

Great Start Collaborative-Oakland

Basic Needs, Economic Security & Child Safety Subcommittee

Meeting Notes

June 11, 2009
 9:30-11:30 AM
 Oakland County Child Care Council

Attendees: Chandra Jones (Parent), Sherry Scruggs (4C), Leslie Roach (LCFS), Pamela Barckholtz (GSC-O)
 Guest: Jim Perlaki (Common Ground, OCTH)

Recap: Chandra Jones provided a recap of previous meetings which included discussion of our transportation survey to be completed soon and our efforts to gain the interest of the Pontiac Housing Commission in our work.

BASIC NEEDS, ECONOMIC SECURITY & CHILD SAFETY Families of infants and young children are economically stable. Infants and young children live in safe families.					
OBJECTIVE/ACTION STEP	RESOURCE NEEDS	ROLES/ RESPONSIBILITIES	TARGET DATES	PROGRESS MEASURES	STATUS
Goal BN/ES/CS1: <i>Increase awareness of available community resources and referral & resource systems.</i>					
Strategy BN/ES/CS1.A: Promote the use of 211.					
Supportive BN/ES/CS1.A.1 - Increase the public awareness of 211.	Outreach Materials Time	GSC-O Staff	9/30/09	Inclusion of 211 materials at every GSC-O event. 12-11-08 Worked on final letter detail. Members can still review letter and offer edits, but letter will be sent by end of month. 1-8-08 Approved final letter to 2-1-1. Letter will be signed by	Ongoing

				Committee Chairperson, Chandra Jones	
Strategy BN/ES/CS1.B: Gain an understanding of the current resource and referral systems (including 211, Oakland Helplink, and other community resource guides) and what community organizations and families are using to access service information.					
Supportive BN/ES/CS1.B.1 - Research the status of Oakland Helplink.	Access to information Time	GSC-O Staff Oakland Schools Staff	1/31/09	A status report will be presented to the subcommittee. Documentation of meeting notes.	
Lead # 2 BN/ES/CS1.B.2 - Research summer lunch programs availability and promote expansion where possible.	Access to information Time	Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners	1/31/09	Compilation of programs and recommendations for expansion completed and shared with subcommittee and potential partners. 10-9-08 Reviewed questions generated at last meeting. Add: How does a site qualify as a summer lunch program? Can the program be mobile? Can it be other places besides churches or schools 12-11-08 Summer lunch programs sponsored by OLHSA in Pontiac were presented by Jerry Sedick. See notes at end of action agenda. Decision made to focus on further development of these programs immediately so that we can improve Oakland County coverage in 2009. 1-8-08 Continued review of feasibility of increased summer lunch programs in Oakland	

				<p>County. Research regarding St. Paul Lutheran in northeast Pontiac reveals this will be a logical site that fulfills a need. Pam will connect Jerry Sedick to representatives of St. Paul and initiate discussions regarding this possible site. We will prioritize outreach to school districts/schools with greater than 50% receiving free and reduced lunches. Each committee member accepted outreach assignments. Summer lunch program manuals have not yet been received but training is planned for April, 2009. We will continue to focus on expansion of this needed program during our next meeting.</p> <p>2-12-09 Reported summer lunch program contacts and frustrations experienced. Set more realistic goal of adding 1 Pontiac site and one other county site this year. Sherea may be able to help us in Royal Oak Township. Will continue to make contacts and promote this program.</p> <p>5-14-09 No report to date regarding any additional sites.</p>	
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				Pam will attempt to obtain this information for next meeting	
Lead # 6 BN/ES/CS1.B.3 -Convene a workgroup to develop recommendations regarding the feasibility of merging various resource manuals, such as Helplink, OLHSA, Youth Assistance manuals	Access to information Time Agency buy-in and information about how they update their systems	Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners	1/31/09	Provide recommendations to GSC-O Strategic Leadership. 5-14-09 Pam will investigate the status of 2-1-1 and the interest of other parties in the merging of the resource manuals.	
Lead # 3 BN/ES/CS1.B.4 - Research community resources in specific townships/municipalities	Access to information Time	Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners	3/31/09	Communicate with townships/municipalities regarding their resource networks	
Strategy BN/ES/CS1.C: Assist early childhood services and support in connecting their information to the 211 Database.					
Supportive BN/ES/CS1.C.1 - Research the feasibility of developing a mechanism for inclusion in a separate resource database for those resources that do not meet criteria for inclusion in 211.	Access to information Time	211 Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners	6/30/09	Report to Strategic Leadership on the feasibility of a mechanism for inclusion in a resource database those resources that do not meet criteria for inclusion in 211.	
Lead # 7 BN/ES/CS1.C.2 -Assist ineligible resources with becoming eligible for inclusion in 211.	Access to information Time	211 Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners	9/30/09	Will provide guidance to ineligible resources that are identified during a two month period of the calendar year.	
Goal BN/ES/CS2: <i>Raise awareness of the need for more low income, subsidized, affordable, safe housing and advocate for additional affordable housing resources for families with young children.</i>					
Strategy BN/ES/CS2.A: Connect to other collaborative groups with housing goals.					
Lead # 1 BN/ES/CS2.A.1 -Identify and designate one Great Start	Access to information	OCTH Basic Needs Subcommittee	12/31/08	One GSC-O member will represent the 0-5 population on	

