

**SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES**

**May 2, 2012  
Akron Community Foundation  
345 W. Cedar Street  
Akron OH 44307**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Roberta Aber; Jerry Craig; Pat Divoky; Kathleen Downing; Rick Kavenagh; Connie Krauss; Robert Kulinski; James Lawrence; Nan McClenaghan; Gene Nixon; Linda Omobien; Julie Rittenhouse; John Saros; Brad Schroeder; Sandy Selby; Karen Talbott; Angela Tucker Cooper; Barbara Vassel

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

William Alford; Thomas Armstrong; Elizabeth Bartz; Michael Byun; David James; Lois Margaret Nora, M.D.; Robert Pfaff

**GUESTS:**

Gary Binns; Ali Capoun; Rose DeBord; Lisa Kamlowsky; Rich Marountas; Darlene Mims; Brian Nelsen; Mira Pozna

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Chairperson Talbott called the meeting to order at 11:52 a.m. Minutes from the January 4, 2012 meeting were approved.

**Committee Reports**

**Forum Planning Committee**

Ms. McClenaghan and Ms. Divoky reported for the Forum Planning Committee. The 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Health & Human Services Institute is scheduled for May 18, 2012 at the John S. Knight Center. This will be the first time the event is held in Akron. Six different CEUs are available.

Ms. Divoky said there may be exhibitor tables available and to contact her if interested. Ms. Omobien asked if SSAB members were also members of Community Solutions. The registration fee for members is \$30.00 and \$60.00 for non-members.

Ms. Divoky said SSAB members are not members of Community Solutions, but it was noted that individuals could get their own memberships.

Ms. McClenaghan said the 'Annual Making a Difference' event will be October 26<sup>th</sup> at the John S. Knight Center. The event includes breakfast and costs \$20.00. The theme for this year's event is, "We Are making a Difference". The planning committee is still trying to secure a keynote speaker from ABIA. In a departure from past events, the committee has decided to not seek nominations for recognition, but rather identify a way to recognize all the people at the event that are a part of the Quality of Life and Summit 2020. The group was brainstorming ideas, including pins, stickers, ribbons on

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nametags, etc. The intent is to inspire participants as well as to thank those who have contributed to the initiatives. The hope is to have "save the date" announcements at the Department of Jobs and Family Services (DJFS) exhibit table at the May 18<sup>th</sup> Human Services Institute.

Chairperson Talbott asked the members to try and attend both events to show their support.

### Executive Committee

Chairperson Talbott reported that the Executive Committee met April 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss agenda items for the full Board meeting. She asked representatives from Summit County Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) if they had any comment regarding recent public media coverage regarding a terminated employee.

Ms. Kamlowky referenced a letter that was distributed by SCDD to stakeholders in the community. The letter disclosed that the terminated employee has posted items to the Friends of SCDD website and Facebook page. The website and Facebook page are not directly affiliated with the SCDD Board as the Friends group is a ballot action committee that is not required to register with the state. The group volunteers during levy campaigns. SCDD has very little influence over the content of the pages and is researching their options in regards to the content and postings.

Ms. Kamlowky also said that SCDD requested an internal audit from the Executive's Office for the terminated employee's position at SCDD.

The full committee discussed the relationship between volunteer groups and the levy funded agencies and the potential to formalize the structure and responsibilities of such groups.

### Budget and Levy Review Committee

Ms. Tucker Cooper stated that the committee met on April 25<sup>th</sup> at the request of Summit County Children Services (SCCS) to review their request for a levy on the 2012 November ballot. The levy request is a renewal of 2.25 mills. SCCS reasoned that it was cost effective to be on the 2012 ballot as it is a presidential election year and also to avoid the 2013 ballot when the Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health (ADM) Board is currently planning a levy campaign. SCCS has engaged in cost savings practices such as contracting for clinic services through Children's Hospital. State and federal funding has been reduced for the agency and levy collections have been lower due to a decrease in property valuations. SCCS negotiated a labor contract with no salary increases in 2012, a 2% lump payment in 2013, and a 2% salary increase in 2014.

Mr. Saros added that the final agreement includes changes in the health care costs that will offset the salary increase. He also noted the development of initiatives at SCCS that put the focus on the family as a whole.

Ms. Tucker Cooper made a motion on behalf of the Budget & Levy Review Committee to recommend to County Council that the SCCS levy request appear on the November 2012 ballot.

Chairperson Talbott opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Nelsen noted the Executive's Office was pleased with the renewal request. He remarked that SCCS was consistent in their presentations to Summit County Council.

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The motion was approved by voice vote; Mr. Saros abstained from the vote.

