

**Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families and Children, Inc.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting, January 18, 2012; 12:00 p.m.**  
**Spalding Regional Medical Center, Administration Board Room**

**Board Members Present:** Phyllis Easton-Barkley; David Clevenger; Ruth Daniel; Will Doss; Robert Dull; Pamela McCollum; Judge Ben Miller, Jr.; Donna Parks; John Quinn; Eula Redding; Cynthia Tidwell; Jewel Walker-Harps; Sephanie Windham; and Cameron Harris **Others Present:** Carmen Caldwell, Joseph Walker, Regina Abbott, Vanora O'Dell

**Call to Order:** Will Doss, Chairperson

**Prayer/Pledge:** Will Doss

**Minutes:** Approval – Board of Directors November 15, 2011 (action item)  
Approval – Executive Committee None (action item)  
Acceptance – Collaborative November 9, 2011; December 14, 2011

Motion to approve/accept minutes as presented by Robert Dull, second by David Clevenger, all approved.

**Financial Report** – November 2011, December 2011: Motion to approve (with correction in December 2011 of Charms donation of \$100 to total \$211.02) by Donna Parks, second by Eula Redding, all approved.

**Executive Director Report - Joseph Walker:** Committee Reports – Healthy Youth will become involved in food insecurities program and will assist to disburse information to churches, social and service organizations, etc. Drug Awareness and Prevention Coalition have decided to host a community forum, hopefully in March, to address issues of prescription drug misuse; and, they will check with Griffin Police Department for a possible partnership for the forum. No time or date set as yet. Senior Issues will host their annual Community Resources Conference on March 27, and they are currently looking for the keynote speaker. Last year's conference yielded about 75 attendees, and they would like to increase that number to 100 to 150. Parent Advisory Committee's funding through District IV Health has been cut 100% now. This has affected all programs funded through these funds, such as Molli Pruitt's position, which will be lost effective January 31 (Health Department has found a part time job for her, so she can stay part time). Letters went out to legislators requesting reinstatement of funds. Prevent Child Abuse Spalding meets next Monday to set up yearly plans. Re-Entry Task Force continues to work diligently to develop a re-entry plan for ex-offenders in Spalding County, under the leadership of Theo Harris, who continues to develop partnerships within the county that will aid in the process of developing this program. If you will recall, ex-offender re-entry programs are on the agenda of Governor Deal; so hopefully, recidivism will be reduced and money that was traditionally spent on that "re-cycle process" re-directed. Spalding County Long Term Recovery has no report, but the Resource Allocation Committee still is approving cases presented.

Food Insecurities – Regina and I met with Dr. Doris Christopher, Assistant Vice-President of Academic Affairs at UGA-Griffin. She is interested in forming partnership between the Collaborative and UGA to deal with food insecurities. Number of children in the local school system receiving free or reduced meals is 74% also or about 8,000 children. A large problem is that children go home from school on Friday, we don't know what they go home to, and a lot of them get nothing to eat until they get back to school on Monday—so they are not ready to learn, have poor behavior, can't concentrate. This backpack food program for children would be run by volunteers (churches, service organizations, nonprofits, etc.). Harry Kierbow of the local Food Pantry can purchase discounted food from the Atlanta Food Bank. Two days of food will be placed in a backpack of sorts, with advice from school counselors regarding appropriate children (with parent consent); for example, church, etc. will pack the food on Wednesday and bring to the school on Friday and place in children's book bag, etc. or other discreet manner so as not to be "singled out."

2011 Annual Report/Audit –Audit was good and only recommendation made was about separation of duties, but with limited staff we cannot separate all duties but do have a system of checks and balances in place and have five people in the loop (Joseph, Regina, Vanora, David Haisten (CPA), and Board Chair).

RASS – Responsible Alcohol Sales and Service information (partnering with Council on Alcohol and Drugs) will be presented to the Chamber of Commerce Board touting underage drinking prevention, not selling to intoxicated adults, retail alcohol store/restaurant/convenience store, etc. training for employees about laws, etc.

**Coordinator Report - Regina Abbott:** In December, the Collaborative co-sponsored "Eggs and Issues" Legislative Breakfast, very well attended, and our GA Family Connection Partnership Executive Director, Gaye Smith, attended. Strengthening Communities Fund Grant is now closed out. Extension of our IRS 990 to a February 15 deadline will be met. Re-registration information sent to Office of Community Affairs, as is required annually. In November, we received word that Collaborative "Authorities," which Spalding is, must participate in E-Verify; and Regina will be performing on-line checks after completion of training. In packets, Nomination Form for Hope Health Clinic for Joseph D. Greene Award through HealthCare Georgia Foundation, as opportunity to help others be aware of the great things going on locally here. Grant Updates – Received second North GA United Methodist Conference \$20,000 grant for vehicle repairs caused by the tornado. Received Second Chance Act Grant of \$50,000 as a planning grant for the Re-Entry Task Force. Received word from United Way of a donation to SCLTRC, but have received no funds as yet from them. Received requests of Synopsis of Grants and need Board clearance to go ahead and process: (1) Good Neighbor Grant - \$1,000 from Darden

Foundation – Funding for Senior Meals through Office of Aging (Ruth Daniel); oversight by Senior Issues Committee; (2) 2012 Community Impact Grant – Average of \$25,000 Con Agra – Dr. Doris Christopher brought to our attention for use with backpack food program, but funds must be used for capacity building; and could be used for building infrastructure of Health Youth Committee to take on that program; oversight by Healthy Youth Committee. (3) US Dept of Labor RexO Grant – Up to \$1.2 million – Ex-Offender re-entry program, 27 month period of performance (3 months planning and 24 months operation) – can't be used for transitional jobs, and not for offense of sex crimes, and ex-offender must have been incarcerated under federal or state prison systems; part of planning is to have case managers ensure participants eligible for program (4 case managers- to hire -1 per 100=400 participants); oversight by Re-Entry Task Force; (4) Public Welfare Foundation, Criminal Justice Program – Amount unknown – Submit Letter of Intent by January 31, and then you are invited to apply for grant; reason: partner with Southern Crescent Technical College to develop an 16-week curriculum for those case managers specific to offender re-entry; oversight by Re-Entry Task Force. Motion to continue to pursue the four grants by John Quinn, second by Pam McCollum, all approved.

### **Old Business**

**Review of Strategic Plan:** Will noted the Governance Strategic Plan update of items previously set up for completion and that the progress report in today's packet. He said that Affiliate Level status as approved by the Executive Committee was presented to the Collaborative attendees at the monthly meeting. Affiliate status includes Friend, Member and Partner Levels. Will mentioned new mentor/liason assignments between Executive Committee and Board have been made for 2012. Since the Board meets quarterly now, these assignments may not be as needed; however, it is a good way to keep information flowing. Timeline page copy is now on the website. And, everyone should complete the Conflict of Interest Form and turn them in.

### **New Business**

New Honorary Board Member introduced, Cameron Harris, who is also President of the Youth Advisory Council.

Meeting Adjourned.

Approved, Will Doss, Chair

Respectfully Submitted, Vanora O'Dell, Admin Asst

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