

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

Meeting Minutes

Spalding County Health Department

June 11, 2014 9:00 AM

Present: Regina Abbott, Tammy Bradberry, Doris Christopher, John Devlin, Will Doss, Phyllis Easton-Barkley, Lt. Josh Hinson, Kay Johnson, Afiya King, Jessica Layfield, Jillian Rafter, Kim Stephens, Cynthia Tidwell, Joseph Walker, Marian Watkins, and Jewel Walker-Harps. (17)

Cynthia Tidwell, vice-chair, called the meeting to order. Will Doss opened with prayer followed with prayer and pledge.

John Devlin moved to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2014 meeting; seconded by James Johnston and unanimously approved.

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

Wrapped up the Backpack Food for Kids for the school year; gearing up to raise funds for the upcoming school year. With A.D. Smith Community Services providing the USDA Summer Food Program, more sites and more weeks and more children will be served. Volunteers are needed to pack book bags with school supplies on July 31 at Salvation Army.

The garden is flourishing – peppers, tomatoes, corn. Youth activities are planned for the summer (summer reading in the garden, Junior Master Gardener Program, etc.)

**Presentation**

David John gave a presentation on Fort Stewart Youth Challenge Academy, five and a half month second chance program for male and female Georgia resident youth free of all legal involvement. The program is voluntary and may not be court ordered. The two-week acclimation phase is followed by a 20-week residential phase. During the one-year post-residential phase, the student is mentored for a year. Spalding County has had 189 applications of which 135 have graduated. There are 325 students per class serving approximately 1,500 students per year.

**Healthy Children Strategy**

The low birthweight prevention message has reached 1,000 families through May. Funding for the LBWP program ends June 30. The Health Department and Kiwanis Club are committed to partially sustain activities of Health Children. Approximately 700 bags were given the Hispanic community. Stewards of Children training was provided at Anne Street, Jackson Road, Orrs, Cowan Road Elementary. There will be no June or July meeting of the Healthy Children Strategy Team.

**Healthy Youth Strategy**

Back to School Bash posters distributed for the August 2 event at City Park. Since shoes are not being distributed this year, the number planned will be reduced to 1,500. Businesses and organizations are welcome to exhibit at the event.

**Healthy Community Strategy**

*Senior Issues* – Food drive for Meals on Wheels seniors conducted in May. Planning continues for the September 23 conference.

*Educational Prosperity Initiative* – There will be no meeting in July. There was good attendance at the June meeting. Carmen Caldwell presented on the Zero Robotics (STEM) summer program at Fairmont Homes for 12-13 rising middle school students. The Summer Food Program has begun with the hope the program can be sustained throughout the year.

**Introductions & Announcements**

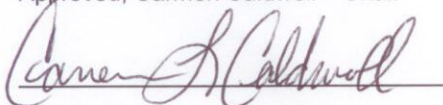
Cynthia Tidwell announced her new e-mail address, [cynthia.tidwell@dph.ga.us](mailto:cynthia.tidwell@dph.ga.us). The Health Department will focus on vision-hearing-dental examinations and immunizations over the summer.

Doris Christopher announced the positive impact of Governor Deal's Complete College Initiative to link students from high school to two-year post-secondary to graduation. Kids Enrichment University is set to begin next week with a different theme each of the five weeks over the summer break. Of the most recent graduating class, half of the class completed in 18 months as opposed to two years.

Salvation Army has 27 kids at camp. The summer program will begin next week.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting is set for August 13, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the Spalding County Health Department Training Room.

Approved, Carmen Caldwell – Chair



Respectfully Submitted, Regina Abbott – Coordinator

