



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

**Joanne Sheldon, Chair**  
**Pastor Julie Carey, Vice Chair**

**Minutes of Human Services Network**  
**March 16, 2010**

**Attending:**

Julie Carey – Ministerial Association	Kellie Schiller – LifeWays
Mollie Burchett – American Cancer Society	Jessica Adams – CAPA
John Robertson – CHA	Maxine Vanlerberg – CAA
Gary McCullough – McCullough Vargas and Assoc.	Renee Batt – Hillsdale Community Health Center
Karen Rozelle – McCullough Vargas and Assoc.	Lesia Pikaart – MPRI
John Stepansky – Life Challenge	Georgia Mason – Domestic Harmony
Amber Yoder – Hillsdale Co. Community Foundation	Lucy Booth – Hospice of Hillsdale County
Heather Albright – Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition	Michelle Liska – Counselor
Wendy Warring – Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition	Dan Boyd – Juvenile Court
Cindy Rowe – CAA	Keila Kilgore – Art of Creative Dimensions
Steve Todd – CHA	Michael Derby – Legal Services
Jane Munson – Key Opportunities	Lenn Johnson – SCMW!
Kelly LoPresto – Senior Services Center	Chris Clarke – Salvation Army
Laura Nye – DHS	Robert Henthorne – Hillsdale Co. ISD
Diane Cranston – LifeWays	Patrice Martin – SCMW!
	Ken Lautzenheiser – County Commissioner
	Laurie Brandes - HSN

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

The HSN met at the Hillsdale Co. ISD on March 16, 2010. Rev. Julie Carey called the meeting to order at 8:35am. Welcome was extended, and introductions were made.

**II. Approve Agenda**

A motion was made by Patrice Martin, seconded by Jane Munson, to approve the agenda as presented. **The motion carried unanimously.**

**III. Approve Minutes of February 16, 2010, Meeting**

A motion was made by Bob Henthorne, seconded by Patrice Martin, to approve the minutes as presented. **The motion carried unanimously.**

**IV. Agency Spotlight – Salvation Army – Lt. Chris Clarke**

Chris gave an overview of the Salvation Army's services in Hillsdale County. He distributed the 2009 Annual Report and reviewed the programs listed. In 2010, The Salvation Army will be offering a 5-day-a-week lunch time feeding program.

**V. Hillsdale County ISD Update – Robert Henthorne**

Bob Henthorne gave an update on Lochaven Center plans – an alternative middle-school has been operating there for over five (5) years. A task force was formed six months ago to develop a plan:

- Continuation of the alternative middle school
- Reception area
- Offices for community partners – human service providers
- General purpose room – cafeteria
- Classrooms for culinary classes, etc.
- Family-style cabins (2) for overnight accommodations for 15 in each
- Low ropes course already in place
- Paved walking trails – handicap accessible
- Residence for traveling artists with small outdoor stage for performances
- Community recreation area – perhaps for band camps, Special Olympics
- Outdoor amphitheater to seat 350-500 people.

The approximate cost is \$7 million. The ISD is seeking grants and collaboration with local entities.

## **VI. County Health Ranking – John Robertson – CHA**

John Robertson of the Health Department presented information on the County Health Ranking, a project of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin. The report is available on the HSN website [www.bhsj.org/hsn](http://www.bhsj.org/hsn).

## **VII. Save the Date – HSN Visioning – April 20, 2010, 8:15am – 12:00 noon**

The HSN strategic plan is outdated, so Patrice Martin will lead the group in a visioning process on that date. She promises an energetic, interactive morning of visioning and planning.

## **VIII. Agency Announcements**

- **Jill Rodenhauer of United Way** announced that UW has new FamilyWise prescription cards available. She has cards available today, and there is a usage report available – she will share at the Continuum of Care meeting. Jill also reported that agencies using FEMA money – more reports to fill out and sign – see Jill.
- **Jane Munson of Key Opportunities** announced that Key received a 3-year accreditation through CARP. Key will be providing yard work services this spring – contact Key. The consignment shop is open, as is the Ten Thousand Villages shop.
- **Michelle Liska** announced that she has brochures for her mental health therapy services (private practice).
- **Patrice Martin of SCMW! and the Census Complete Count** announced that she has posters available for the census.
- **Gary McCullough of McCullough Vargas and Associates** introduced Karen Rozelle, manager of Hope House. There will be an open house at Hope House on April 9, 1-4pm. The residential treatment center is open to both men and women; the half-way house is available for men only.
- **Amber Yoder of the Hillsdale County Community Foundation** announced that the YOUTH will be sponsoring a Youth Job Skills Fair at JCC Hillsdale Center on April 17 from 1-5pm. They YOUTH are also sponsoring a donkey basketball game fundraiser on April 27 at Hillsdale High School.
- **Keila Kilgore of the Art of Creative Dimension** announced that the 5<sup>th</sup> CTAC assessment will be happening in the near future. The group has found that the report-writing takes 12-16 hours (all volunteer work!).
- **Diane Cranston of LifeWays** announced that LifeWays has applied for CMH non-competitive grant for Supportive Employment (\$140,000 for two years) for a partnership between MI Rehab Services and LifeWays, in both Jackson County and Hillsdale County. If it is granted, they will be looking for members of a Steering Committee to help guide these efforts. Also, the System of Care ad-hoc committee will be meeting after the HSN meeting, at the UW office.
- **Kellie Schiller of LifeWays** announced that there will be Mental Health First Aid classes offered March 30 and 31 at the ISD.
- **Maxine Vanlerberg of Community Action Agency** announced that CAA continues to see a record number of clients, and that funds are low. The VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program is going very well with eight (8) volunteers, having already prepared 40% more returns than last year. Enrollment for Head Start has begun for next year.
- **Kellie LoPresto of Senior Services Center** announced that the Women's Breakfast is tomorrow, and on April 2 is the Good Friday Breakfast from 8-10am.
- **Ken Lautzenheiser of County Commission** announced that he attended a meeting with folks from the State Fiscal Agency. He said the forecast for the next 24 months is not bright.
- **John Stepansky of Life Challenge** announced that Life Challenge will be opening a facility for women in the near future.
- **Mollie Burchett of American Cancer Society** announced that ACS has scholarships for cancer survivors. There is also a week-long camp experience available for children with cancer. ACS is also a resource for people with questions about cancer.
- **Kellie Schiller of LifeWays and CISM** stated that the Hillsdale County Critical Incident Stress Management Team is well-functioning, and is assisting in Jackson County with the death of a police officer.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45am. The next HSN meeting will be April 20, 2010, at the Community Foundation, from 8:15 – 12 noon for Grounded Visioning.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Brandes, HSN Coordinator