

Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families and Children, Inc.
Meeting Minutes
Spalding County Health Department
March 13, 2013 9:00 AM

Present: Regina Abbott, Darleen Ballard, Tammy Bradberry, Carmen Caldwell, Doris Christopher, Janie Clark, Betsy Cox, John Devlin, Dan Dunnahoo, Sherrie Gilreath, Jeannette Greene, Dewey Haley, Theo Harris, Sharon Harvey, Anthony Hill, Tricia Hill, Harry Kierbow, Melinda Mack, Jamie Mann, Len Moore, Walter Moore, Jeannie Moxan, Vanora O'Dell, Donna Parks, Sam Parks, Jillian Rafter, Mark Staples, Kim Stephens, Stephanie Summers, Cynthia Tidwell, Jewel Walker-Harps, and Stephanie Windham. (32)

Call to Order: Stephanie Windham, Chair, called the meeting to order. Will Doss opened with prayer and pledge. Theo Harris moved to approved the minutes of the February 13, 2013 meeting; seconded by Kelly Leger and unanimously approved.

There was no **Director's Report**.

Coordinator Regina Abbott announced the award of a \$2,500 grant from Central Georgia EMC for the Backpack Food for Kids Program. While the goal was to serve 100 students, the current caseload is at 147 but still operating within budget due to lower food costs than first planned.

Patti Robinson, co-founder of Bluebird CSA, presented a program on community gardening pulling from her vast experience in Thomaston. There is a vegetable CSA and a flower/plant CSA. They offer with national events (e.g., Earth Day, Pinwheels for Peace, Food Day. To promote the garden, the local newspaper printed a full page of color pictures about the garden each week for the first year, awards and prizes, weekly community breakfast with a rolling grill, farmer's kitchen with cooking demonstrations and sampling. She pointed out the need for data measurements, i.e. record keeping. While the over-bounty from a community garden may supplement a food pantry, it should not be expected to be the sole source. She estimated the daily cost to eat fresh produce at approximately \$4 per person. The cost of a half share box to feed a family of four costs about \$120 per month. Delivery days in Griffin are Fridays at several locations. Spalding Regional Hospital inquired about becoming a drop site. She provided door prizes and copies of the Food Day 2012 journal.

Strategy Team Updates:

The **Senior Issues Committee** is producing a 4x6 refrigerator magnet w/important phone numbers to distribute at the Care Givers' Conference in September.

The next **Healthy Children** meeting is March 28 at 11:00 a.m. at Spalding Regional Hospital. Pinwheels for Prevention is planned for April 1 at 11 a.m. at the corner of Sixth and Taylor Streets.

Healthy Youth has confirmed the Back to School Block Party for Saturday August 3 at the Park at Sixth. The goal is to issue 2,500 bags filled with school supplies and 1,000 pairs of tennis shoes.

Members of the **Re-Entry Task Force** are meeting weekly to finalize details of the plan due for DOJ Ex-Offender Re-entry Planning Grant by the end of March. A focus group of 8 ex-offenders produced good feedback. The next meeting is March 19, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at the Police Department.

The **Educational Prosperity Initiative (EPI)** is meeting monthly. Asbestos removal has been completed and demolition of the building has begun in preparation of the community garden site. The next meeting is March 14, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at A.Z. Kelsey Academy.

The **Partners for a Prosperous Griffin-Spalding** hosted the Prevent NOW Spalding with a breakfast at the Welcome Center on February 27. Stewards of Children Training was conducted on March 7 and another is scheduled for March 15 at the Hope Health Complete Wellness Center and one at the Spalding County Health Department on April 1. .

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting is set for April 10, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at the Spalding County Health Department Training Room.

Approved, Stephanie Windham – Chair

Respectfully Submitted, Regina Abbott – Coordinator
