

BASIC NEEDS COALITION OF CENTRAL TEXAS

www.basicneeds-ctx.org

Monthly Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2005

Time: 9:00 – 10:45 a.m.
Location: United Way Capital Area
Convener: Dan Pruett
Secretary of the Meeting: Lucia Dodson

Attendees:

Lila Carl	Any Baby Can	Elizabeth Gfell	ATCMHMR
George Brown	Basic Needs Coalition	Lee Manford	AIDS Services of Austin
Susan Eason	ARC of the Capital Area	Ellen Balthazar	Any Baby Can
Barbara Budde	Catholic Charities of Central Texas	Christy Moffett	Travis County HHS
Maria Allen	City of Austin HHSD	Katie Navine	Goodwill Industries of Central Texas
Jack Marrkand	Sustainable Food Center Information	Korey Darling	Travis County HHS & VS
Margie Fernandez-Prew	United Way	Dan Pruett	Meals on Wheels and More
Lucia Dodson	Meals on Wheels and More	Glenda Shayne	Capital Area Food Bank
Marco Galvan	2-1-1 TX	Julia Spann	Caritas
Sherri Fleming	Travis CO. HHS & VS	Kathy Stark	Austin Tenants Council
Stephanie Hayden	COA South Austin Neighborhood Center	Adelita Winchester	Caritas
Charity Gladish	Foundation Communities	Sam Woollard	Community Action Network
Shankha Iqbal	United Way		

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Dan Pruett called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

II. APPROVED THE MARCH 24, 2005 MINUTES:

The minutes of March 24, 2005 were reviewed. *Division Director for the Children Partnership* was replaced with *Division Director for the Office of Children Services*. A **Motion** to accept the Minutes as amended was made by Julia Spann and **Seconded** by Lila Carl. **Motion Approved.**

III. PRESENTATION:

Korey Darling with Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service made a presentation on the results from the 2000 and 2003 American Community Surveys for Travis County. She said that the American Community Survey is designed to replace the “long form” from the 10-year U.S. Census and collects information on an on-going basis rather than once every ten years. This modification reflects the reality of a fast-paced and rapidly changing society in which decision-makers, planners, and residents need up-to-date information in order to understand and act on current and emerging issues facing their communities.

Dan Pruett asked if this had been presented to the County Commissioners and the City Council.

Sherri Fleming replied that it has not been presented to the City Council. She said it is a County product, but HHS certainly would if invited. She said that this presentation has been made to the CAN Resource Council. She added that since this is the first year they've done this report, they really are interested in presenting it to groups and that they intend to continue monitoring this information so in the Fall everyone can expect to see an update. She said that if any BNC members would like to have this report to share with their Board members please let them know.

Dan said that Sam Woollard has been trying to schedule a meeting with Rich Oppel of the American-Statesman to discuss getting the word out about what this coalition is doing. He said he feels that this information is important and we should provide it to the community. He said he was wondering if this is not the direction we should be going. He asked the members to determine what the message is that we want to send and how strong a message we should send. He asked how the coalition wants to proceed.

The majority of the group agreed that it is a good idea. However, everyone felt that it would be best to let the Advocacy team and the Planning committee work together to come up with some suggestions on the best way to proceed.

Sherri Fleming recognized Korey Darling for her hard work in putting this report together.

IV. Committee Reports:

PLANNING – SHERRI FLEMING

- Sherri said that the press conference was a great success based on the coverage and turn-out. We have had positive feedback.
- Now that the FAQ is out on the street, the Planning Committee wants to go back to working on how it can promote the Coalition. So, it is looking at Logos and working on a marketing plan.
- The Committee will provide the Food Committee with a template for the FAQ.

MEMBERSHIP – DAN PRUETT

- Dan announced that Barbara Buddle will be the new chair and Glenda Shayne will co-chair the Membership Committee.
- One of the things that the Membership Committee will address is to make sure we have all the members listed and all the paperwork is turned in.

BEST SINGLE SOURCE – LEE MANFORD AND GEORGE BROWN.

- Meeting with the Travis County Commissioner's last month went well. They said they appreciated Sherri Fleming being there. They reported that they asked for an additional \$125,000 for Best Single Source. They visited with the Commissioners and said that we would eventually like to ask for \$500,000 and are looking at expanding Best Single Source by adding partners.
- They will be meeting with the Public Health and Human Services Subcommittee of the City Council next month and are going to ask them to also increase funding for Best Single Source by \$125,000.
- A portion of the Supplemental Basic Needs from the City that was carved out for Best Single Source has been annual funding. Therefore, they are also going to be asking that it be part of the Social Services Base and ongoing funding.

- The Committee is continuing to monitor the implementation of Best Single Source.
- Austin Energy updating their technology has created problems for clients regarding meeting their past due balances.
- The Case Managers Luncheon went really well.
- George Brown provided a spreadsheet on Best Single Source Active Clients by Agency, Unduplicated Clients for the Year, New Clients, and Expenditures by Agency.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT – JULIA SPANN.

- At the Commissioners work session, we submitted a written request for the additional \$125,000.
- We met with the Food Stamp Representatives from HHSD. Once we started looking at the grants, they took out the piece that we really needed and we now realize we cannot participate.

FOOD – MARGIE FERNANDEZ-PREW & ADELITA WINCHESTER.

- The Committee is in process of completing the survey results of nineteen downtown food service providers, some of which have both kitchens and pantries.
- The Committee will collaborate in developing a food report similar to the Basic Needs FAQ.

ADVOCACY – SUSAN EASON.

- Susan Eason recognized Sam Woollard for her hard work.
- We presented the FAQ to the Travis County Delegation. Members present were Barrientos, Strama, and aides to Dukes and Rodriguez.
- Suggestion is to match Basic Needs Coalition of Central Texas members with local Representatives or Senators for ongoing dialogue.
- Need more members to be involved with the Advocacy Committee.

V. AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Sam Woollard announced the 2005 Austin Housing Summit. The summit is to help launch a movement to ensure that every Austinite, young and old, has access to a good home. She said that she would get the information to Lucia Dodson so it can be sent to everyone in the Coalition.
- Charity Gladish announced that the Foundation Communities offers a special housing program called the “Children’s Home Initiative” that combines affordable rent with supportive services including case management and adult education classes.
- Sherri Fleming announced that May is Mental Health Awareness Month. On the South steps of the Capital there will be a gathering for Children Mental Health Day on May 4, 2005 from 10:45 a.m. to noon.
- Jack Marrkand announced that the Sustainable Food Center has opened a farmers market on the East side (5th & Comal). They also offer education in gardening. On Saturday at the larger Farmers market, non-profits are welcome to set up a booth.

VI. NEXT MEETING:

May 26, 2005
 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
 United Way Capital Area
 2000 East MLK Blvd.

VII. ADJOURN: