

# ***McDonough County Interagency Council***

## ***Meeting Minutes***

March 19, 2008

### **Those in Attendance:**

Amanda Rentfro	Early Beginnings-intern
Rosemary John	Catholic Charities
Katie Kerr	PACT Headstart
Kathy Burdick	Birthright
Marcia Gates	Work Incentive Project
Cheryl Lefler	Illinois Coalition of Cmty Service
Sue McCance	DHS/FCRC
Patricia Bisell	Center for Individual Living
Phil Bell	American Red Cross/Radio Info. Service
Ashley German-Cooper	Family Planning Service
Kate McGruder	Early Beginnings
Teresa Pender	Bridgeway
Penni Stracker	Bridgeway
Ellie Zoerink	Macomb Schools Social Worker
Amy McCallister	McDonough County Health Dept.
Liz Knowles	McDonough District Hospital
Kathy Perone	McDonough District Hospital
Ashley Grohocki	Early Beginnings
Bradley Clark	Carl Sandburg College
Cindy Somitt	Victim Services
John Maguire	McDonough District Hospital
Lisa Fulkerson	University of Illinois Extension
Donnie Case	Maple Avenue Christian Church
Patty Swank	PACT Head Start
Jeff Applegate	Boy Scouts of America
Eric Mattson	McDonough County Housing Authority
Bill Jacobs	McDonough County Housing Authority
Ann Hicke	Guardianship & Advocacy Commission
Teresa Parks	Guardianship & Advocacy Commission
Debbie Vandemark	Volunteer NOW
Anne Lobdell	WIRC
JoAnn Hairston-Jones	WIU- Beu Health Center

### **Interagency Business:**

IAC dues are still being collected; if you have not done so yet, please give your dues to Janice Whitfield.

Two changes to the new social services directory were brought to the attention of the AIC. Big Brothers/Big Sisters & Boy Scouts of America's phone number is 563-349-8055. In addition, it should read Beu Health Center (WIU students and spouses)

## **Presenters:**

### **MDH:**

Staff from the McDonough District Hospital was present and provided information on Advocacy Services, Financial Assistance, and general information. This year McDonough District Hospital celebrates 50 years of providing services to the community.

Kathy Perone with Advocacy Services provided an overview of services available to visitors, patients, and their families. Besides safeguarding the rights of patients during hospitalization, the Advocacy Services provided include referrals to community services, information on advanced directives, discussion of discharge goals, assistance in arranging durable medical equipment, and facilitation of alternative living arrangements upon discharge. The Advocacy Services act as a liaison between the patient and the hospital administration, staff, and physicians.

Liz Knowles provided basic information on the financial assistance available for all services provided through McDonough District Hospital. The application for assistance is brief and remains in effect for 6 mo. for all services, including outpatient services. She encouraged applying for the assistance if there is any doubt about the ability to pay.

John Maguire provided an update on the ongoing renovations and explained that Home Health and Hospice services will be moving to the Passmore Building and more space on the first floor will be devoted to outpatient services. There is a long-term desire for an expansion of the Emergency Room and increasing the number of private rooms. Community referrals are welcome in the ongoing physical recruitment; provided leads will be followed-up. Also be watching for the release of hospital ratings in the media. MDH ranked above all providers for reporting categories.

### **Guardianship & Advocacy Commission**

Anne Hick and Teresa Parks provided information on The Guardianship and Advocacy Commission. The Commission was established in 1979 and is comprised of a Board of Commissions appointed by the Governor. The agency was created to safeguard the rights and of persons with disabilities through:

- Office of State Guardian- a last resort for guardianship of adults with diminished capacity after all other alternatives have been exhausted. Guardian decisions are made in regards to medical treatment, medication, residential replacement, money management, and direct care planning.
- Legal Advocacy Service- provides legal advice and representation to protect and enforce the rights of eligible children and adults as guaranteed by Illinois' mental health laws.

- Human Rights Authority- comprised of volunteers; they undertake investigations of complaints of alleged violations against disability laws.

Further information on the program may be obtained from their website at: [www.state.il.us/igacl](http://www.state.il.us/igacl) . The commission is always looking for individuals to serve on the board, if interested information can be found on the server.

Sue McCance will be making a presentation for DHS- FCRC at the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **Agency Sharing**

### ***Western Illinois University Beu Helath Care Services:***

*Re: McDonough County Social Services Guide.* Beu no longer provides services to children.

### ***Maple Avenue Christian Church, Donnie Case, Sr. Minister:***

Angel Food Ministry: Robin Russell, Director

- Accepts LINK, Personal Checks & Cash
- No Financial Restrictions
- \$30.00 for \$60- \$80 worth of food
- Order dates and distribution dates can be found @ [www.macc.ws](http://www.macc.ws)
- If you would like to volunteer contact Maple Avenue Church 309-837-9318

### ***W.C.I.C.I.L.***

Will be holding an “Open House” April 9<sup>th</sup> 1pm – 4pm at our new office location.

First Bankers Trust Building, Basement office  
440 N. Lafayette, 309-833-5766

### ***Catholic Charities diocese of Peoria***

We are now settled into our new offices at 123 S. McArthur, Macomb. We will be announcing our open house date soon.

### ***PACT HeadStart***

Please send families our way for our fall recruitment. Recruitment for our program is ongoing and our “big” recruitment is April 1<sup>st</sup> through April 11<sup>th</sup>. For questions call 309-298-3143

### ***University of Illinois Extension***

- *Kiddie Karnival*  
Saturday, March 29 10am-1pm at the YMCA Gym. Call Lisa Fulkerson at 837-3939 if you would like to have a spot to provide an activity for children.
- *Farm Safety Day*- April 17<sup>th</sup>
- *Youth Speakout*- April 24<sup>th</sup>
- *Youth Leadership Organization*- currently being developed. Let Lisa know if your organization is interested.
- *Engaging Generations*- 20 minute teaser, 90 minute session, 3 hour training

### ***WIRC-CAA Victim Services***

- April is Child Abuse Prevention Month & Sexual Assault Awareness Month

- Mock Sexual Assault Trial @ McDonough County Courthouse on April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> @7pm
- The Clothesline Project- WIU on April 17<sup>th</sup> 9-3, Spoon River College April 16<sup>th</sup> 9-3
- Rock Against Rape @ The Forum on May 9<sup>th</sup>
- Hands Around the Courthouse on April 23<sup>rd</sup> @12:15pm. At McDonough County Courthouse.
- Tree Planting Ceremony- April 30<sup>th</sup> @12:15pm (raindate May 1<sup>st</sup> @ 12:15pm)
- Blue Ribbons available- call Jessica @ 837-6622

***The Annual Mental Health Rally:***

May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Springfield, IL Capitol. Agencies and individuals interested in advocating for the rights of the mentally ill are encouraged to attend. The contact for this event is Carol Wozniowski, Executive Director of Mental Health America of Illinois and she can be reached at (312)368-9070 x 24 or at [cwoz@mhai.org](mailto:cwoz@mhai.org) to obtain information regarding the rally. Education packets and lunch will be provided prior to the outing for individuals who have registered to this event.

***Early Beginnings - "No You Can't Make Me!"***

Parenting Services for families with children under 3 will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Carthage, IL on Tuesday April 1, 8, & 15 from 6-7:30pm. Call 836-5775 to register. Children programs will be available during parenting series.

**The next Interagency Meeting will be held on**  
**April 16, 2008**  
**At 9 a.m. in the Community Room at the**  
**McDonough County Health Department**