<p>member to represent the 0-5 population on the OCTH.</p>	<p>Time</p>	<p>GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners</p>		<p>the OCTH. 10-9-08 Pam has meeting scheduled with OCTH chairperson 1-8-08 Pam has met with OCTH and will continue to gather information regarding housing systems in Oakland County 2-12-09 Pam made contact with Regional Housing group. Will provide regional plan. 5- 5-14-09 Pam has requested information about their quarterly meetings and will attend.</p>	
<p>Lead # 9 BN/ES/CS2.A.2 -Work to understand the subsidized housing system and what is required to increase the Section 8 vouchers in Oakland County</p>	<p>Access to information Time</p>	<p>OCTH Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners</p>	<p>9/30/09</p>	<p>Invite OCTH to participate in our meetings 10-9-08 Reviewed questions generated for Housing Commission Visitor. Added: How is it determined where a housing commission is located? Do the housing commissions work with banks and foreclosures to assist with housing needs? 12-11-08 Decision made to hold our work on this issue until after we have worked on the Summer Lunch Program 6-11-09 See notes at end of Action Agenda</p>	

<p>Lead # 10 BN/ES/CS2.A.3 - Research the legislative and regulatory guidelines for subsidized housing in Oakland County</p>	<p>Access to information Time</p>	<p>MHSDA staff Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners</p>	<p>9/30/09</p>	<p>Meet with MHSDA to discuss 5-14-09 Efforts to connect with Pontiac Housing Commission representatives have been frustrating and have failed to date. Speaker expected for April meeting unable to attend. Unable to contact for May meeting. Pam will attend Pontiac Housing Commission meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of May, 5:30 PM and attempt to engage this group so that we can be of assistance to them if possible. 6-11-09 See notes at end of Action Agenda</p>	
<p>Goal BN/ES/CS3: <i>Raise awareness of the need for more transportation resources for very low income families with young children.</i></p>					
<p>Strategy BN/ES/CS3.A: Understand what other groups are doing to address this need.</p>					
<p>Lead # 8 BN/ES/CS3.A.1 - Understand the transportation issues that 2-1-1 has encountered in Oakland County</p>	<p>Access to information Time</p>	<p>Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff 2-1-1 Staff</p>	<p>3/31/09</p>	<p>Request 2-1-1 report on feedback received regarding transportation 5-14-09 Pam will request report</p>	
<p>Lead # 4 BN/ES/CS3.A.2 - Understand transportation issues with GSC-O partners</p>	<p>Access to information Time</p>	<p>Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff GSC-O Partners</p>	<p>6/31/09</p>	<p>Meet with partners to discuss transportation issues and determine next steps</p>	
<p>Lead # 5 BN/ES/CS3.A.3 -Develop a research plan to better understand what others are doing to help Oakland County with transportation issues.</p>	<p>Access to information Time</p>	<p>Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners</p>	<p>9/30/09</p>	<p>A report of what others are doing to help Oakland County with transportation issues will be available to Strategic Leadership. 10-9-08 Considered Survey</p>	

