

Franklin County Service Providers

December 5, 2006

Meeting attendees:

Lynn Butler, American Cancer Society
Angie Chaudoir, Training Now Institute
Jake Capps, Crossroads Program
Pam Cox Williams, Head Start
Michael Cundiff, Family Wellness Program
Lisa Epple, East Central College
Maureen Heidbreder, BJC Home Care Services
Laura Jensen, Exceptional Equestrians of the Meramec Valley
Armin Klemme, Union Food Pantry
Norma Klemme, Habitat for Humanity
Sue Luedde, Adult Education & Literacy Program
Susan McGlynn, Family Planning Clinic
Linda Metcalf, Mid East Area Agency on Aging
Loretta Obenouer, Agape House of Pacific
Doris Petsch, Agape House of Pacific
Karen Rothschild, Division of Family Services
Esther Steinke, Sexual Assault Response Team
Becky Stieffermann, Franklin County United Way
Joy Walker, Exceptional Equestrians of the Meramec Valley
Polly Watson, Jefferson-Franklin Community Action
Nickie Wurmb, Juice Plus

Franklin County Service Providers Presenter List for 2007

January 2, 2007	Linda Metcalf – Mid East Area Agency on Aging
February 6, 2007	Polly Watson – Jefferson/Franklin Community Action
March 6, 2007	Michael Cundiff – Family Wellness
April 3, 2007	Armin Klemme – Union Food Pantry
May 1, 2007	Jane Skornia – Probation & Parole
June 5, 2007	Melinda Ohlemiller – St. Louis Arc Prevention Project
July 2007	<u>NO MEETING SCHEDULED</u>
August 7, 2007	Jake Capps - Crossroads
September 4, 2007	Laura Jensen – Exceptional Equestrians
October 2, 2007	Verna Woodson – Recovery, Inc.
November 6, 2007	<u><i>Tentative Field Trip</i></u> – Willow Brooke Assisted Living
December 4, 2007	Daphne Terrill – HealthCare USA

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Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Lisa Epple with East Central College. Introductions and the following announcements were made:

Franklin County Service Providers:

Lisa Epple discussed that a decision should be made regarding who will be the Service Provider chair for the upcoming year. Lisa stated that Sandra McKinnon with the University of Missouri Extension is willing to continue sending monthly meeting reminders to the listserv, maintain the website, and make updates to the directory. The speakers have already been lined up for next year. There were no volunteers or nominations made for the position. Sandra was unable to attend the meeting and the possibility of her continuing to serve as chair was discussed and put to a vote; all were in favor. If Sandra is willing to maintain the position for another year, the vote will go into affect.

Franklin County United Way:

Becky Stieffermann announced that they've attained their goal set for this year. A portion of the money raised will be allocated to the community grant program. This grant can help to promote new agencies or new developments in existing agencies. If you need an application, please let Becky know by phone or through email.

American Cancer Society:

Lynn Butler provided handouts on statistical information for Eastern Missouri and the average annual cancer incidences from 1996 through 2002. This information was provided as a follow from the November statistical information presentation/discussion.

Head Start:

Pam Cox Williams announced that they'll begin taking applications after the first of the year. Children need to be turning 3 by July 31 to apply. After spending a month in Africa, Pam's nephew has decided to move there for the next 10 years and help the tribe that he's been accepted in to. Pam passed around a letter from him about what his plans are and where you can send donations if you wish.

Crossroads:

Jake Capps discussed that their agency is a 12-step alcohol and drug abuse program.

Adult Education & Literacy Program:

Sue Luedde provided handouts outlining what the Literacy Program offers. Sue also announced there will be a live nativity at the Trinity West Presbyterian Church on December 15 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Live performances are held every 15 minutes. A petting pen for the children to enjoy and refreshments will be available.

S.A.R.T.:

Esther Steinke provided handouts. The Sexual Assault Response Team (S.A.R.T.) is a St. John's Mercy Hospital volunteer program and they are looking for volunteers. This is a sexual assault crisis intervention program where volunteers will respond to survivors by providing emotional support, compassion, advocacy, counseling, information, and referrals. Volunteers are required to participate in 40 hours of intense training. This training will begin on January 18, 2007 and will be held every Thursday following that for nine weeks. Volunteers are allowed to miss no more than 2 meetings and are not allowed to miss any role playing. Letters will be sent out giving the specific meeting location once volunteers have expressed an interest. For more information, please contact Esther at 636-239-3301 or 636-239-2037.

Exceptional Equestrians of Meramec Valley:

Laura Jensen and Joy Walker announced that their program will start up again during the second week of March. There were over 60 riders during their fall session. They have award winners that are going to the national conference; 11 regions were involved in this competition. If you'd like to become a volunteer with their agency, please call for more information.

AGAPE House of Pacific:

Doris Petsch and Loretta Obenouer provided brochures about the services the agency offers. The Adopt A Family is an annual Christmas program that ensures all qualified individuals and families receive appropriate food and gifts during the holiday season. They've received applications to help 440 families this year.

