sup> the motion, with a unanimous vote for approval.		
Lunch	Lunch was provided by Healthy Carolinians of Macon County.		
Unnatural Causes	<p>Kathy McGaha explained to the committee members that the Healthy Carolinians partnerships in western North Carolina have combined to work on a WNC Regional Project. Ms. McGaha said that one component of this project is to promote viewing of the film series “Unnatural Causes”.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha said another component is to train at least three mediators from each county that will go out into the community and show part or all of this film series. Then the mediators will conduct community dialogues to further discuss the topics covered in this film series. Ms. McGaha asked the committee members if anyone of them wanted to volunteer to be a mediator, to let her or Ms. Blanton know.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha said so far, six HC partnerships have agreed to participate with this project. The partnerships are in the following counties – Macon, Henderson, Mitchell, McDowell, Polk and Buncombe. Ms. McGaha thanked Mr. Bruckner for letting Macon County be the lead agency for this project.</p>		

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	<p>Ms. McGaha then showed part of the film series to the committee members. Ms. McGaha led the committee members in a group discussion on topics from this film series. Ms. McGaha also asked the committee members to consider what local groups, civic clubs, and organizations for the moderators to meet with.</p> <p>Suggestions made by committee members included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Board of Health</li> <li>▪ AMC and HCH Hospital Boards</li> <li>▪ County Commissioners</li> <li>▪ Other HCMC Partnership Committees</li> <li>▪ Church Groups</li> </ul> <p>Ms. McGaha also announced that this film series can be checked out for their viewing. Just contact Ms. McGaha if you want to watch it.</p>		
Committee Updates	<p>Kathy McGaha asked for an update on the following committees:</p> <p><u>Access to Care Committee</u> – Lisa Hilliard, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lisa Hilliard reported that Mr. Bruckner and Ms. McGaha are working on a draft of a presentation that can be presented to the Board of Commissioners.</li> </ul> <p><u>Chronic Disease Committee</u> – Teresa Breedlove, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Breedlove reported that this committee is still looking at obesity issues in the county.</li> <li>• Ms. McGaha gave an update on the Regional Obesity Project. Ms. McGaha said that MAHEC will be the lead agency for the grant application. Ms. McGaha listed some of the sponsors that are involved with this project:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ WNC Health Network</li> <li>○ Area School Nurses</li> <li>○ Area Health Directors</li> <li>○ Area Healthy Carolinian partnerships</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

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	<p><u>Community Needs Assessment Committee</u> – Anne Hyder, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy McGaha said she will talk with Anne Hyder about reconvening this committee to review the SOTCH report in more detail</li> </ul> <p><u>Elder Care and Caregivers Committee</u> – Dr. Vargas, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Vargas gave a brief update on the topics of Senior Friendly Communities and Planning for Future Senior Needs.</li> <li>• Dr. Vargas reported that this committee is starting to work on the upcoming Senior Expo and Health Fair. The proposed date for this event is May 1<sup>st</sup>.</li> </ul> <p><u>Environmental Quality Task Force</u> – Jim Bruckner, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy McGaha reported that this committee is still developing a postcard that will inform and promote consumer awareness for well and septic system maintenance.</li> <li>• Jim Thurmond reported that he had received one of the sample letters that was sent out for this purpose. Mr. Thurmond stated that the letter was very informative and it did encourage him to get his septic system pumped out.</li> </ul> <p><u>Mental Health Committee</u> – Jim Bruckner, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy McGaha reported that this has been a very active and engaged committee. This committee has been working on the planning efforts made by the Mental Health Task Force and helping with the implementation of the County Mental Health Plan.</li> <li>• Ms. McGaha reported that the Mr. Bruckner and Jane Kimsey are presenting the report from the Mental Health Task Force to the Board of Commissioners on January 26<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul> <p><u>Strengthening Families Committee</u> – Vanessa Bailey, Chair</p>	<p>Kathy McGaha will meet with Anne Hyder about reconvening the Community Needs Assessment Committee to review and discuss the SOTCH report.</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy McGaha said this committee is still working on the same three interventions:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Developing a Family Resource Center which now is going to be called a Community Resource Center. This center will be housed with Senior Services once they have completed their move.</li> <li>2. CARENET has kept this committee informed of the drastic increase of meals being served at the Soup Kitchen. CARENET has added one additional weekday that they are serving lunch.</li> <li>3. Rick Westerman of Habitat for Humanity has kept this committee informed of their process of obtaining emergency housing property. Ms. McGaha said this committee will offer to assist them further, once the property has been attained.</li> </ol> <p><u>Substance Abuse Task Force</u> – Robby Holland, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy McGaha said this committee has been involved in a Strategic Framework Planning Process. Susan Johnson from the Western Center for Prevention Resources facilitated three of their meetings.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
Other Items for Discussion	<p>Other Items for Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jim Bruckner informed the committee members about a website with a lot of helpful information on it. The website is <a href="http://www.healthyamericans.org">www.healthyamericans.org</a>.</li> <li>○ Barbara McRae asked the committee members how aware they were of homelessness in Macon County. Ms. McRae said some people are living in campgrounds or their cars.</li> </ul>		
Next Meeting Date	The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held on Wed. April 15 <sup>th</sup> , from 10:00 AM – 12:00 N in Mtg. Rooms A/B at the Health and Human Services Building.		

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