

Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families and Children, Inc.
Meeting Minutes May 9, 2012 9:00 AM - Spalding County Health Department

Present: Regina Abbott, Melanie Banks, Jordan V. Bobo, Kathleen Caldwell, Will Doss, Billy Elder, Clyde Forbes, Dewey Haley, Sharon Harvey, Denise Johnson, Harry Kierbow, Kelly Leger, Melinda Mack, Michele Mason, Tracy McLean, Vanora O'Dell, Eula Redding, Robyn Redding, Gloria Sanford, Cynthia Tidwell, Rhonda Tucker, Joseph Walker, Georgette Wimbush, and Ed Youmans **New Members:** Amy Jackson **Guests:** Russell Smith and Stephanie Taylor (27)

Call to Order: Will Doss, Chair

Prayer/Pledge: Will Doss/ Harry Kierbow

Minutes: April 11, 2012 - Motion to approve by Kelly Leger, second by Rhonda Tucker, all approved.

Executive Director Report by Joseph Walker: Backpack food program- Paul Pruett met with Joseph and Bonnie Pfrogner to discuss what he can do for the program since he has experience with a similar program in Fannin County. He wants to reach out and do a fundraiser in September with games, food, and drinks and the funds will go to the Backpack food program. Joseph Walker asked Collaborative members to reach out to their community and church organizations for funding. Kiwanis and Rotary have offered help. Back to School Bash's format is still uncertain. The meeting to discuss it is scheduled for tonight at 6:00 in the Fairmont Community Center. Joseph thanked Vanora for all of her work for the Collaborative Authority and announced that she will retire at the end of the month.

Coordinator Report by Regina Abbott: Regina Abbott introduced Robyn Redding as the new administrative assistant that will take over after Vanora retires. She graduated with a degree in English from the University of West Georgia, was one of the first YAC members, and is the granddaughter of Eula Redding. Regina also announced that Molli Pruett gave birth to her daughter last Sunday.

Presentation by Dr. Doris Christopher, UGA-Griffin, for Kids University: Dr. Christopher, the Assistant VP of Academic Affairs at UGA-Griffin, stated that her priority is children because the future of the workforce depends on the children of today. She worked with at-risk children. Recognized Russell from First Assembly. She is launching Kids University at the UGA Griffin campus this summer because it is a way to make sure that the kids receive at least one meal a day. K.U. offers the kids food, a safe place to play, and a learning center. K.U. targets kids at a young age starting with ages 8-12. Every week will have a different theme in order to keep kids engaged and excited about learning. She also hopes to get them excited about college. Week 1 is science-focused. 4-H will be involved in teaching the kids about robotics and animation. Starts at 8 and goes into fun learning until 12. Then lunch at noon. Kids are given the option to come for half a day and leave after lunch or they can stay from 8-5. In the afternoon, they will swim, golf, play tennis, go on field trips, etc. These fun activities still focus on leadership and teamwork. Week 2 is art week focused on different crafts such as painting, sculpting, and cartoon drawing. Week 3 is animation week. Students will also learn about photography. Week 4 is healthy living. Week 5 focuses on the heroes in the community such as firemen, policemen, and doctors. K.U. was initially focused on Spalding County, but surrounding counties have made contact and asked about their children attending K.U. Signup is the Wednesday before the Monday that the themed-week starts. KU partners with school system and all of the workers are trained and have undergone a background check. 20-25 kids per class. Classes are broken down ages 8-10 and then 11-12. KU is prepared to accept 160 children per week. \$89 for half a day, \$104 for a full day per week. In order to find out about scholarships, call KU office and let them know that the child that you're trying to register can't afford to pay. Camp starts on June 11. Child does not have to commit to the whole summer, but only week by week. KU is already accepting applications. Children are accepted by age rather than grade level (8-12). Contact Art Cain in Continuing Education in order to make donations. They also have job openings available. Attempting to open it up to all economic levels. Contact church and community organizations and ask them to fund children. Bob Dull from Griffin Housing Authority is funding twelve spots (maybe 20) and offering transportation. After assessing the first year, they will try to open the program up to a larger population.

Committee Reports:

- **Senior Issues:** Jo Ellis- the committee has already begun working on the Community Resource Conference scheduled for next year March 26 at First Baptist Church.
- **Prevent Child Abuse Spalding:** Vanora said that the PCAS will not be meeting in May, but will instead be participating in the health fair Saturday, May 12 from 9-1. Next meeting 4th Monday in June at noon in the small Administrative Section conference room at the health department.
- **Healthy Youth:** Kelly Leger- will meet directly after Collaborative meeting in order to work on the SWIFT booklet. Also tweaking the website www.swifteens.org. HY will be a part of Kids University.
- **Drug Awareness Prevention Coalition:** Regina—meeting today at 1:30 in the same room.
- **Parent Advisory Committee:** Eula Redding—met May 1st. Still working on five year strategic plan with help from Regina. Still want to continue with their programs despite funding cuts.
- **Spalding Co Long Term Recovery:** Regina- received a 1,000 grant from a Lutheran program, but the program is winding down. Still processing/receiving applications until the end of the month.
- **Spalding Co Re-entry Task Force:** Michele Mason- committee had a roundtable luncheon with Technical Assistance Representative from the Washington, DC funder of their planning grant on April 17th on an effective re-entry task force/program. Next meeting May 15 at 2:00 at police department.
- **PPGS:** Will- 8 entities signed memorandum agreeing to work on dealing with poverty. Adding three partners: housing authority, workforce investment, developmental authority to make a total of 11 partners. The committee will meet quarterly. Work on specific target location to see how resources focused in a specific area work within the community. Fairmont Community is the new area that they will focus on. Committee now has a chair and vice chair: Jeff Jordan from UGA as Chair and Bob Dull from housing authority as Vice Chair. Robyn will be taking minutes.

Partner Introductions

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting is set for June 13, 2012 with presentation by Denise Quick the Executive Director of Griffin-Spalding United Way.

Approved, Will Doss – Chair

Respectfully Submitted, Vanora O'Dell – Admin Asst
