

Alliance for Health/Healthy Carolinians
 Full Partnership Meeting
 Wednesday, June 14, 2006
 T. R. Harris Conference Center – Cleveland Regional Medical Center
 8:30 AM.

Attendance:	Kay Yarboro	Denese Stallings	Cameron Corder
	Dotty Leatherwood	Anzie Horn	Karma Edwards
	Joan Mabry	Judy Hawkins	Rita Wortman
	Rhett Melton	William Thompson	Tom Hassell
	Raymond Hamrick	Nelson Connor	John Wasson
	Daniel Woodard	Pam Bright	Suzi Kennedy
	Ginger Norman	Penny Parker	Heather Coleman
	Sheila Peeler	Jimmy Hines	Susan Borders
	Linda Page	Krista Haynes	Lendra Phillips
	Tom Crider	Robert Miller	Brenda Street
	Ted Alexander	Ann Clary	Barbara Dover
	Vickie Wyatt		

Call to Order: 8:30 by Denese Stallings.

Topic of Discussion	Discussion	Result
<p>Program: Mayor's Task Force on Homelessness</p>	<p>Barbara Dover, Coordinator for the Mayor's Task Force on Homelessness, opened the program with role plays designed to educate the audience about the complexities of homelessness. Barbara represented the Information and Referral Service of United Way, Bonnie Koelle represented the Mental Health Association and Ann Clary represented the Salvation Army as providers of emergency assistance in the community. Three characters were represented by Jimmy Hines, Vickie Wyatt and Karma Edwards as typical of some of the individuals who are homeless. The purpose of the exercise was to illustrate the various types of individuals who become homeless and seek assistance.</p> <p>Ted Alexander spoke about the goal of the Mayor's Task Force to break this cycle by preventing homelessness. There are 24 members of this task force who meet every other month to address the issues so that people can get out of this system and begin to live independent lives. He noted that Shelby was the smallest community in the county to receive technical assistance in developing a Ten Year Plan to Address Homelessness. He stated that we all should participate in this process for humanitarian and compassionate reasons but should also consider the costs to society of homelessness. He noted that at any given time there are 80-100 individuals homeless in the county and that they fall into three categories: (1) short term homeless due to job loss, personal issues or medical reasons, (2) chronic homeless who are service resistant (about 20 in the county) and panhandlers who are typically not homeless but present as such to get money. He stated that police had tracked their interactions with one chronically homeless individual over a two year period with 90+ incidents requiring at least 76 hours of police time; he also noted that one chronically homeless individual had cost the hospital \$200,000 in medical costs.</p> <p>Mr. Alexander stated that if we had the revenues from managing the system as it functions now, we could provide housing and services for the homeless if we could recapture the hidden costs. The current system requires individuals to work through an array of services with housing at the end of the process. The strategy defined in the Ten Year Plan calls for HOUSING FIRST, with services then delivered to the homeless population. This is working in several sites across the country where it is being tested. He stated that one of the strategies that the task force is working on is the creation of a Day Center where services could be delivered to this population. The Task Force has an</p>	<p>Action: Information only</p>

	opportunity to apply for funding to hire a coordinator to work for one year on this effort and asked for the support and involvement of Alliance partners in this effort.	
Nominating Committee	Dotty Leatherwood reported the proposed slate of officers and directors for the Alliance for Health. (Copy attached) Proposed new directors with terms ending in 2007 are Nelson Connor and Susan Borders; for terms ending in 2008 are Cameron Corder and Brenda Page. Proposed directors for terms ending in 2009 are Ted Alexander, Tom Hassell, Richard Hooker, Raymond Hamrick, Cindy Borders and Sheri DeShazo. Proposed officers are Denese Stallings, Chair; Dotty Leatherwood, Vice-Chair; Richard Hooker, Jr., Secretary and Jimmy Hines, Treasurer.	Action: The proposed slate of officers and directors came from the Nominating Committee as a recommendation. This was seconded by John Wasson. The motion carried and the slate was approved.
Grant Writing Workshop	A workshop on grant writing is scheduled for Thursday, June 29, 2006 in the second floor conference room of the Cleveland County Health Department. There will be two sessions: 9:00-12:00 and 5:30-8:30. Both sessions will be led by Anne Short. The workshop is open to Alliance partners, staff members and community members; please call the Alliance office to register.	Action: Information only

Agency Sharing:

