

McDonough County Interagency Council Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2008

Those in Attendance:

Karen Melvin	Macomb City Township
Christel Van Bebber	Farm Resource Center
Marge Corwin	Farm Resource Center
Janet John	Preschool For All ROE #26
Kathy Drake	Preschool For All
Cynthia Stiffler	DHS-CHP
Donnice Hamilton	Early Beginnings/ROE #26
Kate McGruder	Early Beginnings/ROE #26
Janet Young	Spoon River College
Amy McCallister	MCHD
Jennifer Cordes	The Salvation Army
Amy Weir	The Salvation Army
JoAnna Edison	Samaritan Well
Susan Deneche	NCBHS
Rosemary John	Catholic Charities
Katie Kerr	PACT Headstart
Jessica Eden	PACT Headstart
Cheryl Blythe	FVCC
Gloria Hurh	Birthright
Eric Mattson	Housing Authority
Phil Bell	American Red Cross/ Radio Info. Services
Bill Jacobs	Housing Authority
Ellie Zoerink	Macomb District #185
Sue McCance	DHS
Janice Whitfield	WIU Social Work
Debbie Vandemark	Volunteer Now
Penni Stracker	MH Case Manager Bridgeway
Dana Kendall	Bridgeway
Teresa Pender	Bridgeway
Brian Davenport	DHS-DRS
Kathy Millard	Housing Authority

Interagency Business:

IAC dues are still being collected; if you have not done so yet, please give your dues to Janice Whitfield. Our treasurer, Janice Whitfield, will be leaving in May. She will be retiring and moving to Florida in June; however she would welcome hearing from friends in the area. Her temporary address will be 306 Prospect Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19803. Her number is 314-458-6721. She will be missed and our thanks go to her for all of her hard work and dedication to the IAC.

Donnice Hamilton stepped forward and graciously volunteered to become the new treasurer for IAC. She will be handling the duties for the remainder of the year. Thank you Donnice.

Ideas and suggestions are welcome for use of excess funds in the treasury.

Presentation:

Sue McCance, Department of Human Services

Sue provided information on the programs available through our local Department of Human Services office. She adamantly recommends we encourage clients we work with throughout the local social services agencies to apply for programs they may be eligible for. Sue points out that money, food stamps, and medical assistance provided through DHS puts money back into our local community with the purchase of goods and services. These services provide an economic stimulus to our community. The local DHS also works as a referral agency for other services available within the community.

There will be some upcoming changes to the Illinois Link Card program. Soon the local DHS office will no longer issue Illinois Link Cards; after the application is processed and the client approved they will receive their new card and PIN in the mail. Replacement cards will also be mailed and will not be available at the local office.

The local office offers cash assistance, medical benefits, and food stamp assistance through its Human Development Program and serves over 4600 people in McDonough County, with the largest number of those cases receiving medical assistance largely due to the increased eligibility of the new Family Health Plans including All Kids. Child Support Assistance and Enforcement is not offered through the local office and inquiries should be directed to the Springfield office.

Some of the assistance programs require individuals to complete volunteer services to earn the assistance. Organizations with volunteer opportunities are needed. If you have such opportunities please contact the local DHS office.

Agency Sharing

WCI/CIL

A Vision Impaired Support Group will meet on April 29th in Mt. Sterling from 10:30am -11:30am @ the Brown Co. Library

Family Violence Coordinating Council

Prevent Child Abuse Month

- Hands Around the Courthouse-McDonough Co. Courthouse Wednesday April 23rd at 12:15. Sponsored by WIRC Victims Services
- Tree Planting at Glenwood Park on April 30th at 12:15.
- Rock Against Rape @ The Forum on May 9th
- A “Survey Monkey” will be routed thru the IAC for input regarding trainings to help determine topics, interests, etc in McDonough County

Early Beginnings

- State Farm Car Seat Check will be held on May 17th from 10- 2pm at 1221 W. Jackson St. Macomb. This service is free for all McDonough County families.
- Next Child Birth Education Class will be May 3, 10, 17 from 9-1pm. Free. Please call 309-836-5775 to register.

Farm Resource Center

FRC would like to announce that we are in the building process of a suicide awareness & prevention coalition in Franklin, Williamson, Coles, Macoupin, Brown, and Hancock counties. Our goal is to educate the communities about suicide and its effects and the importance of preventing suicide. Most communities tend not to talk about suicide; we don't have a sense of magnitude of the problem. Along with the mentioned counties, we plan to branch out to neighboring counties. If anyone is interested in more information or joining our coalition, please let us know. We feel it is very important to make communities aware of the problem and that EVERYONE can play a role. Our next coalition meeting will be Thursday April 24 at 12:00 at the Hancock County Health Department, Carthage IL. For more information please call 877-633-3372.

McDonough County Health Department.

We will be hosting an open house on 5/16/08 from 1-3pm. Please stop by to see our newly renovated building.

The Salvation Army

The SHARE Food program is open to everyone and provides four meats and ten varieties of fresh produce items for only \$18.00. Contact the local Salvation Army at 837-4824 for once monthly distribution dates.

The next Interagency Meeting will be held on
May 21, 2008

At 9 a.m. in the Community Room at the
McDonough County Health Department