

**Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families & Children**  
**Board Meeting**  
**March 19, 2013**  
**12:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order:** Stephanie Windham, Chair

**Present:** David Clevenger, Will Doss, Robert Dull, Phyllis Easton-Barkley, Yvonne Langford, Pam McCollum, Donna Parks, John Quinn, Cynthia Tidwell, Jewel Walker-Harps, Georgette Wimbush and Stephanie Windham. Staff: Regina Abbott, Joseph Walker.

**Absent:** Shaheer Beyah, Carmen Caldwell, Ruth Daniel, Irma Lewis, Judge Ben Miller, Jr., Sgt. Sam Parks, Eula Redding, Cameron Taylor, and Rep. John Yates.

**Minutes:** Motion by David Clevenger, second by Bob Dull, unanimous vote to approve January 15, 2013 Board minutes, February 21, 2013 Executive Committee minutes, and to accept January 9, 2013 and February 13, 2013 Collaborative minutes.

**Financial Report:** Motion to accept by Will Doss, second by Jewel Walker-Harps, unanimous approval to accept Spalding Collaborative and Second Chance Re-entry financials through February 28, 2013.

**Healthy Children Strategy:**

One-hundred percent of the Collaborative contractors have completed Darkness 2 Light's (D2L) Stewards of Children (SOC) training for adults to prevent, recognize and appropriately respond to child sexual abuse. The Spalding Collaborative is a D2L designated Partner in Prevention. Forty individuals attended the Partners for a Prosperous Griffin Spalding County hosted Prevent NOW breakfast. Sponsors were secured for six SOC certified facilitators (\$2,100) which were trained on March 12. To date, a total of four SOC trainings and three Prevention Coalition meetings have been conducted.

While the system is in place for making contact with families, data entry has proven to be much more complicated and challenging. The Governor's Office for Families and Children (GOFC) grant requires data entry into two separate systems, one being the Department of Public Health Central Intake Data System (CIDS) and the other being the Georgia Home Visitation (GEOHVIS) data system managed by the University of Georgia. Until such time confidentiality and connectivity issues are resolved, double entry is required and both systems are constantly being changed. An instruction manual does not exist for GEOHVIS. In order to avoid a five percent reduction in the grant, 50 percent of the participant goal (400 families) must be contacted by March 31 and entered into the systems by April 8. To date, about 75 percent of the contacts have been made and less than 15 percent of those have been entered. Every effort will be made to meet the goal by the deadline.

Connection groups are being planned for moms of low birthweight (LBW) babies. Spalding Regional Hospital now offers Fresh Start classes which are available for pre-conception or expectant women and new parents.

**Healthy Youth Strategy:**

The ***Backpack Food for Kids Program*** is 94 percent (\$18,338) funded for the current school year. A sufficient number of packing volunteers are on board. The goal to serve 100 students has been exceeded by 40 percent. Central Georgia EMC has awarded another \$2,500 grant for a total of \$5,000 for this school year.

The ***Griffin-Spalding Mentoring Program*** has assigned the first mentors with mentees. Mentor training will continue throughout the summer break in order to have mentors on board and ready to begin mentoring when school starts.

The annual Back to School Bash is transforming to ***Sole Plus Back to School Block Party*** with the help of local entrepreneur and philanthropist, Brian Miller, an experienced event planner. The date, time and location have been confirmed. The kickoff planning meeting is scheduled. Mr. Miller will be in contact with potential corporate sponsors.

**Healthy Community Strategy:**

The Fairmont Community Center ***GED / Adult Literacy*** classes are still provided on the Southern Crescent Technical College (SCTC) campus due to the repairs on Fairmont Community Center. The enrollment continues to exceed the twenty student threshold. Funding for the classes is provided by SCTC. GED testing for public housing residents is paid by the Griffin Housing Authority. Other sources of funding are needed for other resident GED testing.

The ***Educational Prosperity Initiative*** (EPI) continues to meet monthly and is receiving coaching from the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta. The grassroots involvement grows each month in both number and participation. Mr. Dull was accepted as a workshop presenter (Building Sustainability and Public Health: One Housing Authority's Perspective) at the Georgia Public Health Association Conference in Atlanta during April. Mr. Dull is also presenting to the City of Griffin, Spalding County and Board of Education at the UGA Griffin campus on April 9.

The ***Community Garden*** is progressing. The building is down and the debris removed. Residents are cleaning the area of rocks and other small debris so the soil can be prepared for planting. Soil testing revealed no contaminants in the soil. Seedlings have been started at the Griffin Area Resource Center greenhouse.

**Old Business:**

Members were reminded to complete the annual update of their Conflict of Interest ***disclosure statement***. New members were reminded to go to the Probate Judge's office to take the ***oath of office***.

**New Business:**

Mrs. Walker-Harps moved to approve the FY2014 Family Connection Annual Plan seconded by Mrs. Easton-Barkley. Unanimous vote.

Mr. Dull moved to accept the independent accountant financial review for year ending June 30, 2012 seconded by Mr. Doss. Unanimous vote.

**Board Member Announcements & Comments:**

An organization from Fayette County, Street Grace, recently presented to the Griffin Rotary about the Darkness 2 Light's Stewards of Children training and prompted Rotary to adopt a week during the summer to promote child abuse prevention. Unaware of this organization's work in Spalding County, Mr. Walker and Mrs. Abbott will follow-up with Street Grace upon receipt of the contact information from Mrs. Windham.

Mr. Doss stated that Eagles Way Church is planning a Stewards of Children training.

Mr. Dull announced the Housing Authority's submission of the YouthBuild grant which will provide educational and job skill training for 67 youth between 16 and 24 years old. The build project will take place in the Fairmont area to construct in-fill housing. During the educational component, youth participants are paid \$15/day and minimum wage during the building phase.

The Collaborative has been advised due to the closing of Christian Ministries Hospice the annual community wide health fair generally held the Saturday before Mother's Day will need an organization to coordinate the event if it is to continue. Mr. Quinn will confer with Kim Stephens, the hospital's community educator, to explore the role the hospital might play in helping this event to continue in some form or fashion. The annual May Fling and Senior Games were mentioned as possible venues to which the health fair component might be attached.

Mrs. Easton-Barkley advised that the Department of Family and Children now refers to "DFCS diversion" as "family support."

Spalding Regional Hospital was thanked for their generous support to the collaborative from providing meeting facilities and board lunches to sponsoring special events such as the fundraiser for the Backpack Food for Kids, Prevent NOW child sexual abuse community awareness, and the printing costs of parent resource guides.

**Next Board meeting:** June 18, 2013 at 12 p.m. at Spalding Regional Hospital Classroom A. Molli Pruitt, Spalding County Health Department and A Better Life Counseling & Coaching, will present on the First Steps and Low Birthweight Programs.

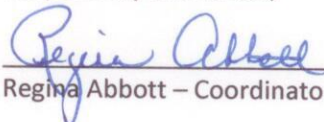
**Adjourn:** Motion by Jewel Walker-Harps and seconded by Phyllis Easton-Barkley. Unanimous vote.

Approved,



Stephanie Windham – Chair

Respectfully Submitted,



Regina Abbott – Coordinator