Cleveland County Health Department	Denese Stallings informed those present about an amendment to the Solid Waste Ordinance that will become effective July 1, 2006. This amendment is a Tarp Ordinance which requires anyone hauling anything in a pickup truck to cover the load with a tarp effective July 1, 2006. There will be a 60-day period in which warning tickets will be given for failure to comply; after this period, fines will be \$25 for the first violation, \$50 for the second and \$100 for the third. This ordinance is designed to cut down on the unsightly litter that blows from trucks and accounts for 50% of the roadside litter in the county. They will hire off duty law enforcement officers 10 days each month to patrol targeted neighborhoods and roads for enforcement of this ordinance. The Health Department will continue the litter prevention education program as well over the coming months.
Children's Developmental Services Agency	Kay Yarboro reported on the changes in services provided by CDSA. Formerly the Developmental Evaluation Center that served children birth to 5, new guidelines now define the target population as children birth to 3. They work with families of these children to address their special needs and at age 3, transition the child to the school system. She stated that their eligibility definitions are changing as of July 1 and they are working with the Health Department and other programs to make sure that no children fall through service system cracks.
Care Solutions	Anzie Horn stated that Care Solutions provides community case management for individuals over 18 years of age. She noted that Care Solutions will have funding for respite services effective July 1, 2006 and encouraged partners to make referrals for these funds. Individuals caring for those over 60 or individuals over 60 caring for someone are eligible for these funds.
Cleveland County Sheriff's Office	Raymond Hamrick is investigating a program called Project Lifesaver to serve individuals with various forms of dementia who are prone to wander. The individuals wear a special transmitter than can be tracked by law enforcement in case they wander away from their homes. The initial investment in this program is between \$5-6,000 and he will seek collaboration Alliance partners to purchase additional transmitters and batteries for these units. For more information, please call his office.
Fit Together Initiative	Karma Edwards reported that the Fit Together initiative is entering its third year of grant funding. She noted that the partnership between the Alliance, Fit Together and Cleveland Regional Medical Center's Spirit of Women program resulted in the Take the Step One Challenge, a county-wide walking program. The program closes on June 30; team captains have until July 12 to return their walking logs. There are 1739 individuals walking on 347 teams.
Safe Kids Cleveland County	Joan Mabry reported that members of the Coalition are concerned about proposed budget cuts to the City of Shelby's fire and police departments since these departments partner closely on injury prevention programs. She encouraged individuals to contact their City Council representatives about these proposed cuts and to attend the Council meeting on Monday, June 19. Judy Hawkins reported that they now have a brochure that highlights the various programs of Safe Kids Cleveland County and distributed copies to those present. The Coalition presented the Safe Teens Driving Program in April to Alliance partners and noted that they began distribution of the Parents Survival Handbook for New Drivers on June 1 through the Division of Motor Vehicles. Parents will be given a copy of this handbook when their child receives the learner's permit.

