



Human Services Network Announcements September, 2008

Agency Announcements

Note: Please update your agency's information with 2-1-1! Contact Jenny Pollak at jennifer.pollak@lifewaysmco.com with any new information/programs/services.

- **Laurie Brandes of HSN** announced that there will be Bridges Out Of Poverty training held at Hillsdale College on September 30 (free of charge). Please email to register.
- **Laurie Benzing of United Way** announced that UW held their Kick-Off breakfast on September 10, with approximately 75 people in attendance. The campaign is well underway, and is currently at 35% of their goal. Folks can designate their contribution to a specific agency, and those designations will be above-and-beyond the grant amount awarded by UW.
- **Sharon Bisher of Hillsdale County Community Foundation** announced that HCCF will be holding a College and Career Night at Hillsdale College on October 6. Also, HCCF has purchased a freezer for each of the food pantries in Hillsdale County. On October 10, HCCF is sponsoring "Fill a Freezer" day in conjunction with Brad's Appliance and Market House. Food collected will be divided between the local food pantries.
- **Brooke Rains of Child Care Network** distributed table tents and postcards with information on the Child Care Network. She urged Hillsdale County residents to use the website www.childcarenetwork.org when looking for child care and/or child care training.
- **Maxine Vanlerberg of CAA** announced that CAA has limited funds to help with rent assistance, but no funds currently for utility help (until after Oct. 1), or any funds for unmet needs. CAA recently hired a housing specialist (Julie Laughlin); in the near future they will be offering foreclosure counseling, IDA's, home-buyer and financial literacy training, and classes on how to be a good renter. Also, time is running out on EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit) – contact CAA for assistance.
- **Mark Williams of MSU Extension** announced that the date for the Legislative Forum will be changed from October 6 to October 20. A flyer will be distributed in the near future.
- **John Robertson** announced that Rep. Walberg's office was invited to the September HSN meeting.
- **Sharon Roberts of the ISD/Early On** announced that Hillsdale County was awarded the ECIC (Great Start) start-up grant. One of the first steps is to hire a coordinator who will organize a needs assessment of families of children 0-5.
- **Jane Munson of Key Opportunities** announced that Key is expanding their confidential document shredding business. Contact Jane for more information.
- **Lucy Booth of Hospice of Hillsdale** announced that Hospice will be holding Grief Support groups on Tuesdays from 10AM to noon, starting on October 7, for six weeks, and on every other Saturdays at 10AM, starting on October 11. These groups are free of charge.
- **Matt Frizzell of Hillsdale County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition** announced that SAPC will be working with 2-1-1 in October through December to do a resource scan of services available for substance abuse treatment/prevention in Hillsdale County, and for agencies with a potential to provide substance abuse prevention activities.
- **Lesia Pikaart of MI Prisoner Re-Entry Initiative** extended an invitation to all to attend the Advisory Council meeting on Sept. 23.
- **Terry Vear of Senior Services Center** announced that Women's Breakfast will be held Sept. 16. A blood drive will be held Tuesday, October 7 at the Center. Flu shots will be given at the Center on Friday, October 10. A Health Fair will be held at the Center on Saturday, October 11. On November 18, there will be a depression/dementia screening held at the Center. On November 7-9, there will be a retreat held at the Senior Center. And, the Fitness Center is now open on Saturdays!
- **Dave Wallin** suggested that CAA should hold a seminar for landlords. Honor Flight Michigan is "on hold" since a large aircraft can't land at Hillsdale Airport. Dave distributed paperwork on a Sunday afternoon conference call (weekly at 3pm) on the topic of education/vocational training/local jobs.

General Announcements

Visit the Community Health Agency website for an up to date Healthy Beginnings calendar, with information on programs and parenting classes. Contact Andrea Bricker at Healthy Beginnings at 437-7395 x-116 for more details.

Web address www.bhsj.org/calendars/calendars.htm