

# **SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**April 29<sup>th</sup> 2015  
Akron Community Foundation**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Roberta Aber, Julie Barnes, Elizabeth Bartz, Donae Ceja, Pete Crossland, Pat Divoky, Ken Douglas, Richard Enty, John Garofalo, Rick Kavenagh, Connie Krauss, Nan McClenaghan, Brian Nelsen, Linda Omobien, John Saros, Sandy Selby, Donna Skoda, John Trunk

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dottie Achmoody, Malcolm Costa, Jerry Craig, Kady Downing, Elaine Harlin, James Lawrence, Brad Schroeder, Karen Talbott

**GUESTS:** Elizabeth James, Rich Marountas, Rose Debord, Phil Montgomery

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Elizabeth Bartz (filling in for Karen Talbott) called the meeting to order at 11:55 a.m. Introductions were made.

The minutes from the January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 were accepted as presented. Motion by John Garofalo, Second by Sandy Selby.

## **Committee Reports**

### Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 to discuss the Board meeting agenda. Additionally, the group discussed potential replacements for some retiring members and adding additional members from different sectors.

### Health and Human Services Committee

The Health and Human Services Committee met on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Since Chair Sandy Selby and Co-Chair Elaine Harlin were both out of town, John Garofalo led the meeting. Some details from the HHS meeting were highlighted and additional description was available in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Initiative Update document. The highlights were as follows:

#### Early Childhood

- Health Committee – There was a community baby shower that took place on April 13<sup>th</sup> to provide education about county resources and provide training on topics such as safe sleep, prenatal care, lead testing, immunizations, etc. This event was done in coordination with the FTF Behavioral Health Committee. The Health Committee hoped to reach 30 pregnant women and ended up having 23 RSVPs and 17 attendees. There were 11 vendors and 6 presentations. Attendees were provided either a car seat voucher or a portable crib. Text-for-Baby continues to increase in numbers. There were 56 signed up at the start of the campaign and there were a reported 248 in March of 2015. The Annual First Things First Report has been released and is on the First Things First website.
- Maternal Depression - The committee is filming a video that focuses on de-stigmatizing maternal depression through testimonials and interviews with MDN leadership. Filming

## **SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

has begun and the project will be completed in early May. Post Partum Support International Training will be taking place on May 7 and 8.

- Early Care and Education – The committee continues to promote the Transition Skills Summary with great success. 16 for Success Kits are being translated into different languages and are being distributed throughout the county.

### Older Adults

- SILC- the SILC Strategic Plan Update is set to begin in early May. ROC has been formally adopted as a SILC subcommittee and has had their first meeting (March 31). This group is working to identify previous guiding documents and revise and edit as necessary. National Health Care Decisions Day was April 16<sup>th</sup> and the group was able to do some social media around the event.
- APS – Summit County's APS collaborative received a grant from the state in the amount of \$95k for innovation to pay for crisis intervention. This grant utilizes a partnership with the Battered Woman's Shelter to provide after hours emergency visits.

### Health and Health Disparities (HHD)

- The HHD report has been completed and copies were distributed to committee members via email. The report is also available on the website. This report will help inform the Community Health Improvement Plan that the Health Department is set to update in 2015.
- SCPH has developed a YRBS (youth risk behavior study) Response Committee to address the public health implications from the findings in the recently conducted YRBS. This committee will look at internal and external partnerships to enhance and develop programming.
- Worksite Wellness – Quality of Life staff is working with external and County partners to implement and enhance wellness programming. Quality of Life Staff is working to develop a ½ day event that focuses on employee health and wellness.
- Translation Services- the Refugee Task Force has been engaged to plan a community forum that focuses on many aspects of Refugee Health but specifically with the barriers between behavioral and primary care integration.
- Community Health Workers – SCPH is looking for placements for community health workers. These workers are required to do practicums and internships and can be placed into the community.
- Gun Violence – Technical Assistance through the CDC has begun and strategies are being developed to address short and long term goals (as identified by the grant). There will be a Youth Gun Violence Community Café on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> which will target high school students to get their input on potential solutions. Summit County Public Health is also exploring additional grant opportunities

### Economic Stability and Prosperity

- IEWD held an Agency Staff Summit on March 6<sup>th</sup> at the Job Center. The event featured kickoff remarks by Russ Pry and was well attended and well received by attendees.
- Single Parents Project – This project continues to move ahead and was presented to the HHS committee on 4/16. There was a recommendation to link this project with the fatherhood initiatives going on in Summit County. Pat Divoky informed the group that there is a new coordinator of this initiative who is also the head of the Re-Entry Network Steering Committee.

## **SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

- In-Migration vs. Out-Migration – This initiative is working under IEWD and aims to increase the utilization of Ohio Means Jobs (OMJ) website to post county jobs. A survey has been developed to assess the agencies that use/don't use OMJ website and Quality of Life staff is working to identify a target audience to receive the survey.

### Budget and Levy Review Committee

Elizabeth Bartz gave the report out from the April 21<sup>st</sup> Budget and Levy meeting for which all three levy-funded agencies presented their end-of-year statements for 2014. Some highlights from the Budget and Levy meeting included:

- ADM Board will host their Recovery Challenge on May 16<sup>th</sup> 2015. Children's Services will also have an auction and DD will have their annual golf outing. All three agencies are doing a good job fundraising to supplement levy funds.
- Children's Services currently have the lowest case load of all the metropolitan cities in the state.
- DD had budgeted for some early retirements that did not occur in 2014.

### New Business/Announcements

There was some conversation around ways to promote among committee members and others what SSAB is doing. A formal communication plan needs to be developed. It was suggested that someone from the schools sit on SSAB as a way to communicate happenings to them.

John Trunk announced that the Federal government is to push state and local DD systems to a more community-based approach. The focus will be on increasing reliance on employment within the community rather than at on-site workshop businesses that are segregated from the community at large. An additional focus will be on moving away from larger-scale residential living into more decentralized, community-based residential settings. These changes will likely have a significant impact on the budget in the future, but details on the changes coming aren't yet available.

Donae Ceja distributed an Agency Project Request for the Day of Action on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Interested parties should contact Andrea Metzler.

There was a motion by John Saros (second by Sandy Selby) to commend both Gene Nixon and Bob Kulinski for their excellent service in Summit County. Bob Kulinski recently retired and Gene Nixon has announced his retirement effective June 30<sup>th</sup>. Donna Skoda has replaced Gene as Health Commissioner of Summit County and will fulfill his role on SSAB.

Mr. Phil Montgomery, a guest of John Garfalo, and also on the Board of ADM stated that there were two board positions to be filled.

*Respectfully submitted on May 4, 2015  
By Elizabeth James, Summit County Public Health*