

Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families and Children, Inc.

Meeting Minutes

Spalding County Health Department

June 10, 2015 9:00 AM

Present: Sandra Brownlee, Grady Caldwell, Janie Clark, Glynn Daniels, Anissa Freeman, Debra Griggers, Shelia Hall, Anthony Hill, Laymond Hill, Lt. Josh Hinson, Cherry Hovatter, Kay Johnson, James Johnston, Tracy McLean, Ken Peek, Jillian Rafter, Brenda Shaw, Kim Stephens, Donald Taylor, Cynthia Tidwell, Whitney Varner, Joseph Walker, Jewel Walker-Harps, and Sue Wilk (24)

Executive Director Joseph Walker called the meeting to order in the absence of Chair Cynthia Tidwell. Grady Caldwell opened with prayer and James Johnston led the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes from the May 8, 2015 meeting were approved.

Director's Report

The collaborative phone number has changed to 678-632-8176. Leave a message and your call will be returned. The executive board has decided based on the recommendation from the Back to School Bash Committee not to have the annual BTSB because the financial support is not there. The collaborative has suffered a significant loss for the last two years. We hope that other groups will pick up the slack and we do hope to be able to do it again in the future. The chicken-que fundraiser for Jo Ellis, Senior Center director, will be today at the Senior Center from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Several members of Project DSP2, which is a non-profit organization that helps eradicate homelessness for veterans, were introduced. Their goal is to have a facility here; it is a one-stop program that provides resources on education, medical and home placement so that the veteran can be assessed and helped.

Presentation

Tina Thomas, director, and Elizabeth Ausmet presented on More Than Conquerors, Inc., which is a nonprofit organization that focuses on positive youth development to reduce risk factors leading to teen pregnancy and other negative outcomes. Because the teen pregnancy rate is so high in Spalding County, they are looking to bring their program here. In order to receive the federal funding for their program, the county must have the teen pregnancy rate at a certain level. Several of the counties they currently have programs will not qualify because their teen pregnancy rates have dropped below the target. They are attempting to work with the Griffin-Spalding County School System to participate. Members asked what we could do as a collaborative, and it was discussed to call school board members and school superintendent, as well as community stakeholders.

Healthy Children

Molli Pruitt gave report; centering pregnancy site visit at the Dougherty County Health Department planned for later in the month.

Healthy Youth

No report

Healthy Community

Senior Issues – James Johnston reported that the committee is working on the fall conference, which will be September 23, 2015 at the Spalding County Senior Center.

Re-entry Task Force – Grady Caldwell reported that they have attended additional training in Atlanta.

Educational Prosperity – Jewel Walker-Harps reported that they had the director and staff of New Horizon, a non-traditional high school, present their individual approach to education at the last EPI meeting. The community garden is in full bloom, and each Wednesday morning from 9:30 am to 11:00 am there are free activities for children and parents at the garden. She encouraged collaborative members to help fill the need for the school-based mentoring program.

Next meeting: August 12, 2015 at 9:00 am at Spalding County Health Department, 2nd Floor Training Room. There will be no July meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Approved, Cynthia K. Tidwell – Chair

Respectfully Submitted, Regina Abbott – Coordinator

Cynthia K Tidwell

Regina Abbott