

Notes
Self Sufficiency Work Group
Tuesday, January 22, 2008 10:00 AM

Present: Trina Bartlett , Judy Boykin, Dale Bradfield, Kelly Duncan, Glenda Helman, Melissa Link, Beverly Lane, Gale Lucas, Bonnie McComb, Grace Murphy, Allan Ramsey, Joan Roach, Sarah Soltow, Teresa Warnick and Captain Melvin Welch

M.O.M. Project – Resource Table: Trina provided everyone with copies of the volunteer registration form for the M.O.M. (Mission of Mercy) project scheduled for June 27 and 28 at Hedgesville High School. Mission of Mercy is a two-day free dental clinic for approximately 1000 adults who could not otherwise afford dental care. In order to see 1,000 patients over the two-day clinic, as many volunteers as possible are needed.

Trina also reported that the M.O.M. steering committee has requested that an information table be set up and “staffed” during the event. The table will serve as an information and referral resource about other available services in the community. She asked members of the self sufficiency work group to help “staff” that table.

Trina also distributed the M.O.M. informational brochures and stated that more are available at the United Way office on King Street if anyone would like them for their agency.

RRC/Warming Hands and Hearts Subcommittee Report: Gale reported that the committee met on Thursday, January 17.

The Freeman Foundation and the Freeman Companies have donated \$3,000 to Warming Hands and Hearts. Of those dollars, \$1,000 are for Morgan County, \$1,500 for Berkeley County, and \$500.00 for Jefferson County. \$3,000 in WHH dollars had been distributed to date in January with \$2,000 going to families in Berkeley County and \$500.00 to families in the other two counties.

Gale reported that December was a slow month for the RRC because LIEAP had started.

She provided a calendar of meeting dates. The next RRC subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 21, at 9:00 AM at Berkeley County DHHR.

Transportation Subcommittee Report: The transportation subcommittee meeting scheduled for Friday, January 18, was postponed until January 24 due to weather. Grace reported that she had facilitated a meeting with executives from local businesses who were identifying needs. She said the issue of transportation did not come up and when she brought it up, they did not perceive it as a problem. The group suggested that human resource staff might be better able to identify the need. The next Transportation Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for **Friday, February 15, at 10:00 AM at the Good News Mountaineer Garage Office at the GM One Stop.**

EITC Report: Grace brought materials to promote the free tax service. CCAP will be a EITC site this year. She also reported that Pan Tran will provide passes for individuals who are at a site having their taxes prepared. The EITC Coalition kick off is scheduled for 11:00 AM immediately following the HHSC quarterly meeting on Friday, February 1, at Berkeley County DHHR.

Street Guides: Glenda announced that she now has a bookkeeper and is able to work on the street guides. She said they are ready for print.

Announcements:

- The HHSC Quarterly meeting will be held on Friday, February 1, from 9:00 – 11:00 at the Berkeley County Department of Health and Human Resources
- Kelly announced that Literacy Volunteers will be holding Brain Games on Sunday February 24 from 1:00 – 5:00 in the Ram’s Den at Shepherd University. The snow date is March 2. For more information, contact Literacy Volunteers.
- Judy announced that the Family Resource Network Mardi Gras will be the first Sunday in March. Judy also noted the success of a community partnership with the Good Samaritan Clinic to provide health services to the under-served and homeless.
- Teresa reported that Friends in Action is currently seeking referrals for families in Berkeley and Jefferson County that could benefit from the family mentoring program.
- Sarah said that Community Lutheran Partners is part of a the WV Public News Service, and offered to use the service to promote programs/newsworthy events from the self sufficiency partnership. She said they’ve had several items promoted.
- Trina noted that there will be a workshop on March 25 about working with the media. The main emphasis of this workshop will not be how to write a press release but how to engage and develop relationships with media representatives. She will send out additional information.
- Dale distributed information about a group that will be available in June and July to do repairs on owner-occupied homes in the Martinsburg/Hedgesville area.

Other: There was some discussion about the need for more long-term case management assistance for families that have been victims of a fire or another disaster. Captain Welch said to contact the Salvation Army.

Next Meeting: Due to the President's Day Holiday, the next Self Sufficiency meeting will be on Tuesday, February 19, at 10:00 at Shenandoah Community Health Center (location to be confirmed by Dale).