

MONTCALM HUMAN SERVICES COALITION

November 4, 2009

Montcalm Area Intermediate School District, Stanton

Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: **John Johansen**, County Commissioner; **Bob Brown**, The Montcalm Center for Behavioral Health; **Linda Huyck**, MSUE Montcalm;; **John Kroneck**, Life Guidance Wellness & Prevention; **Michelle Seigo**, Ionia Montcalm DHS; **Dan Petersen** (for John Van Nieuwenhuyzen), EightCAP, Inc.; **Bob Clingenpeel**, Commission on Aging; **Denise Hubbard**, United Way of Montcalm County; **Laura Thompson**, Alpha Family Center; **Don Myers**, Vestaburg Public School; **Brenda Greenhoe**, Great Start Collaborative; **Jodie Faber**, United Lifestyles; **Dr. Scott Koenigsknecht**, Montcalm Area Intermediate School District; **Bruce Williams**, ACE Home Health Care; **Chris Hyzer**, County Administrator/ Controller; **Pastor Jerry Jones**, Faith Community Representative; **Janet Bloomfield**, Central Area Michigan Works! Consortium; **Mo Beach**, Montcalm County Habitat for Humanity; **Erin Roberts**, RAVE; **Robert Ferrentino**, Montcalm Community College; **Franz Mogdis**, Montcalm Alliance; **Deborah McCormack**, Catholic Charities West Michigan; **Alison Barberi**, Greenville Area Community Foundation.

Members Absent: **Bill Barnwell**, Montcalm County Sheriff Office; **Mike Brewer**, Goodwill Industries; **Judge Simon**, Probate Court; **Andrea Krause**, Prosecuting Attorney; **Chad Campbell**, Community Hope Counseling Center; **Kathy Betts**, Central Montcalm Community/Adult Education; **Kim Singh**, Mid-Michigan District Health Department; **Judge Suzanne Kreeger**, 8th Circuit Court; **Dr. Dorothy Berg**, North Kent Guidance Services; **Therese Reilly**, Montcalm Area Health Center.

Staff and Others Present: **Lisa Lund**, Staff; Yvette Bayer, 1073rd Family Readiness Group; **Joyce Bos**, Pathways,MI; **Mary Judnich**, Senator Debbie Stabenow's office.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Bob Clingenpeel called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

WELCOME

Chairperson Bob Clingenpeel welcomed members and asked them to introduce themselves.

Lisa Lund distributed meeting packets to members including a business agenda and a consent agenda with related materials.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Motioned by Denise Hubbard to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Jodie Faber. Motion carried.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Members were asked to make verbal reports on any updates. Denise Hubbard discussed the Vital Needs Summit that took place on October 29. It had about 70 people at the event. The purpose of the event was to use a National Issues Forum model to get people to think differently discuss different ways of thinking about the problems and the potential solutions. Lisa Lund noted that both the Ionia Sentinel and the Daily News wrote articles, copies of which were included in the consent agenda. The next step will be to do local community conversations around the information that was developed and identify potential strategies that communities think may work.

Note that updates from the October meeting have been made to the current document. Lisa Lund will prepare an updated document for the December meeting.

PRESENTATION – JOYCE BOS, PATHWAYS,MI

Joyce Bos gave an overview of the child care project she is involved with as contractor for the Early Childhood Investment Corporation for a 10 county region, including Montcalm County. These functions used to be performed by Kent Regional Community Coordinated Child Care (4C).

Handouts were provided via email in advance of the meeting, but an additional e-mail handout on the Early Childhood Child Care (Expulsion) Enhancement Project was provided at the meeting. There is one FTE for a 10 county region for this project.

She explained how things operated before and how their charge at Pathways,MI is to provide limited information and referral for those seeking child care services AND coordinate professional development opportunities for child care providers. One of the changes is that there is no longer a child care information and referral specialist located in Montcalm County or a dedicated person to assist with child care information and referral services.

As an additional piece, the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC) has a database at <http://www.greatstartforkids.org/greatStartConnect.cfm> for people to access child care provider information 24/7. Starting in November, child care providers will need to update their own information on this database.

There is pending legislation that will require training for family/ neighbor care providers receiving child care subsidy payments if they want a higher rate; this training includes CPR. Joyce would welcome ideas on how to focus their resources to best serve Montcalm County. As previously announced, Joyce Bos plans to meet with interested MHSC members after the meeting.

