



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
April 21, 2009

Attending:

Terry Vear – Hillsdale Co. Senior Services Ctr.
Jane Munson – Key Opportunities
Heather Helman – Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition
Laura Nye – DHS
John Robertson – Community Health Agency
Pastor Julie Carey – Ministerial Association
Sharon Bisher – Hillsdale Co. Community Foundation
Steve Todd – Community Health Agency
Michael Derby – Legal Services of S. Central MI
Dave Wallin – Consumer/Veteran
Renell Weathers – Rep. Schauer's Office
Joanne Sheldon – LifeWays
Lora Ward – Hospice of Hillsdale County
Laurie Benzing – United Way

Sarah Hill – American Red Cross
Vanessa Doellman – CAPA
Cindy Rowe – CAA
Julia Denig – Domestic Harmony
Ken Lautzenheiser – Hillsdale Co. Commissioners
Robert Henthorne – Hillsdale Co. ISD
Ginny Wood-Bailey – Region II Area Agency on Aging
Susan Stout – Hillsdale County Community Foundation
Amber Yoder – Hillsdale County Community Foundation
Keila Kilgore – Art of Creative Dimension
Dan Boyd – Juvenile Court
Julie North – Counseling on the Go – LifeWays Board
Laurie Brandes - HSN

I. Welcome and Introductions

The HSN met at the Hillsdale Co. ISD on April 21, 2009. John Robertson, filling in for Sarah, called the meeting to order at 8:35am. Welcome was extended, and introductions were made.

II. Approve Agenda

A motion was made by Julie Carey, seconded by Joanne Sheldon, to accept the agenda as presented. **The motion carried unanimously.**

III. Approve Minutes of the March 17, 2009, Meeting

A motion was made by Terry Vear, seconded by Cindy Rowe, to accept the minutes of the March 17, 2009, meeting, with the correction of the meeting date from February 17 to March 17. **The motion carried unanimously.**

IV. Agency Spotlight – Key Opportunities – Jane Munson

Jane distributed copies of the Key Opportunities' Program and Financial Annual Reports, and gave a history of Key Opportunities. Key's main focus today is vocational training for adults with disabilities. Key is the specialized transit provider for Hillsdale County, and they also have Job Access (including job search) transportation funds and New Freedom (for people without personal transportation) transportation funds. Key has invested in new equipment for document destruction and now can be competitive with larger companies. They are also investing in equipment for document imaging scanning. Key is also back in the lawn care service and other odd jobs, due to the downturn in manufacturing work.

V. Letter of Support – Children's Mental Health Block Grant – LifeWays – Joanne Sheldon

LifeWays is submitting two grants to the Department of Community Health:

- 1) Juvenile Diversion Services – a screening for all youth age 10-17 who appear in Juvenile Court, and an evaluator to evaluate the screening results and prepare reports for Juvenile Court.
- 2) Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST) – an intensive, short-term community based program for youth ages 11-17 at risk of out-of-home placement.

They are three-year grants, for \$168,750 for each grant. A motion was made by Bob Henthorne, supported by Julie Carey, to write a letter of support for these grants. **The motion carried unanimously.**

VI. Update – Dental Clinic – Steve Todd, CHA, and Sharon Bisher, Community Foundation

Steve Todd presented a PowerPoint, outlining the work being done to open a Dental Clinic in Hillsdale County. Michigan Community Dental Clinics, Inc., a non-profit corporation, will operate the clinic. It will serve Medicaid, MI-Child, Delta Healthy Kids and low-income individuals and families with income less than 200% federal poverty level. It will be located on Care Drive near the DHS and CHA offices, with groundbreaking to occur this

summer and the clinic to be open in the fall of 2009. The Dental Clinic program will be self-supporting after approximately one year, and will not require continued financial support from the County Health Department. Sharon Bisher announced that the Community Foundation has set up a fund for start-up costs for the Dental Clinic, and there is available a \$.69 match for every \$1.00 donated through the summer of 2009. United Way has designated \$13,000 to the HCCF for the Dental Clinic, and presentations will be made to service clubs and other organizations, seeking their help.

VII. Update – Hope House – McCullough Vargas and Associates – Roy Vargas

Heather Helman, in Roy's absence, shared an update on Hope House. MVA purchased Hope House, with the closing taking place last week. The building and annex will be renovated, with the annex becoming a 16-bed residential treatment facility. Roy will be in attendance at the next HSN meeting to answer further questions.

VII. Legislative Update – Rep. Schauer's Office – Renell Weathers

Ms. Weathers gave an update on the structure of Rep. Schauer's office and his committee assignments – Agriculture Committee (only Michigan representative on that committee) and Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Renell urged everyone to contact Rep. Schauer's office if they have questions or concerns.

VIII. Letter of Support – Early Head Start – Community Action Agency – Cindy Rowe

Community Action Agency requested a letter of support for a grant to fund an additional 24 slots in the Early Head Start program. Early Head Start serves children 0-3 and their families, and most EHS families transition into Head Start when children turn 3 years old. A motion was made by Julie Carey to offer a letter of support for EHS expansion, seconded by Laura Nye. **The motion passed unanimously.**

IX. Agency Roundtable

- **Laurie Benzing of United Way** announced that UW allocations for 2009 have been made (handout distributed).
- **Pastor Julie Carey of Kings Kupboard** announced that KK is a recipient of UW funding, and they will be using these funds to pilot a new program to provide personal care products. KK will be collaborating with Key Opportunities to fill monthly orders made by families and individual for shampoo, soap, deodorant, underwear, socks, feminine hygiene items, etc. Key will do the shopping and sorting of each order.
Julie also made a plea for agency people to volunteer to work as intake personnel at KK. Please contact her if you are willing to volunteer once per month.
- **Sharon Bisher of the Hillsdale County Community Foundation** announced that the grant deadline is May 1, and that they will be focusing on critical needs in the county.
- **Jane Munson of Key Opportunities** announced that the Furniture Bank is low on supplies – please spread the word that donations are needed.
- **Terry Vear of the Senior Center** announced that a Safe Driving Class will be offered April 22 from 4-9pm; Good Ol' Days will be Sunday, April 26, with many activities; Blood Drive is Tuesday, April 28, at the Center
- **Bob Henthorne of the ISD** announced that there is a Special Education millage on the ballot for May 5 - .325 mil.
- **Heather Helman of Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition** announced that the SAPC is beginning a social marketing campaign targeting parents as the solution to underage drinking.
- **Vanessa Doellman of Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness** distributed the 2009 Children's Yellow Pages.
- **Sharon Bisher of the Hillsdale County Community Foundation** announced that the Y.O.U.T.H. is also conducting social marketing around underage drinking, directed to young people.
- **Dave Wallin** announced that five scholarships for high school students are available for next year through the American Legion.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50am.

The next meeting of the HSN will be May 19, 2009, at the ISD, 310 W. Bacon Street, at 8:30am.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Brandes, HSN Coordinator