

Franklin County Service Providers

February 6, 2007

Meeting attendees:

Jackie Blair, Division of Workforce Development
Carol Conway, Al-Anon/Alateen
Cathy Covington, ALIVE
Lisa Epple, East Central College
Maureen Heidbreder, BJC Home Care Services
Mary Jo Hellmann, Franklin County CASA
Bob Jackson, Social Security Administration
Laura Jensen, Exceptional Equestrians of the Meramec Valley
Laurie Kelly, Jefferson Franklin Community Action
Lana Langhorst, Franklin County Health Department
Cheryl Leeds, BJC Hospice
Sandra McKinnon, University of Missouri Extension
Loretta Obenouer, AGAPE House of Pacific
Tim Owens, HealthCare USA
Doris Petsch, AGAPE House of Pacific
Stephanie Rohlfs-Young, Alzheimer's Association
Julia Schaffner, St. Louis ARC
Jane Skornia, Probation & Parole
Regina Sullivan, Harmony Health Plan
Becky Stieffermann, Franklin County United Way
Wendi Warden, Division of Workforce Development
Polly Watson, Jefferson Franklin Community Action
Jeff Watson, Social Security Administration

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>Tentative Field Trip</u> – Willow Brooke Assisted Living
December 4, 2007	Daphne Terrill – HealthCare USA

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Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Sandra McKinnon with the University of Missouri Extension. Introductions and the following announcements were made:

Franklin County Service Providers:

Sandra McKinnon discussed that the Service Providers will be celebrating their 15th anniversary in March. East Central staff will take a photo and Sandra will write a corresponding news release. Though further details will be discussed, lunch will be provided at the March meeting. Sandra would like to set up a by-law committee. The by-laws will be a guideline for how the group operates and the information can be passed along to the next chairperson. Sandra will serve on the committee and Polly Watson and Lisa Epple volunteered as well. The committee will meet at 10:30 on March 6. Stephanie Rohlfs-Young offered to share by-laws from a similar meeting she attends. If you're new to the group and would like to be on the Service Provider list serv, please sign the sheet being passed around. This list serv has been set up so we can post announcements or share information and ideas with each other.

University of Missouri Extension:

Sandra McKinnon is the Family Financial Education Specialist at the University Extension office. She provided tax credit flyers; please share this information with your clients, co-workers, etc.

Alzheimer's Association:

Stephanie Rohlfs-Young stated that their agency serves 38 counties. Part of their goal is to try and reduce duplication of services; the St. Louis Times Guide was available to pick up as reference.

ALIVE:

Cathy Covington announced they would be hosting a Women's Night Out fundraiser on March 23 at ZuZu's in Washington. There will be two timeslots available from 5-7 and 7:30-9:30. The cost is \$35 per person and will include an upper body massage, wine tasting, Fudge Shoppe chocolate, silent auction, door prizes, games, and shopping discounts. Please contact the ALIVE office at 636-583-9863 to reserve your spot. If you'd like to volunteer for the SART (Sexual Assault Response Team), please contact Esther Steinke by March 1 at 636-239-3301. Currently there are six volunteers for this program.

Al-Anon/Alateen:

Carol Conway provided brochures and contact information for their programs.

Harmony Health Plan:

Regina Sullivan provided MC+ program brochures for everyone.

Exceptional Equestrians:

Laura Jensen stated they have over 75 riders in their program now. They offer financial assistance to those who qualify. They've received a grant from the Horses and Humans Foundation and are looking for children age 5 to 17 that have been diagnosed with spastic diplegia cerebral palsy to be a part of this research grant. This would be a twelve week program for children who've not had any prior experience riding a horse. The program will run from March through May and will provide hippo therapy by riding a mechanical horse. They hope to have studies from this research published in science journals. To find out more information go to their website at www.eemv.org. Please call Laura if you're interested in the research program.

Franklin County Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA):

Mary Jo Hellmann stated that all of their programs are volunteer based. Their agency is up and running and they've been assigning new cases. Brochures and fact sheets were given out to everyone.

St. Louis ARC:

Julia Schaffner stated their services will be free for at least another year. Their agency works closely with a professional OBGYN group in order to help lead them to ask patients the right questions. They're involved with the Mid West Regional Fetal Alcohol Training Institute which trains medical providers within a six state region. After the initial training, the agency then asks the medical provider to pass that training and education on throughout their medical community. Julia discussed the Children's Trust Fund conference that will be held in Jefferson City on March 14-16; further information is available on-line.

HealthCare USA:

Tim Owens stated that their agency is in 37 counties in Missouri now. They've also recently acquired 30,000 new members in the Kansas City area.

AGAPE House of Pacific:

Doris Petsch stated that their facility has expanded their food pantry.

BJC Home Care Services:

Maureen Heidbreder stated that clients are referred to their agency through physicians. The BJC Hospice Program serves people in their home and nursing homes. Some of the services the program has to offer are 24-hour on call nurses, respite care, and bereavement follow-up.

Franklin County United Way:

Becky Stieffermann discussed two Power of the Purse events. The first event will include a silent auction on March 15 at Hillermann's Nursery. The second event will include a fashion show, food, and wine at the Robler Winery.

Jefferson Franklin Community Action:

Polly Watson was our guest speaker. The Jefferson Franklin Community Action agency serves a combined total of 10,000 clients each year. Polly provided brochures on the services they provide for low income families; each program's eligibility guidelines are different and set by Washington, D.C. Federal poverty guidelines for these services were updated on January 24, 2006. Polly provided a handout from the State of Missouri Families website which showed census reports from 2003 for Franklin County. This information lists what good things there are and some of the things we need to work together on. The report showed a trend showing that 5% of children are living with their grandparents; that's approximately about 1,200 children in Franklin County. A U. S. Census Bureau report showed that the poverty rate in Franklin County is 84%. Approximately 8,400 people fall into this poverty rate. This could be someone you know; a family member, neighbor, or the elderly.

Their agency provides an Energy Assistance Program and they have lots of money left to give out. Please send families to the Franklin County office. March 31 is the cut off date for these funds. The Housing List closed January 31 due to high number of people who applied. There were over 2,000 families that needed housing assistance.

The Franklin County Back to School Fair will be held at the East Central Training Center on July 27. The Missouri Child Identification Program (MOCHIP) has been invited so each child will receive fingerprinting, dental impressions, and photographs. Parents will receive CD's of their child's emergency information. There will be no charge for this service; children must meet low income guidelines. Children will also receive approximately \$20 worth of school supplies that will include backpacks, notebook paper, water bottles, etc. Families must pre-register through the Jefferson Franklin Community Action agency. Last year these fairs served 360 children in Franklin County and 580 in Jefferson County. The Jefferson County Back to School Fair will be held on July 20 and the Missouri Child Identification Program will not be able to attend this fair.

Their agency is inviting the community to be a part of a Poverty Simulation. They're still in the planning stages, but it's possible it will be held in April and they hope to have it at the East Central campus. Polly will know more specific information and will bring a flyer with her to the March 6 Service Provider meeting. The simulation helps to bring awareness of what families in poverty have to deal with. Participants experience through role playing what poverty would be like for one month. Brochures were available; for more information please call 573-634-2969. This simulation will also be held in March at the Children's Trust Fund Conference in Jefferson City.

Respectfully submitted by,
Lisa Epple