

General Membership Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2009

9am-11am

Independence Park Theater

I. Welcome & Introductions – Sue Catchings

Meeting began at 9:15. Sue had everyone introduce themselves. Mentioned about the Broadmoor School Based Health Care Center. Groundbreaking set for 3/13/09.

A. Those in Attendance

Pam Wall – Juvenile Justice
Karen Chusk – OJJ
Michele Robinson – United Way
Kira Bellizeare – Discovery/Americorps
Gaylynn Mack – Big Buddy
Lisa Moore Teer – LA Delta Service Corps
Doug Leyda – YMCA/EHS
Sue Catchings HCCS
Tiffany Hinton – LA Partnership
Effiel Toliver – VOA Partnership
Marrene Beatty – ECCS
Lynn Farris – OCS
Kim O'Brien – BRASS
Carmen S. Jones – BR Chapter Links, Inc
Alvin Mack – BREC
Phil Woodland – Board President
Gayle B. Smith – Reach Out and Read
Danielle McLendon – Faith House
Tamika Smith – LACHIP
Karen Profita – CAUW
Lisa Ezaki – Big Brother/Big Sister
Eunice McCarney – Checkmate Strategies
Cynthia Walls – Family Road of GBR
Becky White – LSU Ag Center
Roberta Vicari, MD – OLOL
Lynell Whipple – NASW

B. Business Meeting – Anna Fogle

Nominations Committee – approval of slate

Anna Fogle made motion and Betsy Irvine Seconded

Introduction of Joe Abel – Administrative Assistant for the CCGBR

II. Investing in Early Childhood

Dr. Geoff Nagle – Investing in Early Childhood: A Road Map to Economic Success for Louisiana

Sponsors – LA Partnership, United Way, American Academy of Pediatrics, PCAL, LA Maternal and Child Health Coalition, NASW-LA, CCoFGBR, LANO, LA Budget Project and many more.

Summary

– Brain development between birth and 5 are paramount to how a person will function as an adult. High levels of stress, associated with poverty, lead to a dysfunctional formation of the brain and negative social-emotional development and mental health. Investing in young children is the most efficient use of government \$. The younger the child, the greater the return. These are the areas that the Road Map focuses on: Family Support, Child Health, Early Education, Social-Emotional Developmental/Mental Health, Parenting Education

Discussion

– Dr. Nagle presented a chart that showed the number of children under the age of six, by year, entering foster care. A few members brought up that older kids may not be reported as much because they are not accepted into foster care, stay with relatives, or are refused because they will “age out” soon.

-Talking about funding, a member brought up the stimulus funds that are coming in to title I. Trying to get stimulus \$ was discussed

-Parents who have children in LA 4 program are required to go to classes, but often don't attend. Discussion about parenting ed classes ensued

-Discussion on sex education and rewording it to not offend

-Questions on advancement of plan. Can we get into the legislature? It is the responsibility of the organizations and their members who backed the plan to get it out. Get some letters out to different departments and the governor's office

Conclusion – Anna Fogle presented Dr. Nagle with a pinwheel lapel pin from PCAL.

III. Advocacy Issues for 2009

-School Based Health Centers/ Sue Catchings

Louisiana's school-based health centers provide access to quality physical and mental health care for children and youth in over seventy sites across the state. Each site provides primary, preventive health care for students who would otherwise not see a physician, nurse practitioner, or licensed clinical social worker or who would seek care in a local emergency room. Recent data from the state's health centers indicate the following:

38,637 Students registered at SBHCs

24, 945 Students received services at SBHCs

65% utilization rate

120,303 Total Individual Visits Made to SBHCs

4.8 Avg # of Visits Per Student

4,704 Total Visits for Group Counseling

The focus on prevention is clearly evident when examining statewide data sets – the top category of encounters are :

General Preventive Medicine – 37,369

In EBR, there are 9 SBHCs who serve 4,000 children and youth. These sites have cataloged 20,000 student encounters with physicians, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, social workers, and other medical and mental health professionals

-62% of students who have 3 or more visits in one year have evidence of a comprehensive risk assessment completed by a licensed mental health professional

-55% of the students also have evidence of a comprehensive physical exam

-Schools record that there is a reduction in student check-out rates 3 years after the installation of a health center

-Chart audits indicate that asthmatic children have asthma action plans in place and that they have less absenteeism than students who do not have access to health center

Help us to keep our health center funding intact with no reduction in services to children and youth. The state budget for health centers includes about \$3Million in state general funds. If there is a reduction in these funds, there will most likely be a corresponding reduction in staffing with less staff to assist students and their families. Call your state representative and senator and tell them to keep the funding intact for a program that has proven outcomes in high quality preventative health care for kids.

If you are interested in attending one of several legislative breakfasts in Baton Rouge, please email Sue Catchings at s.catchings@brhccs.org. Plans are underway to host our Baton Rouge delegation in the health centers so that our elected officials can hear from students, their parents, and the school staff.

Sandra Adams

Update on Medicaid – Our match will go up to about 80% which will help the Medicaid program. Legislators will be weary about expanding the program though. Reiterated the importance of not just having pre-natal care and putting more

preventative and comprehensive health care in place. Sec. Levine wants to put children managed care.

Promoting the road map during the session. The current administration is focusing on school discipline and sexual predators. There may be a bill that allows the state to put children in managed care. The sexual predator bill may treat juvenile offenders the same as adult offenders. She also mentioned the LACHIP program and trying to get it moved to 300%. Dental varnish, which paints the cavities and prevents pain and more cavities is on the chopping block since they cannot bill for it anymore.

Obesity issues. Nutrition consults

Electronic records issue – need to add some common sense

Substance abusing pregnant women – some legislators want to put these women in jail. This will lead to those women avoiding the health care centers and an increase in foster children.

Primary care workforce reform bill

School “scholarship” program – it’s really vouchers and we could use that \$ for the road map.

Pam Wall – Juvenile Justice

Brought up the issue of classroom discipline. Related it to Dr. Nagle’s presentation on stress levels and aggression. Study on the enormous negative impact zero tolerance in the classroom. She stressed the importance of safety nets in the school system

Anna Fogle – Discussed the Education Begins at Home Act

IV. Community Plan for Children

Lynell Whipple - gave a short update due to time constraints

Brought members up to speed about leaders and teams. Suggested that we discuss ways to streamline and make the teams and their leaders the most efficient, possibly by combing the team meetings.

V. Announcements –

- A. Poverty Forum/Summit – 3/1/09 – Shiloh Baptist Church
- B. Board Meeting – 3/13/09 - 12pm-3pm – LCRE
- C. Healthy Kids Funfest – 4/25/09 – Mall of LA

- D. Day of Dialogue on Race – 4/22/09 – DeltaCorps, NASW-La, Discovery and will be held at the SELU Nursing
- E. PCAL Conference – March 4-6
- F. NASW-LA Conference – 4.1-3.09 – Hilton Capitol Center, Baton Rouge, LA
- G. NASW-LA Volunteer Day – March 7, 2009 in conjunction with LACHIP

VI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 am.