Juice Plus:

Nickie Wurmb discussed that if you'd like to receive a presentation at your home or work on the education of eating healthier foods, please let her know. Juice Plus provides and teaches another way to be healthy and prevent disease.

Training Now Institute:

Angie Chaudoir discussed that SMART Discipline workshops cover belief systems, "concurring" your child's behavior, and health and wellness coaching. There will be a Moms Now retreat held the first weekend in March. During the third week in January, a workshop will be held that deals with the eight components of health & wellness.

Habitat for Humanity:

Norma Klemme stated that they've held the dedication for the Habitat house built in St. Clair. This marks the fourth dedication this Habitat group has held in Franklin County. They are now taking application for the house in Sullivan; applications will be accepted until December 30. Application forms can be found at area post offices, for the exception of Washington.

Union Food Pantry:

Armin Klemme stated that 8,000 items were collected through this year's Boy Scout food drive. In December, the Union Food Pantry will give hams to qualifying families. Families who have up to four people will receive half of a ham and families consisting of four or more people will receive a whole ham.

Willow Brooke Assisted Living:

A representative from the agency was unable to attend the meeting. Armin announced for them that that this Sunday, December 10, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Willow Brooke will host an open house in their fellowship area.

Jefferson Franklin Community Action:

Polly Watson provided brochures that outlined services offered by their agency. Their agency provides services to low income families in Jefferson and Franklin counties. The section 8 housing list is now open again. Heating assistance is available through their agency to help pay for gas, electric, or wood heat.

CLAIM:

Diana Clarke was our guest speaker. CLAIM stands for Community Leaders Assisting the Insured of Missouri. The program is primarily volunteer based and operates its main office out of Columbia with questions being referred to volunteers throughout the state. This is a state health insurance assistance program with non profit agencies located in every state and region. In 1993 the agency was mandated by the state to handle Medicare problems and questions. Medicare at that time was getting complicated and letters being sent out by Medicare weren't always easy to understand. The agency works with partners and volunteers to help assist and answer questions. Their newest partner, Jefferson Franklin Community Action, now has a trained CLAIM volunteer in their office. People need to remember that this is their tax money at work and they should take advantage of this assistance.

The Medicare Part D plan has been in affect almost a year now. Not all of the problems have been worked out yet and there will be changes made in 2007. Diana provided a handout that outlined the changes in income levels for individuals who are single or married. If your income is higher than the level shown, you will be required to pay the higher premium. If your income is lower, you may receive assistance for your payment. Once the deductible has been paid, you go into the co-pay group and you pay 25%. A doughnut hole or coverage gap was created in the plan where the individual may pay 100% to get to the other side of coverage again. They thought there would only be about 10% of the population that would fall into this gap. Right now they're just looking at things on a case by case situation. This year, \$3,600 would be paid out of pocket to get to the other side of coverage in the plan. Next year, that amount will go up to \$3,850 out of pocket to get to the other side of coverage again, which is called catastrophic coverage. People need to think about this plan just like they would their insurance. They may not need it right now, but it will be set in place when the time comes that they do. For more information, you can go to the www.mymedicare.gov and the www.missouricclaim.org websites.

Social security can provide extra help and applications can be completed on line at the social security website or paper copies can also be filled out. The income guideline for a single person is \$14,700 and for a married couple it is \$19,800. The asset guideline for a single person is \$10,000 (can actually have \$1,500 more if a portion of the money is to be used for burial expenses) and for a married couple it is \$20,000 (can actually have \$3,000 more if a portion of the money is to be used for burial expenses). Assets do not include homes or vehicles. The Missouri Rx (MoRx) program is more liberal than the social security assistance. This plan doesn't look at assets at all and anyone, at any age, who has Medicare can sign up for it. The program used to be called the Senior Rx plan. Income levels for the program are if you're single the level is \$19,600 and if you're married the level is \$26,400. The program will pay half on any prescription and half on the deductible. This year those who were enrolled in the Senior Rx plan and those who were dual enrolled in Medicare and Medicaid were rolled over to the MoRx program. Brochures about the program were provided, included was information on proof of paperwork that will need to be turned in. There is an easy one page application to fill out for this program. Diana stated that individuals may qualify for the social security extra assistance through filling out this application for the MoRx program. Both programs can provide extra help and there is no cut off date to apply for them. Service provider agencies, pharmacies, and CLAIM offices have applications on hand. There is also assistance available in helping to fill out the paperwork and handouts are available to help individuals compare plans. Applications were given out; please don't photocopy these though because they're bar coded. Linda Metcalf with the Mid East Area Agency on Aging stated they're also available to assist in helping to look up plan information and with making plan comparisons. Their agency is open on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays. CLAIM volunteers at the hospital can also assist with plan information and making comparisons.

Respectfully submitted by,
Lisa Epple