

Fairfield Community Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes, January 12, 2005

Chairperson: Sarah McMaster (Fairfield County Library)

Present: Larry Dozier (Fairfield Memorial Hospital), Paula Coleman (Girl Scouts), Greg Slater (Ministerial Association and Bethel ARP), Linda Tucker (Dept of Social Services), Sarah McMaster (Fairfield County Library), Frances O'Neal (DELIC), Brenda Jackson (You First: Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of Fairfield County.), Pelham Lyles (Fairfield County Museum),, Mary Urias (Keep Fairfield Beautiful), Diane Perry (Behavioral Health Services), Sandy Kammermann and Valdon Walker (John A. Martin Primary Health Care Center, Mike Gray (Unite Way of the Midlands), Jean Govan (Palmetto Primary Health Care Center.

I. Meeting Called to Order at 11:45 a.m.

II. Welcome and Introductions

III. Approval of December 2004 Minutes

Valdon Walker moved that the December 2004 minutes be approved. Mr. Dozier seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

IV. Officers Reports

- A. **Chair** – Sarah McMaster reported that she received a letter from the South Carolina Rural Health Association inviting the organization to become a member. Some of the members of FCCC may be members of the SCRHA through their organization. The FCCC will not be joining but if anyone else is interested they may see the letter.
- B. **Vice-Chair:** Linda Tucker no report.
- C. **Secretary** – Sandy Kammermann no report
- D. **Treasurer/Membership Chair** – Frances O'Neal: There is \$743.38 in the bank account. Some of those funds need to be used to reimburse the library for the cost of the website. Dues for 2005 are due now. Membership forms can be obtained from the website.
- E. **FCHP Representative:** Linda Tucker reported that Health Partners did not meet in November and December. The Fairfield/Newberry CARELINK with is a HRSA Grant is in the process of hiring persons for positions in Fairfield County. They hope to begin assisting citizens access care in March.

V. Committee Reports

- A. **Executive:** Sarah McMaster no report,
- B. **Youth & Families:** Mr. Walker reported that the Committee met Jan 5th. They are discussing development of the summer program brochures. Discussed deadline dates end of getting information to Sandy by the end of March.
- C. **Nutrition:** Sandy Kammermann reported the nutrition committee has not met for a couple months, but the next meeting is Thursday, Jan. 13 at 3:30 pm at Diabetes Center.
- D. **Membership:** Frances O'Neal reminded all that new membership dues are due now.

VI. Continuing Business

- A. Sandy Kammermann raised the idea that at the last meeting, when United Way personnel gave their presentation on the restructuring of United Way, FCCC members had some discussion regarding possibly recruiting Fairfield County persons to serve on the councils where there are presently no representatives from our county. Mike Gray and Sarah McMaster said that the Families and Children Council and the Education Council both have representatives from Fairfield. Therefore the two committees for which we could possibly recruit are the Food, Shelter, Safety and the Health and Recovery Council. Sarah McMaster offered to Mike Gray that FCCC can be the contact person if those councils are looking for additional members.

- B. Sarah McMaster mentioned that First Steps is also looking for new board members. Due to the government regulations the board must consist of persons that fit into specific categories. If any persons are interested in serving they should contact Patti Wilkes at the First Steps office to see if they can fill that vacant spot on the board.

VII. New Business

- A. Pelham Lyles proposed that the FCCC consider a standing committee on “Cultural Events” or “Cultural and Quality of Life”. There was some discussion on the value of such a subcommittee. Ms. McMaster explained that usually subcommittees do well if there is one person who is willing to take on the responsibility to chair that committee. Ms. Lyles stated she might be willing to chair the committee.

Sandy Kammermann explained that the by-laws of the FCCC state:

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**VIII. Program: Brenda Jackson
You First: Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of Fairfield County**

The You First: Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of Fairfield County is funded by TANIF funds. 42 Counties in the state are funded. Each county operate independently and designs efforts to meet the needs of the county. The Coalition has been operating for more than three years now. Teen Pregnancy does not just affect the mom. It affects us all. Only 4 of 10 teen moms finish high school. Best predictor of academic success of a child is the academic level of the mother. Bodies of teen moms are are not ready to be pregnant so they often have health problems. Teen pregnancy is also linked to poverty. Currently in the U.S. 35% of teen girls become pregnant before the age of 20. U.S. has the highest teen pregnancy rate in the world. Rate has been declining in SC as well as in the nation because teens are delaying sex and using contraception more. In S.C. the average age of first sex is 13.5 instead of U.S. average of 16. 5. SC has the 9th highest pregnancy rate in US. Fairfield County ranks 10th in the state in pregnancies among 10-19 years olds.

