

**Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families and Children, Inc.**

Meeting Minutes

Spalding County Health Department

December 11, 2013 9:00 AM

Present: Regina Abbott, Deidre Anderson, Jarvis Barnes, Ann Cherrett, Janie Clark, Betsy Cox, Ruth Daniel, John Devlin, Denise Eady, Phyllis Easton-Barkley, Jeannette Greene, Melinda Mack, Tracy McLean, Dianne Pass, Mollie Pruitt, Jillian Rafter, Malisha Ross, Kim Stephens, Stephanie Summers, Antoinette Thornton, Joseph Walker, Marian Watkins, Elizabeth Watts-Warren, Georgette Wimbush, and Stephanie Windham. (25)

Stephanie Windham, chair, called the meeting to order.

Janie Clark moved to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2013 meeting; seconded by John Devlin and unanimously approved.

**Director's / Coordinator's Report**

A plea for financial contributions was made to benefit a child being raised by a grandparent with the family's share of the cost of the Sheriff's school trip to Washington, D.C. The total cost of the trip is \$550. An anonymous donor has committed \$200.

The year's highlights include, but are no way limited to, the senior conference at the new senior center and continuation of the File of Life program; Healthy Children Strategy team overseeing the First Steps and Low Birthweight Prevention Programs; Stewards of Children sexual abuse prevention training initiated; Re-entry Task Force planning completed; Educational Prosperity Initiative re-development and improvement concepts prepared by UGA; and, 2,500 students served during the Back to School Block Party with 1,000 of those receiving a pair of tennis shoes necessitating year-round fundraising to support the effort.

**Presentation**

Antoinette Thornton, regional supervisor, announced Benchmark has operated mobile crisis in Georgia for the past five months 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through contracted services with the State of Georgia. Services are provided 365 days a year at home, work, school, hospital or wherever necessary. All calls are triaged for appropriateness for deployment of the crisis team through the Georgia Access Crisis Line (GACL). Depending on the environmental setting, a team may consist of as many as three or as few as one ranging from a licensed clinician to certified peer specialists and licensed practical nurses. After determining "emotional discomfort" where the individual is five years or older and may be a danger to self or others, GACL searches for the provider serving the area. Benchmark covers Regions 1, 4 and 6. The team makes assessment and refers as indicated. There is no cost to the individual for the crisis assessment. The effort is supported by a regional collaborative of mental health providers.

**Healthy Children Strategy**

Four Griffin Housing Authority residents stuffed 120 parent resource bags. Healthy Children Conference planning committee is meeting on December 19 at noon at Griffin Housing Authority. Healthy Connections is meeting at WIC at 10 am on the fourth Thursday of each month and teen moms are meeting at both high schools monthly in collaboration with Young Lives. Stewards of Children training is scheduled for approximately 300 Griffin Spalding County Schools staff on January 3.

**Healthy Youth Strategy**

No report

**Re-entry**

The Georgia Public Policy Foundation published a nice article on Griffin's Re-entry Task Force. Hopefully, the \$750,000 ex-offender re-entry grant will be released in 2014 for which Spalding should be ready to pursue.

**Healthy Community Strategy**

Senior Issues – no report

Educational Prosperity Initiative – Dr. Pratt Cassidy of UGA presented the preliminary findings from the October charette for Fairmont. The final report will be released in January.

**Introductions & Announcements**

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting is set for January 8, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the Spalding County Health Department Training Room.

Approved, Carmen Caldwell – Chair

Respectfully Submitted, Regina Abbott – Coordinator