

Taylor County Shared Services Meeting
School Board Administrative Complex
Monday, August 29, 2016

Present: Tonya Bell, Cheryl Brantley, Rhonda Brooks, Patty Carroll, Donna Hagan, Cindy Hutto, Deborah Latson, Ryan Parker, Paula Roberts, Brigitte Robinson, Ashley Schermerhorn, Eric Scott, Rebecca Severin, Samantha Tracy, Jennifer Travieso and Martine Young.

Agencies Represented: Healthy Start Coalition, Partnership for Strong Families, Taylor County Schools, Elder Care Services, 211 Help Me Grow, Taylor County Head Start, Healthy Families Seven Rivers, Big Bend Community Based Care, Disc Village and Florida Department of Health in Taylor County.

Tonya Bell called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone, she then turned the meeting over to Patty Carroll with Partnership for Strong Families.

Patty Carroll announced the Partnership Council is merging with Shared Services and informed everyone the Council has a \$5000.00 budget this year to be split between Madison and Taylor Counties. The funds can be used to assist clients with rent assistance and other one- time emergency needs as allowable, Patty said the funds cannot be spent on food, gift cards, gas and toys. Discussion ensued with Tonya Bell motioning to allocate \$1000.00 immediately for individual assistance with a maximum of \$200.00 awarded per family during the 2016-2017 year, seconded by Rebecca Severin, motion carried. Patty announced she has received a promotion and Samantha Tracy will be our new representative, also, they are recruiting for Foster Parents especially in Madison and Taylor Counties.

Tonya Bell called for approval of the minutes from the May meeting, Martine Young motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Rhonda Brooks, motion carried.

Tonya Bell announced she has been working with Healthy Families and is still available to assist with KidCare Insurance applications, for more information or to make a referral contact 850-253-5355 or tbell@healthystartjmt.org.

Cindy Hutto announced the Coalition has a new Event Calendar on their Website, please send upcoming events to Cindy and she will post them on the calendar. Cindy encouraged everyone to visit the website at www.healthystartjmt.org.

Donna Hagan announced we will be having a tri-county training on How to Make a Successful Referral to Early Steps at the September 26th Taylor County Shared Services meeting.

Ryan Parker is the Family Service Facilitator with Partnership for Strong Families, Ryan handles referrals for services.

Ashley Schermerhorn is a Prevention Specialist with Big Bend Community Based Care and announced September 5th – 11th is National Suicide Prevention Week. Ashley can be reached at 850-748-3957 or Ashley.schermerhorn@bigbendcbc.org.

Jennifer Travieso is a Family Services Supervisor with Disc Village's Substance Abuse Prevention Outpatient services. For more information on services contact jtravieso@discvillage.com.

Brigitte Robinson is a Motivational Support Specialist with Disc Village.

Paula Roberts is with the 211 Big Bend Help Me Grow program.

Deborah Latson with Elder Care Services disseminated flyers for the Senior Volunteer Programs for ages 55 and over and the 18th Annual Oktoberfest to be held on September 30th at the "The Brickyard" at The Centre of Tallahassee.

Deborah also reported she is having a hard time securing volunteers and keeping the in Taylor County. Deborah can be reached at 850-245-5923.

Rhonda Brooks is the Homeless Liaison for Taylor County Schools and reported they have hit the ground running identifying and enrolling individuals and families who are homeless. Rhonda announced the Backpack Program will begin the 1st week of October. For more information contact Rhonda.brooks@taylor.k12.fl.us.

Eric Scott is the Executive Director of Taylor County Head Start and also a Healthy Start Coalition Board Member. Eric reported that funding for the Head Start program will end on September 30th, they are in negotiations, however, the Taylor County School System is not involved. They have 135 students enrolled at this time and said other services will be offered. More information will be forthcoming.

Rebecca Severin is the Program Manager for Healthy Families Seven Rivers, a home visiting child abuse prevention program. HFSR serves five counties that include, Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, Hamilton and Lafayette and is currently serving 35 families. The program utilizes the "Growing Great Kids" curriculum and equips parents to overcome their challenges and provide their children with safe, nurturing experiences that promote healthy growth and development.

Rebecca announced they will be having the Winter Clothing Drive again this year in December and reported last year was a huge success. For more information and referral forms contact rseverin@healthystartjmt.org or 850-948-2741.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be September 26, 2016 at 9:30am.

Minutes recorded by Cindy Hutto