



HILLSDALE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES NETWORK
20 Care Drive
Hillsdale, MI 49242
(517)437-7395 x-106

Sarah Hartzler, Chair
Tim Kelly, Vice Chair

Minutes of Human Services Network
January 20, 2009

Attending:

Sarah Hartzler – South Central Michigan Works!
Terry Vear – Hillsdale Co. Senior Services Ctr.
Ginny Wood Bailey - Region 2 Area Agency on Aging
Lesia Pikaart – MI Prisoner Re-Entry Initiative
Jane Munson – Key Opportunities
Heather Helman – Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition
Laura Nye – DHS
John Robertson – Community Health Agency
Lucy Booth – Hospice of Hillsdale Co.
Roy Vargas – McCullough Vargas and Associates
Pastor Julie Carey – Ministerial Association
Keila Kilgore – Art of Creative Dimension
Bud Vear – Hillsdale Community Theater
Gloria Vear- Alpha Omega Women’s Care Center
Sharon Bisher – Hillsdale Co. Community Foundation
Julie North – Counseling on the Go/LifeWays Board

Renee Batt – Hillsdale Community Health Center
Dave Braxmaier – Hillsdale Co. Sheriff Dept.
Laurie Benzing – United Way
Kellie Schiller – LifeWays
Robert Henthorne – ISD
Maxine Vanlerberg – CAA
Steve Todd – CHA
Ginelle Skinner – Great Start Collaborative
Julia Denig – Domestic Harmony
Deb Williams – Veterans Administration
Amy Chamberlain – Salvation Army
Lt. April Clarke – Salvation Army
Brooke Rains – Child Care Network
Karen Lewthwaite – Legal Services of So. Central MI
Michael Derby – Legal Services of S. Central MI
Sharon Turnbull – Do’chas II/Life Connections Counseling
Laurie Brandes - HSN

I. Welcome and Introductions

The HSN met at the ISD on January 20, 2009. Sarah Hartzler, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:32am. Welcome was extended, and introductions were made.

II. Approve Agenda

A motion was made by Karen Lewthwaite, seconded by Renee Batt, to accept the agenda as presented. **The motion carried unanimously.**

III. Approve Minutes of the December 18, 2008, Meeting

A motion was made by Terry Vear, seconded by John Robertson, to accept the minutes of the December 18, 2008 meeting. **The motion carried unanimously.**

IV. Agency Spotlight – Hillsdale County Sheriff Department – Dave Braxmaier

Dave Braxmaier gave an overview of some of the programs at the Sheriff Department:

- Student of the Month – students from area schools are nominated; one is selected each month, and then is eligible to compete for a \$10,000 scholarship. The criteria are GPA, community service, and leadership skills.
- Drink, Drive, You Lose
- Child Safety Seats
- 9-1-1 Phones – collecting used cell phones to give to those who need them for 9-1-1.
- School Safety Summit
- Special Olympics – John Gates has led efforts, including a Roof Sit at Market House, to collect approximately \$5,000 for Special Olympics.
- Meth Awareness
- 4th of July Celebration

V. Committee Report – Housing Continuum of Care – Maxine Vanlerberg

Maxine Vanlerberg reported on the activity of the CofC committee. The Point-In-Time count of homeless people in Hillsdale County will be held on January 27, 6:00pm to January 28, 6:00pm, a 24-hour time period. Project Connect will be held in conjunction with the Point-In-Time count. Project Connect will be held at

Luther Hall on January 28, from 2:00pm – 6:00pm. Over twenty (20) agencies will be participating – free haircuts, free hot meal, free legal advice, and free personal care packets will be available for attendees. Free transportation will be available both out-county and in the city of Hillsdale.

The CofC is in the process of getting new HMIS agreements with the agencies that input data into that system. The CofC has also submitted a report to the state on the status of the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness.

VI. Kids Count 2009 – John Robertson

John Robertson presented a PowerPoint on the highlights of the new Kids Count data. The PowerPoint will be posted to the HSN website www.bhsj.org/hsn

VII. Agency Roundtable

Agencies were given two (2) minutes to share information about activities in their organization.

- **Laurie Brandes** announced that the Housing Continuum of Care, a committee of HSN, will be holding “Project Connect”, an event to connect folks who are homeless or at risk of being homeless with services in Hillsdale County, on Wednesday, January 28. Another goal of the event is to raise awareness of homelessness in Hillsdale County – the timing of the event coincides with the Point-In-Time count of all homeless in the county. Plans are well underway; volunteers are needed to help on the day of the event.
- **Brooke Rains of Child Care Network** announced that if you know of families in Hillsdale County needing child care, please send them their way! Child Care Network 800-777-2861 www.childcarenetwork.org (can fill out a request right online). Also, save-the-date for Saturday, April 18th at Eastern Michigan University, for their annual Building on Behalf of Children Conference! The morning keynote will be Barbara Kaiser, respected author of books on children with challenging behavior, who will speak on: “I Didn’t Mean to Ruin Your Day”. The afternoon will have lots of choices for breakout sessions. Registration fee is \$50, lunch included. Child Care Providers, parents, other professionals who work with children and/or families, are all welcome to attend. Info will be on their website soon! www.childcarenetwork.org
- **Terry Vear of Senior Services Center** announced that the Center would be hosting the Men’s Breakfast on the second Thursday in February, the women’s breakfast on the third Wednesday in february. Super Bowl Sub Sale fundraiser is happening, the Center is hosting a fall prevention Lunch and Learn event on Wednesday, February 4th with Jake Neukom, a Blood Drive is scheduled Tuesday, February 17th from 11:15 to 5:30 at the Center.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50am.

The next meeting of the HSN will be February 17, 2009, at the ISD, 310 W. Bacon Street, at 8:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Brandes, HSN Coordinator