CRMC Cancer Center	Rita Wortman is the Cancer Community Outreach Coordinator and reported that she has received training on the "I Can Cope" program with the goal of beginning this program in Cleveland County. She noted that they are planning a men's health event in September as well as a skin cancer screening event at CRMC and Kings Mountain Hospital.
Pathways	Rhett Melton reported on the recent 34% reduction in funds which become effective at Pathways on July 1, 2006; he noted that this required a Reduction In Force involving 41 individuals and that they are working to resolve the issues that this reduction has created. He stated that authorizations for services will now be done by Value Options in Raleigh – for new child consumers in June 2006, for new adult consumers in July and for current consumers in August. The Screening, Triage and Referral component formerly was provided by a Pathways staff member answering an 800 number; the state mandated that this service be moved to a regional provider and Pathways was making plans for this transition. This now has changed and it is apparent that Pathways again will provide the service but it will be necessary to rehire or recruit staff for these positions. He asked for patience as these issues are worked through. Nelson Connor also from Pathways thanked two Alliance partners for services rendered to his family recently: Anzie Horn from Care Solutions and Suzi Kennedy from Life Enrichment Center.
Department of Social Services	John Wasson noted that the NC House is now considering legislation for Medicaid Relief that has the potential to affect everyone who provides services in Cleveland County. Currently North Carolina is the only state requiring a county contribution to Medicaid costs; the county's contribution increases about \$700,000 annually, placing great strain on the county budget. The proposed legislation would freeze the county's share at this year's level. He encouraged Alliance partners to lobby the local legislative delegation for passage of this bill.
Dover Foundation Family YMCA	Daniel Woodard reported that summer camp programs are now underway. He stated that the YMCA has a scholarship program called "We Build People" to assist families with paying for camp costs or other programs sponsored by the YMCA and encouraged Alliance partners to pursue these funds for their clients. He also noted that the YMCA has created a membership/wellness position and is currently recruiting to fill this role.
Child And Family Services - DSS	Pam Bright spoke briefly about the recent changes to the minimum standards of care especially as they relate to domestic violence and methamphetamine manufacture and use. She stated that if anyone would like to learn more about these changes that DSS staff would be glad to present them to agency staff or consumers.
Life Enrichment Center	Suzi Kennedy stated that Life Enrichment Center began overnight respite care at the Kings Mountain Center in February; they only serve adults 18 and older. She stated that they will soon close on land to build a second center in Shelby and are working with Gardner-Webb University to build a center near their campus which will also be used as a teaching site.
Health Promotion Teams	Vickie Wyatt reported that 18 churches currently have health promotion teams. The 5 th Annual Health Celebration will be on June 27 at Aldersgate United Methodist Church for these churches. She noted that she will present, along with Anne Short, a program on developing faith-based health promotion teams at the western regional health education meeting on Friday, June 16.
Hospice	Krista Haynes reminded those present that anyone can make a referral to Hospice and Palliative Care Cleveland County.
Volunteer Services, Cleveland Regional Medical Center	Ginger Norman reported that 78 teen volunteers will begin work next week at CRMC, Kings Mountain Hospital, Crawley Hospital and Cleveland Pines.
Child Care Health Consultant	Penny Parker stated that the Connecting the Dots project to assess and improve the social-emotional development of preschool children is beginning in ten child care centers across the county. This project is headed by the Maternal and Child Health Section, School of Public Health, UNC-Chapel Hill and funded by federal Healthy Tomorrows funds.
Health Education and Health Promotion, CCHD	Jimmy Hines noted that a bill was currently in the legislature to prohibit the use of cell phones by drivers under age 18. The legislation has passed in the Senate and is now under consideration by the House. The legislation is tied to the graduated license system for teen drivers. Judy Hawkins mentioned the enhanced seat belt legislation as something to be supported as part injury prevention.
Parish Nurse Ministry	Linda Page informed members about a special event sponsored by JOURNEY – An End of Life Partnership scheduled for August 22. A series of events that day will feature Donald Davis focusing on the healing power of storytelling. He will conduct a workshop in the morning and a community presentation that evening. All events will be held at Aldersgate United Methodist Church and a small fee will be charged for each event.
Access Care	Susan Borders reported that her church, Washington Missionary Baptist Church, is a participant in the Search Your Heart program. She recommended this program to other churches and stated that they have received excellent support in the events they have held at their church.
Communities in	Lendra Phillips reported that the back to school "School Tools" campaign will begin in July to

Schools provide school supplies to needy students across the county. She stated that the CIS mentoring program needed male volunteers to mentor young men and asked for volunteers/help in recruiting volunteers. She also noted that 25 teen moms in the Teen Parent program had graduated from high school this year.

Minority Health Council Robert Miller reported on the Eliminating Health Disparities grant and noted that the Minority Health Council will serve as the Advisory Board for this grant. The annual Minority Health Conference will be held in October again this year and he urged partners to consider participating in this event. He also thanked the Alliance for Health, the Cleveland County Health Department and Cleveland Regional Medical Center for their support of the Council activities.

Newspapers in Education Brenda Street, Newspapers in Education Coordinator, reported on the program sponsored by the Shelby Star.

Legislative Advocacy	<p>Because of discussion on pending legislation before the General Assembly, Chair Denese Stallings asked for motions to support three specific bills with a letter from the Alliance to our legislative delegation.</p> <p>The pieces of legislation concern Medicaid Relief, teen cell phone ban, and enhanced seat belt legislation.</p>	<p>Action: Suzi Kennedy moved and Judy Hawkins seconded the motion to support the Medicaid Relief legislation currently under consideration. The motion carried.</p> <p>Jimmy Hines moved and John Wasson seconded the motion to support the ban on cell phone use by teen drivers. The motion carried with one negative vote.</p> <p>Judy Hawkins moved and Joan Mabry seconded a motion to support the enhanced seat belt legislation. The motion carried.</p> <p>Denese Stallings as Chair of the Alliance for Health will send letters about these issues to our legislative delegation.</p>
----------------------	---	--

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Alliance for Health Partners will be on **Wednesday, September 13, 2006** at 8:30 a.m. in the T.R. Harris Conference Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Short, Recorder

James H. Hines, Jr., Secretary