Teen pregnancy affects children in that there is a higher rate of lower birth rate. Because there is often less prenatal care, the babies more often have health problems. Then the babies often receive insufficient health care after they are born. Teen pregnancy costs society billions of dollars/year. Teen moms are more likely to drop out of high school and 13 times more likely to end up in prison.

The mission of “You First” is “to decrease adolescent pregnancy rate in Fairfield County through public awareness and education and fostering positive youth development.” The key focus is on primary prevention. Interventions that are implemented based on “best – practices” or science based and interventions that have been researched and proven to work. Public awareness is a core part of what we need to do. We need to get the entire community involved. You First supports abstinence -based, age appropriate approaches to reproductive health. Most abstinence only programs do not have a proven track record at this time. You First is trying to train people in community to implement programs and give them technical support. A positive youth development approach is used. This means youth are a positive asset and not a problem to be dealt with .

Ms. Jackson is implementing the TOP (Teen Outreach Program) at Richard Winn right now. Ms. Kammermann encouraged the community to use the resources that Ms. Jackson has in regard to teen pregnancy prevention. Ms. Jackson can assist churches and community groups in deciding what programs would be most effective in their setting and then help them receive training.

IX. Networking:

1. Brenda Jackson (You First: Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition) The Coalition will be sponsoring a training for the Teen Outreach Program on Friday, Jan 28th. Any groups interested in implementing the program may attend. In addition, the Coalition will be sponsoring a basic grant writing workshop on March 11th at DSS. This will be open to the public.
2. Greg Slater (Ministerial Association and ARP Church). The ministerial association is making plans for Easter week services. Easter is the last Sunday in March. There is a Methodist Church in Columbia will have conference this spring to train people to help people with mental illnesses. If you are interested in further information about this contact Greg Slater.
3. Sandy Kammermann (Martin Primary Health Care Center) Free Prenatal Classes are being held during the months of January and February at the Martin Center. These are open to anyone in the community who is pregnant. Ms. Kammermann also reported there is a Healthy Schools/Healthy South Carolina Network Conference on February 11th at St. Martin's in the Fields Episcopal Church. Registration is \$20.
4. Sarah McMaster (Fairfield County Library) reported that she received a letter inviting memberships in the SC Rural Health Association. The SCRHA is having their annual conference on March 1st and 2nd in Columbia. Ms. McMaster also reported that the library is working on their computer upgrade and planning for the re-opening of the Ridgeway Branch of the Library. They hope to renovate the old liquor store in Ridgeway.
5. Mary Urias (Keep Fairfield Beautiful) reported that .Palmetto Pride has a grant opportunity and proposals are due by Jan 21st. Any 501c3 or government may apply. The purpose is to address litter awareness and recycling. She encouraged anyone that is interested in having programs on recycling to incorporate it into a grant.
6. Mike Gray (United Way of the Midlands) reported that all the United Way councils will be putting out RFPs in March. They are not yet certain how much money will be available. Domestic violence is a big issue at which they will be looking. DSS has another unfunded mandate to start a council on this issue. Every 3 years there is an opportunity to review new child care regulations. New regulations have been introduced that reduce child/adult ratio and group size. United Way is also looking at recognizing Family Friendly workplaces.
7. Sarah McMaster for Patti Wilkes (First Steps) reported First Steps is having their annual board meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 25th at 7 p.m.
8. Pelham Lyles (Fairfield County Museum) reported that the Fairfield County Arts Council sponsored a new exhibit. There is a new fine Arts studio on S.. Congress owned by Linda Dye. Museum has scrapbook exhibit from Victorian Age to modern age. You may also sign up if interested in a scrapbook workshop. March 19th will begin an exhibit about Old Timey Radios shows from 1920 – 1940. SC RR Museum is planning the Easter Bunny Express that day and the Rotary is sponsoring an “Antiques appraisal day” in the morning of the 19th. John Risley will do a presentation (radio show) . Then at 8 p.m. Pine Tree Players will do a play about a radio show. On June 25 - 27 there will be a Revolutionary Battle reenactment in the Pfiesterville Area.
9. Frances O'Neal (School District DELC) distributed a list of Spring workshops sponsored by the DELC center. February 10th is “Using Television to Support Learning”, and April 7th is “A Key to Quality Child Care..Implementing, Supporting and using Good Child Observation.” For Center directors.
10. Paula Coleman (Congaree Girl Scouts). Ms. Coleman encouraged everyone to order their girl scout cookies as it is Girl Scout Cookie time.

X. Next Meeting: The next meeting is February 9' 2005 at 11:30 a.m. at Fairfield Memorial Hospital.