

**Notes**  
**Self Sufficiency Meeting**  
**July 23, 2007**

**Present:** Kamaal Abdul-Muhaimin, Ada Palmer, Trina Bartlett, Dale Bradfield, Glenda Helman, Audrey Morris, Pam Dugan, Bev Lane, Joan Roach, Grace Murphy, Anne Conlan, Tin Burns, Gale Lucas, and Marie Galazzi

**Information and Referral Center Data:** Kamaal presented data from the Regional Resource Connection regarding individuals and families whose needs were not met through DHHR (attached). Kamaal reported that many community resources are deleted and needs are going unmet. The group spent a great deal of time talking about unmet housing needs. A question was asked as to which counties the RRC serves. Currently, Kamaal is the only staff person and is housed in Berkeley County. However, he does work with the other counties through phone calls.

Ada Palmer provided a verbal report regarding calls to the I&R Center. She reported that housing is the biggest issue followed by people seeking home repairs and renovations, particularly elderly people who need accessibility. She has also received calls from people seeking transportation. During the discussion, it was noted that CCAP helps individuals get to work for a week or so, WV Works through DHHR provides bus passes, and Bethany House also provides them. Grace noted that she and Nancy attended a transportation meeting in which the group was going to address the fact that available transportation for health and human services is only at 75% capacity and there were to be follow-up meetings to discuss had to increase the use of available transportation. Grace was unaware of any such meetings. She and Nancy Marmorella will follow-up to determine whether additional meetings are being held, and, if not, what can be done to address the issue.

Ada also reported that the Red Cross does not help with transportation for medical services. CCAP will take patients to Winchester and Hagerstown and Good Shepherd provides assistance for Jefferson County residents.

**Follow up Needed:**

- Grace and Nancy M. will follow-up on the transportation meetings.
- Ada will provide a written report regarding I&R calls.

**HHSC Quarterly Meeting:** The next HHSC quarterly meeting will be Friday, August 3 at the Berkeley County DHHR offices on Mid Atlantic Boulevard. Betsy Berry, Program Officer with the Emergency Preparedness Initiative, at the National Organization on Disability in Washington D.C. will be the speaker. She will discuss what the community can do to ensure that disaster preparedness addresses vulnerable populations.

This will also be the second annual meeting of the HHSC and each of the working groups is being asked to prepare a poster that will show successes over the past year. These will be set up on easels around the room with each working group also providing refreshment. The self sufficiency group will bring muffins/coffee cake. Several individuals agreed to bring the refreshments.

**Follow up needed:**

- Audrey will work on the poster with Trina's input
- Individuals who agreed to bring refreshments need to have them there no later than 8:30.

**HHSC Legislative Workshop:** The HHSC will be putting together a public policy agenda again this year. Sondra Lucht, former state senator, will be providing a workshop on working with the state legislature on **September 28 (please note date) at 1:00 at Mountain State University.** Space is limited.

**A community leaders roundtable highlighting policy needs will be held on Friday November 30 at the Shenandoah Hotel.**

**Community Solutions Article in Journal:** Trina noted that the self sufficiency article never ran. She never received any response questioning why the article didn't run. Since that time, she has learned that the contact, Leslie Jones, has been diagnosed with cancer. She will continue to work with the Journal to ensure the articles run. She will re-submit the Self Sufficiency article after the health group article runs

**Follow up needed:** Trina will continue to work with the Journal.

**Regional Resource Connection (RRC) Partnership Meetings and Strategies:** Trina will send a draft letter to former RRC partners for review and for Dave Fant to send out. She will also send out a mass email about the RRC meetings and discussion of plans to increase the capacity of the RRC. These meetings are scheduled as follows.

- Tuesday, August 7, at 1:00 in the Red Cross training room in Bardane/Kearneysville
- Wednesday, August 8, at 3:00 in the Frederick Room at Mountain State
- Thursday, August 9, at 2:00 in Morgan County (location TBA)

**Follow up needed:**

- Audrey will provide the location for Morgan County meeting
- Trina will send out a draft of the announcement for review
- Trina will send out a draft agenda for review

**Money Smart/Day of Caring:** Grace is helping coordinate the Money Smart training for Day of Caring. The biggest issue will be determining which modules will be taught at which locations. Any agency interested in participating should contact Grace.

**Follow up needed:**

- Contact Grace (gracemurphy@phoenix-od.com) if plan or interested in holding Money Smart Training on Day of Caring.

**EITC Meeting:** There will be an Earned Income Tax Credit Coalition Meeting this Thursday, July 26, from 11:00 – 1:00 at Mountain Heart Offices at the old GM plant. Everyone was encouraged to attend.

**United Way Community Impact:** Trina reminded everyone that the working group will be asked to develop strategies to submit for funding to the United Way in the upcoming year. The United Way is making a transition from funding agencies to funding strategies.

**Street Guides:** Glenda will head a subcommittee to work on the street (pocket resource) guides. She noted the phone numbers need to be checked and more copies need to be printed. The subcommittee will include Glenda, Grace, Ada, Audrey, Nancy Marmorella, and Betty Russell

**Follow up needed:** The subcommittee will meet and bring street guides for review at the next meeting.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be on Monday, August 20, at 10:00 am at Shenandoah Community Health Center.