

Taylor County Shared Services Meeting  
School Board Administrative Complex  
Monday, January 25, 2016

**Present:** Sarah Bayes, Nancy Bell, Rhonda Brooks, Annabelle Edwards, Camye Edwards, Donna Hagan, Cindy Hutto, Deborah Latson, Rachel Lavallo, Kristie Lutz, Linda Murphy, Jamila Nance, Greg Riherd, Tiffany Similien and Tom Witt

**Agencies Represented:** Healthy Start Coalition, Taylor County Head Start, Taylor County Schools, Guardian Ad Litem, Big Bend Cares, Elder Care Services, Florida Department of Health in Taylor County, Apalachee Center, North Central Florida Rural Health Network, 211 Big Bend, and Department of Juvenile Justice.

**Donna Hagan** called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone, Donna announced we have received a grant for Coordinated Intake/Single Point of Entry and will be hiring an Administrative Assistant. January is Folic Acid Awareness Month and we will be conducting our Folic Acid Door to Door campaign after the meeting.

**Rachel Lavallo** is the new Director of Nursing at the Florida Department of Health in Taylor County.

**Greg Riherd** is the Project Coordinator with the North Central Florida Rural Health Network. Their next planning meeting will be held on February 16<sup>th</sup> and Greg announced a mobile clinic will be coming to St James Church in Perry. For more information contact 352-362-0674 or [g.riherd@gmail.com](mailto:g.riherd@gmail.com).

**Tom Witt** with the Department of Juvenile Justice reported 5 misdemeanors, 3 felonies and 22 juveniles on probation in Taylor County. Also, the County could work to improve the Civil Citation Program.

**Sarah Bayes** with Healthy Start announced they hold Parents as Teachers classes on Tuesday's from 2:00 to 3:00pm at the Health Department for parents with children 0 to 3 years of age. For more information contact 850-584-5087 or [sarah.bayes@flhealth.gov](mailto:sarah.bayes@flhealth.gov).

**Nancy Bell** with the Taylor County Head Start program reported they are in their second semester and are fully enrolled with 12 to 15 on the wait list.

**Deborah Latson** with Elder Care Services reports that recruitment in Taylor County is at a standstill, the agency only has funding for one volunteer at this time.

**Tiffany Similien** with 211 Big Bend/Help me Grow announced they will be having their Annual Run on February 13<sup>th</sup> at Southwood Town Center. For more information contact 850-617-6306 or [tsimilien@211bigbend.org](mailto:tsimilien@211bigbend.org)

**Kristie Lutz** announced the Tobacco Free Partnership meeting will be held today and the Community Health Meeting will be held on February 8<sup>th</sup>. For more information contact 850-584-5087.

**Rhonda Brooks is the District School Social Worker and Homeless Liaison. Rhonda addressed Homelessness in our Schools and said they will be participating in the 2016 Point in Time Count. The count starts tonight and volunteers will be conducting a census of individuals and families thought to be experiencing homelessness in the county. Volunteers will survey neighbors from sun up to sun down.**

**Rhonda said children are considered homeless if they are living in a shelter, motel, vehicle, or campground; on the street; in abandoned buildings; or doubled up with relatives or friends. Two years ago Taylor County went above 100 homeless and right now is averaging 82. Homelessness creates many challenges for children and the McKinney Vento Act helps schools support homeless children. The program helps to ensure that children continue in the same school they last attended before becoming homeless, receive transportation and participate in the free breakfast and lunch program. Rhonda reported the Back Pack program is currently serving 90 children. For more information contact 850-838-2520 or [Rhonda.brooks@taylor.k12.fl.us](mailto:Rhonda.brooks@taylor.k12.fl.us).**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be February 22, 2016 at 9:30am.

Minutes recorded by Cindy Hutto