

## **Franklin County Service Providers**

February 5, 2008

### **Meeting attendees:**

Cathy Covington – ALIVE

Jennifer Derner – St. Johns Mercy Hospice

Lisa Epple – East Central College

Alice Carpenter – Children's Division

Sandra McKinnon – University of Missouri Extension

Tim Owens – HealthCare USA

Stephanie Rohlf's-Young – Alzheimer's Association

Becky Stieffermann – Franklin County Area United Way

Jean Terbrock – Exceptional Equestrians

Verna Woodson – Recovery, Inc.

## **Franklin County Service Providers Presenter List for 2008**

January 8, 2008	Group Goal Setting Meeting (Sandra McKinnon)
February 5, 2008	Annie Schulte & Carla Poepsel – Crider Center (will discuss Putting Kids First program)
March 4, 2008	CANCELLED DUE TO WEATHER (Norma Klemme & Mary De Jesus – Habitat for Humanity)
April 1, 2008	Panel discussion by: Franklin County Sheriff's Department, Safe Kids St. Louis, and the Missouri Department of Transportation (will discuss Car Seat Safety Awareness)
May 6, 2008	Maria Killian – St. Vincent de Paul Society (will discuss Community Outreach programs)
June 3, 2008	Jennifer Derner – St. John's Mercy Hospice
July 1, 2008	<u>NO MEETING SCHEDULED</u>
August 5, 2008	Sheria Yancey – USDA
September 2, 2008	Paulette Hensley – Jefferson Franklin Community Action
October 7, 2008	Don Covington – Sexual Assault Response Team
November 4, 2008	Becky Stieffermann – United Way
December 2, 2008	Sue Luedde – Adult Education & Literacy Program

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Minutes

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

**Franklin County Service Providers:**

Sandra discussed that Community Connection is no longer available to support our resource directory that was created in 2006. There is a new 2-1-1 informational referral service that our directory will be sent to. If you'd like to receive promotional material from the 2-1-1 service please call 800-427-4626. The service providers membership list is now on the website.

**University of Missouri Extension:**

Sandra announced that Building Strong Families workshops will be held each Tuesday in March. This is a series of workshops for families who have children ages 5-12. There will be H.O.M.E. (Home Ownership Made Easy) seminars held on February 21 and May 14 at the Regional Library in Union; participants can choose which seminar they'd like to attend. A tax refund flyer was given out that gives information about prepaid debit cards. Be careful with these cards, they have fees tied to them. A tax credit flyer was also given out; you can access the free file from the IRS website at <http://www.irs.gov>.

**Exceptional Equestrians:**

Jean Terbrock announced that their annual Wine, Dine, and Whinny fundraiser will be held on June 14 at Robbler Winery in New Haven. The evening will feature a silent auction, live demonstrations, and dinner. Their agency always needs more volunteers; a volunteer orientation will be held at the end of this month. They have almost 100 riders now and have 3 sessions throughout the year, with each being 12 weeks long.

**Alzheimer's Association:**

Stephanie Rohlfs-Young provided handouts on an Understanding Memory Loss program to be held March 27 from 6-8 pm and a Getting What You Need program to be held on May 21 from 1-3 pm; both events will be held at St. John's Mercy Hospital. The Breakthrough Coalition has a 120 page senior resource guide, if you're interested in having one, let Stephanie know.

**Franklin County Area United Way:**

Becky Steifferrmann discussed that they'll be distributing 2-1-1 magnets to area schools. United Way reached their goal during the last campaign and \$701,000 will be allocated out to applying agencies. Of these agencies, 60% of them will receive the full amount requested; of these are 44 agencies in our local area. Every agency that applied will get some portion of the funding requested. If you know of anyone in the smaller school districts that could use some assistance, age early childhood through adult, please let Becky know. They have money available through a Community Respect for a Child fund but many schools in the area don't feel their students need these kinds of services.

**HealthCare USA:**

Tim Owens stated they started a new asthma program in September. The program helps link people who have asthma to physicians and specialists who can help them.

**St. John's Mercy Hospice:**

Jennifer Derner stated there will be a Care Giver's Retreat on April 16 at Zion UCC in Union. This will be a 4 hour program focusing on ways a care giver can take care of themselves. Information tables will be available. They're working on exploring the option of the caregiver being able to bring the person they give care to along with them; as long as that person is mobile. Contact Linda Metcalf at Mid East Area Agency on Aging.

**Children's Division:**

Alice Carpenter discussed that they've started resource development and the first two things they'll focus on are the kids and the angel food ministries.

**Family Wellnes Services:**

A representative from the agency was unable to be at the meeting, but Lisa Epple with East Central College announced for them that Anger Management workshops will be held at six weekly Tuesday sessions: February 19, 26, March 4, 11, 18, and 25 from 7-8 p.m. at the Family Wellness office in Union, the cost is \$25 per session.

**ALIVE:**

Cathy Covington announced there'll be an All You Can Eat Breakfast on February 9 from 8-10 a.m. at the Washington Applebee's. To purchase tickets call 636-583-9863; tickets are \$5 for adults (\$6 at the door) and for children age 4-11 tickets are \$3. Community leaders, Brian Nieves, Samantha Wacker, Bob Parks, and Sheriff Toelke, to name a few, will be attending. All proceeds will benefit ALIVE. Their agency is looking to hire a new counselor. Requirements are the applicant must have a master's degree and be licensed or working towards it. The position located in Franklin County, full time, and offers benefits.

**Crider Center:**

Annie Schulte and Carla Poepsel were our guest speakers.

There are openings at the dental clinic; call the St. John's Mercy Medical Building at 636-239-8397 for an appointment. They work with Medicaid, Medicare, and sliding fee scales. They're scheduling appointments for emergency and preventative dental procedures right now, but they're also working on offering restorative procedures as well.

Putting Kids First started 3-4 years ago with a coalition of child service agencies. The three main agencies were Family Wellness, Crider Center, and Preferred Family Health Care. These agencies utilized United Way funds and gathered information through needs assessments (assessments were completed in 2005 and then again in 2007). By doing this, a Franklin County Children and Families Resource Board was created. The board is an independent board of volunteers who are appointed by the County Commission to establish and help build partnerships. They were charged with identifying what children's needs were and looked at ways to get funding for those needs. A public education campaign was then launched.

In 2006, there were 187 youths that sought substance abuse treatment. There are 50 youth per year that receive treatment; these funds are state allocated from the Department of Mental Health. There were 242 meth labs seized in Franklin County over a 3 year period and over 120 children were involved in suspected cases of child abuse. There were 503 youth that committed crimes in Franklin County; 131 were felony crimes. This is 185% increase over the 2005 needs assessment. Franklin County youth

have a 37% increased risk of violent death compared to Missouri as a whole; this number is closely ranked to St. Louis city youth who are 15-19 years old. In 2005, there were 130 births to teen mothers aged 10-19. There are currently no safe havens in Franklin County for pregnant teens and their babies. The facility in Dutzow closed and the other facility in the area the teen must be 18 years old to qualify for benefits.

The agency's plan is to coordinate services: 1) they have state sanctioned system of care sight status. A committee was formed to staff cases and work with a family's strength, build on these, and figure out what they need to get back on the right track.

2) Promote community education and to dispel the "not in my backyard" syndrome. They're working together with families to keep kids safe, at home, and in school to help them become productive members of society. Franklin County needs to do more to prevent kids from getting addicted to drugs like meth and cocaine. The county needs to do more to prevent child abuse and create a safe haven for children through a crisis nursery or respite care. Franklin County should do more to provide services in the county instead of residents having to drive to other facilities. Services wanted are: preventative services in schools, mental health services, short term crisis services, early detection and intervention of emotional and behavioral issues, and outpatient drug and alcohol services. The action that needs to be taken is to give our community the information and ask them to help do something about it. This is a grass roots effort where help is needed from churches, veteran groups, schools, businesses, chambers, senior citizen groups, and community outreach programs; we need their volunteers and leadership coordination. They're working on creating children services funds and the money raised here will stay in our community. State grants are non-existent for these programs so they're looking into putting this on the November 8 ballot and are talking to school boards about the issue.

Franklin County Children's Services Guides were passed out. The guides list agencies, contact information, and descriptions of the services provided. Volunteer sign up sheets were given out; forms can be filled out and faxed to 636-332-9950.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Lisa Epple