				<p>Monkey questions generated last meeting. Added: Do you know of other transportation resources? What are they? Do you refer clients to services close to their homes? Is transportation considered for any referral? Have you had out of county transportation issues? Do you have estimates of how many miss appointments because of transportation issues? Do you know of school opportunities lost because of lack of transportation? 5-14-09 Reviewed the transportation questions developed to date and added the following: Have you tried to use the SMART system? If so, does SMART work for you? Are you aware of the Red Cross transportation services? Do you know DHS will help with car repairs, car acquisition, etc? Are you aware of the MDCH MIHP provider website? Pam will put these questions together into a survey monkey and get ready to e-blast them</p>	
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				<p>soon. We hope for results to review at next meeting.</p> <p>6-11-09 Reviewed Transportation Survey. Pam will attend TA for HSCC that will include some other transportation initiatives and will seek additional ideas for the survey from those efforts.</p>	
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Summary notes of presentation of Jim Perlaki, representing the Oakland County Task Force for Affordable Housing (OCTH)

OCTH is one HUD sponsored Continuum of Care groups managing about \$4 million in housing funds. He participates in the Affordable Housing Subcommittee.

- **There are problems with the definition of affordable and the term is ambiguous. Part of the problem with the definition has to do with a value for individual or congregate housing. Obviously congregate housing is less expensive but there tends to be a desire for individual housing in our region.**
- **HUD really encourages them to focus on the chronically homeless and sometimes for target populations within the homeless population, such as mentally ill, developmentally disabled or families. Sometimes the target population is a family of one with a mentally ill person. Now any family that is doubling up is included in the homeless definition.**
- **There is a lot of supportive services that come with housing, but HUD is moving away from supportive services. For example youth need supportive services to be successful in individual housing but those resources are dwindling.**
- **In Oakland County we have had a value for permanent supportive housing that is very much a Section 8 mentality, but that is not valued by HUD any longer.**
- **Fair Market Rates are pushed by HUD. They are based on a region that is defined as the Warren Livonia Detroit region.**
- **Fair Market Rates in the tri-county region are as follows: efficiency \$594; 1 bedroom \$676; 2 bedroom \$809; 3 bedroom \$968; 4 bedroom \$997**
- **There may be better rates renting foreclosed property.**
- **Neighborhood Stabilization funding (NSP) has now become NSP II. This funding looks at upside down mortgages, foreclosure rates that are up 800%. In OC we had 4400 foreclosures in May 08 and 3600 foreclosures in May 09. Now we have about 8000 homes in foreclosure at any time.**
- **Families may get better rental rates renting foreclosed property**

- **To get Section 8, now known as HARP (Housing Assistance R? Program, one needs to register with the housing commission in the area in which you reside. However, these assistance programs are now closed in Michigan as they have overcommitted 1700 vouchers to date. The only way new vouchers will become available is through attrition. There is no discussion about a solution to this problem at this time.**
- **Newest funds that will be available are called HP & RH \$\$ for the Homeless and Rapid Rehousing, and there will be no requirement or support for supportive services.**
- **One of the best resources newly opened is a website that has been supported by MHSDA. www.michiganhousinglocator.com Now getting 30,000 hits per month and has over 10,000 landlords participating.**
- **Best action for families of young children to take is to talk to the emergency service agencies, OLHSA, Lighthouse or CHN (housing only)**

Poverty Reduction

No updates

Year 3 Action Agenda Ideas

Committee would like to do something concrete, such as housing brochures, etc---something smaller than the Parenting Resource manual but something that can be distributed to families at GSC-O events. Would like to get survivors to tell about using the resources---what works and what does not work.

Pam reminded members to continue to think of ideas that could be included in our Year Three Action Agenda.

Discussed camp resources

Chandra provided some information about how to find camp resources for individual children or for families. The process is laborious and requires persistence with repeated telephone calls needed. Also information provided is not always accurate and varies depending on who provides the information on the telephone. Would like to see a better way for families to find these resources.

Next Meeting: July 9, 2009, 9:30-11:30 AM, Oakland County Child Care Council.