To contact Joyce Bos, please call her at (616) 396-2301 or e-mail her at JBos@pathwaysmi.org

PRESENTATION – MARY JUDNICH, SEN. DEBBIE STABENOW’S OFFICE

Mary Judnich gave an overview of three current issues including an update on the federal budget, health care, and the Senator’s work on unemployment benefit extensions. Questions were then taken from MHSC members. She stated that while people can contact her regional Grand Rapids office at any time, members with specific issues or ideas related to the FY 2011 federal budget should contact their office by this coming in January or February. She also stated that Sen. Stabenow provides letters of support and if you need/want one, to contact the regional office in Grand Rapids (not the Washington D.C. office). The regional office phone number is (616) 975-0052 and Mary Judnich’s e-mail address is mary_judnich@stabenow.senate.gov (note the underscore between her first and last name). The other staff in the Grand Rapids regional office is Michael Lausch.

OLD BUSINESS

1073RD DEPLOYMENT

Yvette Bayer is the Chairperson of the Michigan National Guard's 1073rd Family Readiness Group. This group serves as a communication point, connection, and support for families while troops are deployed. This support includes fundraising for social events and homecoming parties.

The 1073rd in Greenville is preparing for a deployment in the next couple months. They will leave for an out-of-state training in early December and will be deployed overseas in February for a year. Even though the Armory is in Greenville, members of the 1073rd reside throughout the state, with even one living in Ohio. So in addition to Montcalm County connections, there is a need for local resource connections statewide. She said that working with the school staff regarding the children and mental health resources are two key issues they will address. They address needs of veteran or active duty families. On December 4, a send off activity will be combined with the Santa Parade in Greenville. MHSC members can get in contact Yvette by contacting the National Guard Armory at (616) 754-4882.

Note: Here is a website for the Michigan National Guard Family Program with additional information including Family Readiness Groups: <https://www.mi.ngb.army.mil/family>

H1N1 UPDATE

Lisa Lund distributed handouts forwarded by Kim Singh. Jodie Faber stated that United Lifestyles is also offering a clinic. This information is on the United Lifestyles website and should also be posted at www.mmdhd.org website. A seasonal flu vaccine shortage was also noted.

211 UPDATE

Denise Hubbard reported that Michigan 211 approved the request for HandsOn Battle Creek to provide 211 services to Montcalm, Ionia, and Barry Counties. All three counties submitted Call Center endorsement letters. Denise Hubbard anticipated that the HandsOn Battle Creek Executive Director Jim Pearl and/or 211 Director Rachel Osborn will want to attend a future MHSC to get acquainted; we would work to coordinate that.

NEW BUSINESS

2010 MEETING SCHEDULE

After much discussion, the group decided to keep all 2010 MHSC meetings in Stanton for consistency. Lisa Lund will finalize the meeting schedule and bring to the December meeting for final approval.

COMMUNITY REPORT CARD

In 2005, the MHSC published a community report card with an update on some indicators in 2007. Next year would be 5 years since this was done. Members are asked to review the document and consider what if any update should be done. Specifically, MHSC committees will be asked to take this up during their December meeting and make recommendations.

ADVOCACY

Lisa Lund noted the Voter Engagement Training event flier in the member's packets and encouraged MHSC member organizations to promote and attend it.

AGENCY SHARING

The MHSC procedure on agency sharing asks that any members wanting their agency sharing information to go into the meeting minutes submit their information to Lisa Lund in writing (members can still share verbally at the meeting). If any MHSC members did not provide something in writing at the time of the meeting, they can still send their information to Lisa Lund afterwards who will forward to the membership.

Dr. Scott Koenigsknecht distributed a handout showing the school funding changes in the MAISD and local school districts. On November 10, people from Montcalm County will be encouraged to go to Lansing to meet with legislators to discuss the impacts of these changes and suggest alternative solutions where possible.

Lisa Lund noted that the Suicide Prevention Coalition has made suicide prevention posters available and they are at the back of the room today; if you take some, please note that on the sheet. If you want some later, please let Lisa Lund know.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, December 2 from 1:30- 3:30 pm at the Montcalm Area ISD, Michigan Room.

Adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Lund