Ms. Tucker Cooper asked the levy funded agencies to email her their year-end reports for the May 8<sup>th</sup> Budget & Levy meeting.

Mr. Nelsen suggested the agencies also provide the presentations that they gave at County Council to the committee.

Chairperson Talbott asked Mr. Craig if he had any updates on the changes to Medicaid? Mr. Craig reported on the issues of Medicaid service claims that do not pass through the board. He said that the state is ready July 1<sup>st</sup> to adjudicate claims.

The group discussion included the removal of prior authorization for partial hospitalization and the 60 day limit.

### Health and Human Services Committee

Rev. Selby reported that the committee met on April 4<sup>th</sup>. She discussed the 2012 calendar of events for the SSAB board and related initiatives. She noted that all the meetings are open to the public.

She proceeded to review the Spring 2012 report of the five Summit 2020 initiatives.

- **Early Childhood**- meets regularly ( First Things First)
- **Older Adults** – SILC has begun meeting monthly.

Ms. Divoky provided an update on the Adult Protective Services (APS) pilot. County Council has approved APS and Summit County Public Health (SCPH) to develop a pilot project for an APS model. Plans are to house some APS staff at SCPH. Currently, APS issues are handled as part of a crisis management model; however, clients often need services that go beyond the crisis phase of response. The project would team APS and SCPH staff to provide "wrap-around" services to try and meet the client's needs and avoid the crisis cycle repeating. Area Agency on Aging (AAoA) will also provide services in this pilot as a subcontractor of SCPH. She added the project has Title 20 funding through the end of fiscal year 2013.

Ms. Omobien asked about the operation of the pilot project.

Ms. Divoky said that all initial calls will go to DJFS first. If the call is referred, APS, SCPH, and the AAoA will work together to develop a care plan.

Ms. Cooper Tucker asked who would respond to the initial call?

Ms. Divoky responded that the initial responder will be APS.

- **Income, Education, and Workforce Development** – meets regularly
- **Health & Health Disparities**

Rev. Selby reported that a kick-off event is being planned for this initiative. The event will be similar to the First Things First kick-off event with a presentation and a strategic planning process to follow. Healthy Connections Network (HCN) has agreed to act as the advisory council for the initiative.

Ms. Krauss asked if ABIA was involved.

Chairperson Talbott suggested adding a representative from ABIA on the initiative's steering committee.

The group discussed the possibility of conflicting assessments of Health & Health Disparities by the planning group and ABIA.

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Mr. Nixon said any assessments made have been in sync with all parties involved. ABIA and SCPH have developed partnerships and are both tied to the Community Transformation grant as planning partners.

- **Government Efficiency and Effectiveness**

Rev. Selby noted that this work is primarily the function of the Budget & Levy Committee.

Mr. Marountas highlighted the proposed updates to the Healthy Summit website. Along with information about the five initiatives, the site would be updated to reflect the direction of Summit 2020 and Summit 2010 items would be archived. A calendar of all the SSAB and related initiative meetings was posted to the new site. After the Healthy Summit site is updated, the SSAB site will revamped and updated as well.

### Old Business

None

### New Business/Announcements

Members were asked to sign and return the Disclosure Statement for conflict of interest if they had not yet done so. The Disclosure Statement is required to be updated annually.

Ms. Divoky said that Summit County Law Director, Deborah Matz suggested the review of the SSAB bylaws as they have not been reviewed in some time. Chairperson Talbott said she would take the suggestion to the Executive Committee to establish a review group.

Ms. Capoun asked everyone to review the SSAB membership list distributed at the meeting and let her know of changes in address, phone number, email, etc.

Chairperson Talbott asked the Board to note that the SSAB July 18<sup>th</sup> meeting has been rescheduled for July 25<sup>th</sup> due to a conflict with the room reservation at Akron Community Foundation.

Ms. McClenaghan said the updated Job Seeker Guide is available for distribution.

Ms. Downing said that Summit County website has a new guide to adult services and agencies.

Ms. Tucker Cooper said that Mental Health America is sponsoring a fundraiser on May 16<sup>th</sup> and to see her for details.

Mr. Craig said that on May 24<sup>th</sup>, the ADM Board is sponsoring an event called "ADM a.m.". The event is at 7:30 a.m., includes breakfast, and will take place at St. Joe's. The event is aimed at corporate and private businesses to come out and learn about services available through the ADM Board.

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Chairperson Talbott said she recently attended a good event by the Summit Education Initiative. The event focused on networking, collaboration, and "cradle to career" planning and services.

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 25, 2012 at 11:45 a.m. at the Akron Community Foundation.

*Respectfully submitted on May 4, 2012  
by Ali Capoun, Summit County Public Health*