

BASIC NEEDS COALITION OF CENTRAL TEXAS

www.basicneeds-ctx.org

Monthly Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2005

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

Attendees:

Susan Gehring	Austin Travis County HHSD	Bea Dela Rosa	St. Louis Catholic Church
George Brown	Basic Needs Coalition	Ann Luong	2-1-1
Pat Alaniz	Austin Energy	Ellen Balthazar	Any Baby Can
Sonja Prevo	Austin Energy	Christy Moffett	Travis County HHS
Rebecca Lightsey	SafePlace	Mary Teeters	Meals on Wheels and More
Joy Stollings	Meals on Wheels and More	Karen Langley	Family Eldercare
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
Kristen Sluder	Meals on Wheels and More	Julia Spann	Caritas
Lizabeth Kelley	Micah 6 Coalition	Kathy Stark	Austin Tenants Council
Steve Kaiven	Goodwill Industries	Adelita Winchester	Caritas
Lee Manford	AIDS Services of Austin	Sam Woollard	Community Action Network
Mike Manor	TCHHS & VS – Post Road	Shankha Iqbal	United Way
Marco Galvan	2-1-1 TX	Mary Teeters	Meals on Wheels and More
Sherri Fleming	Travis CO. HHS & VS	Stephanie Hayden	COA South Austin Neighborhood Center
Becky Morales	Any Baby Can	Charity Gladish	Foundation Communities
Kathy Ridings	The Salvation Army	Neva Lockett	Hays County Food Bank
		Beth Kelly	Micah 6 Committee

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Dan Pruett called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

II. APPROVED THE FEBRUARY 24, 2005 MINUTES:

The minutes of February 24, 2005, were reviewed and amended by deletion of the following sentence from the Resource Development Committee Report: The deleted sentence is: *"An application has been submitted on behalf of the Best Single Source project for TDHCA, ESGP Homeless Prevention grant tech support."* A **Motion** to accept them as amended was made by Julia Spann and **Seconded** by Sherri Fleming. **Motion Approved.**

III. CHAIR'S REPORT:

Dan asked Christy Moffett to give the Board a Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) update. CEAP furthers the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs' goal to provide affordable housing throughout the state by providing energy assistance to Texans. Energy costs significantly influence the affordability of housing for everyone, often impacting the basic subsistence requirements of a household. The Department's Energy Assistance programs are designed to encourage household energy self-sufficiency by providing energy related education and encouraging conservation. TDHCA's Energy Assistance programs are administered through the Department's Community Affairs Division.

PRESENTATION:

Pat Alaniz and Sonja Prevo with Austin Energy made a presentation. Ms. Prevo said that Austin Energy is seeking to serve the Central Texas community better and is exploring ways to reach people who are not currently served. The program, called Beyond Plus +1 (Customer Assistance Program), assists customers who are behind on their utility bills due to unexpected emergencies. These applicants must be City of Austin Utility customers, and must meet the criteria of the agencies.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PLANNING – SHERRI FLEMING

- Sherri announced that Joy Stollings with Meals on Wheels and More is rejoining the Planning Committee as Co-Chair.
- There will be a Basic Needs Press Conference on April 11, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. at Caritas to discuss the FAQ and to talk about the success of the Best Single Source Pilot project.
- The Planning Committee has a full menu and requests assistance from partner agencies by having some partner agency staff work with the committee. It meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at Palm Square Building.

MEMBERSHIP – DAN PRUETT.

- Dan announced that were still looking for a full time Membership Committee Chair..

BEST SINGLE SOURCE – LEE MANFORD AND GEORGE BROWN.

- Meeting with the Travis County Commissioners and has been rescheduled for March 24, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. to provide results of the pilot.
- Case Managers Appreciation Luncheon will be April 25, 2005 at 11:30 a.m. at United Way.
- One of the things we will look at in the future is identifying proposed roles for the Committee and the Work Group.
- We will look at what will our process will be in adding new funded partners to Best Single Source.
- Another thing we need to look at is: Best Single Source is a really good program for eligible clients but it is not a program that will work for everyone. Therefore, there is still a tremendous need for one-time assistance.
- We have changed our meeting time. We are now meeting on the second Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. at Palm Square Building.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT – JULIA SPANN.

- The primary effort of the Resource Committee right now is the Food Stamp Participation Grant.

FOOD – MARGIE FERNANDEZ-PREW

- The Committee met to identify local food services providers and ultimately will discuss challenges, duplication of effort, and possible collaboration.
- We started with a survey of food service providers. We completed 19 surveys to date and will present the preliminary findings to the Coalition.
- Meg and Jason will complete a map of all downtown providers and the Committee will finish the survey and submit a final report and its recommendations next month.
- The Food Committee will meet on the third Wednesday of each month from 10:30 – 12:00 at a site TBD.

V. AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Bea Dela Rosa wanted to make sure that everyone is aware that the St. Louis Catholic Church food pantry will have a Family Resource Fair on April 16, 2005 from 8:00 – 12:00.
- Karen Langley announced that there was going to be another CBDG Proclamation at 5:30 p.m. today.
- Lee Manford announced that last month AIDS Services of Austin made a presentation to the City with Vince Cobales and David Lurie and wanted to acknowledge and thank them.
- Vince Cobales and David Lurie will be making a joint presentation in front of the Council Members on Best Single Source. .
- Christy Moffett announced that Travis County HHS has approved the Best Single Source Pilot. Its plan is to begin April 1.
- Dan Pruett recognized Marco Galvan for his hard work on the technology for the Best Single Source.
- Marco Galvan said 2-1-1 took it only for “the first yard and George Brown and the Best Single Source team took it the rest of the way.” He said they had a very productive meeting with the case managers and were working on the most effective way to make direct referrals.
- Sherri Fleming announced that there are two positions open at Travis County HHS: Division Director for the Office of Children Services and Family Support Services Division Director.

VI. NEXT MEETING:

April 28, 2005
9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
United Way Capital Area
2000 East MLK Blvd.

VII. ADJOURN: