

Jefferson Whole Child Coalition

October 25, 2016

Minutes

Members Present: Cumi Allen, Nan Baughman, Tonya Bell, Valerie Gainous, Barbara Herring, Cindy Hutto, Samuel Lyons, Jacqueline Miller, Shanetha Mitchell, Chief Fred Mosley, Sandra Porras-Gutierrez, Tiffany Similien, Jennifer Travieso and Melissa Watson.

Agencies represented: Refuge House, Healthy Start Coalition, Big Bend Cares, Florida Department of Health in Jefferson County, Florida Therapy Services, Capital Area Community Action Agency, Monticello Police Department, Department of Children & Families/ACCESS, Department of Juvenile Justice, 211 Big Bend Help Me Grow and Disc Village.

Tonya Bell opened the meeting and welcome everyone. Tonya called for approval of the minutes of the September meeting, Sandy Porras-Gutierrez motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Nan Baughman, motion carried.

Tonya Bell announced her Women's Health Class for women ages 14 to 44 is today at 3:00pm at the Library. Also, Tonya is available to help with Florida Kid Care Insurance Applications, for more information or to make a referral contact 850-253-5355 or tbell@healthystartjmt.org.

Cumi Allen with Healthy Start announced their Prenatal classes will be held on November 8th and the 22nd and they are always looking for a guest speaker. The Parents as Teachers class will be on November 16th and their baby shower for clients will also be held on the 22nd. For more information contact 850-342-0170 or cumi.allen@flhealth.gov.

Tiffany Similien with Help Me Grow reminded everyone of the Free Developmental Screening on Friday at Children's Medical Center in Tallahassee.

Nan Baughman with Refuge reported several agencies have teamed up with the Department of Health in Jefferson County and are going out into the communities to perform services. They have taken the Bus out to Wacissa, Lloyd and to Aucilla and are looking for more agencies to participate. They will be going back out to the Wacissa area on November 4th from 4:00 to 6:00pm.

Sandy Porras-Gutierrez with DCF ACCESS announced she is always looking for community partners, the Quincy FarmShare event will be held on November 15th, there will be free food for clients and free T-shirt and lunch provided for volunteers. For more information or if you would like to volunteer contact 850-488-0684 or Sandra_porras-gutierrez@myflfamilies.com.

Sam Lyons with the Department of Juvenile Justice has replaced Liz Phillips, Sam reported that the Civil Citation Program is in place and Jefferson County is doing a great job.

Jennifer Travieso is a Family Services Supervisor with Disc Village which offers both substance abuse and behavioral health services.

Valerie Gainous with Big Bend Cares performs Free HIV/AIDS testing in Jefferson, Madison & Taylor Counties and is available to do presentations and provides free condoms. For more information contact 850-510-3427 or vgainous@bigbendcares.org.

Jacqueline Miller with Capital Area Community Action Agency is the co-facilitator of the Getting Ahead and Staying Ahead programs. For more information contact 850-997-8231 or Jacqueline.Miller@cacaainc.org.

Tonya Bell announced for all who are participating in the Steppin Coast to Coast event, there will be a meeting on October 27th from 5:30 to 7:30pm in Madison at Lake Frances.

Nan Baughman announced there will be a Veterans Celebration Luncheon on Saturday, November 5th at 11:00am at the First United Methodist Church. This event is free to all veterans and \$5.00 each for others attending.

Chief Fred Mosley of the Monticello Police Department stated his motto is to “Educate not Incarcerate” and reminded everyone that all lives matter. Chief Mosley reported that crime is down from last year and he has two new officers working the streets of Monticello.

Melissa Watson with Capital Area Community Action Agency is the Program Coordinator for the Getting Ahead Program. The program provides life skills and knowledge needed to move out of poverty. This is a 15 week workshop and they hold two classes a year. After completion there is the Staying Ahead Program which provides mentoring for participants. Melissa reported that 225 have transitioned out of the program to date with the highest rate in Jefferson County.

Melissa said they have a new program, “The R Rules” for 9th to 12th graders and hope to pilot the program in Jefferson County next year. CACAA also provides utility assistance and the Weatherization program, they also have funds available right now for rental assistance up to \$600.00. For more information contact 850-997-8231 or Melissa.Watson@cacaainc.org.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on November 29, 2016 at 9:30am.

Minutes recorded by Cindy Hutto