

**CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION
ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 6, 2009
ACOB-5TH STREET EXTENDED, ROOM B**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Leslie Beauregard, City of Charlottesville
Martha Carroll, 16th District Court Service Unit
Ralph Chester, Albemarle Citizen
 Representative
Bryan Elliott, Albemarle County
Kathleen Galvin, City School Board
 Representative
Chelsea Henderson, County Youth
 Representative
Steele Howen, Albemarle County Schools
Winx Lawrence, University of Virginia
Tim Longo, Charlottesville Police Department
Jon Nafziger, United Way Representative
Ronnie Price, County School Board
 Representative
Ruth Stone, Chair, Charlottesville Citizen
 Representative
Maurice Walker, Charlottesville Citizen
 Representative
Paul Wisman, Charlottesville Citizen
 Representative

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Rosa Atkins, Charlottesville City Schools
Buz Cox, Charlottesville Dept. of Social
 Services
Brian Hemmert, Private Service Provider
 Representative
Robert Johnson, Vice Chair, Region Ten
 Community Services
Amy Laufer, Albemarle Citizen Representative
Carolyn Lawlor, Albemarle Citizen
 Representative
Sean McCord, Charlottesville Citizen
 Representative
Jan Martin, Albemarle Citizen Representative
John Miller, Albemarle Police Department
Pat Mullaney, Albemarle Department of Parks &
 Recreation
Lilian Peake, Thomas Jefferson Health District
Kathy Ralston, Albemarle Department of Social
 Services
Hadya Abdul Satar, City Youth Representative

CCF STAFF PRESENT

Gretchen Ellis, Director
Rory Carpenter, Prevention Team Leader
Linda Rahman, Information-Outreach-Volunteer
 Coordinator
Cindy Stratton, CSA Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT

Eugene Conti, Ragged Mountain Home
Professor David Phillips, UVA

HANDOUTS (prior to meeting)

Agenda for May 6, 2009 CCF meeting
Draft of the March 4, 2009 CCF meeting
 minutes
Director's Report
CSA Monthly Program Report
Charlottesville CSA Summary Financial Report
Albemarle CSA Summary Financial Report
Juvenile Offender Study

HANDOUTS (during meeting)

Mapping Youth in our Community
Research Assistants & Interns End of Semester
 Report – Spring 2009
Smart Beginnings Year Two Highlights

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

R. Stone, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:35pm and welcomed Commissioners and public. Public introductions were made.

II. SPECIFICATION OF ITEMS TO BE ADDED AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

◆ **THE COMMISSION ADOPTED THE MAY 6, 2009 AGENDA.**

III. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments from the public.

IV. REMINDER ON DECLARATION ON CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

R. Stone reminded Commissioners on the rules regarding voting on items that could present a conflict of interest.

V. COMMISSIONER ISSUES

M. Carroll inquired about the status of the Disproportionate Minority Contact Grant. G. Ellis gave a brief background on the grant stating that the Disproportionate Minority Contact Grant was brought before the Commission at the March 2009 meeting, discussed in length and that the Commissioners agreed to go forward with the submission of the grant. M. Carroll, R. Johnson, and P. Moran volunteered to consult about the grant and staff later met with representatives of the African-American community regarding it. G. Ellis stated that when the grant was written and presented to the County Executive's Office, the County declined to submit and requested that more information be gathered to inform possible submission in 2010. Commissioners discussed a possible work group to be established to look at the minority disparities and research details and data; not only regarding juvenile offenders but other areas, i.e., graduation rates, infant mortality. L. Beauregard stated that she thought the disproportionate minority contact issue was in line with the City who is going forward with dialogue on race issues with the community. Commissioners agreed that a group of Commissioners should determine the need for a work group and, if indicated, develop a charge for the work group. W. Lawrence, R. Price, M. Walker and M. Carroll volunteered to be on the work group.

VI. MINUTES FROM THE CCF MEETING FOR MARCH 4, 2009

A motion to approve the March 4, 2009 minutes was made by B. Elliott and seconded by R. Chester.

◆ **THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE MARCH 4, 2009 CCF MEETING MINUTES.**

VII. VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER

Volunteer of the Quarter, Anthony Haro, was not in attendance for the presentation.

VIII. JUVENILE OFFENDER STUDY QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

R. Carpenter stated that he is here today to answer any questions the Commissioners may have on the Juvenile Offender Study. He stated that the study has proven to be very helpful in securing several grants for Charlottesville/Albemarle. B. Elliott inquired about Chart 16 in the study— he

stated that it showed a steady decline in the number of offenses, even when you factor out the misdemeanors and CHINS. R. Carpenter stated that he believed this was due, in part, to community efforts to reduce those numbers. M. Carroll stated that they are probably lower because judicial practices are different than what they were when the first report was completed.

IX. SMART BEGINNINGS

R. Stone introduced Jon Nafziger who presented the report on the two year highlights of Smart Beginnings. J. Nafziger gave a brief background of the initiative which is supported by the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation. Smart Beginnings created a public/private collaborative to make our community a place where children grow up healthy and arrive at school prepared to succeed. He went on to state the goals of the initiative:

- Goal 1 was to obtain affordable, accessible, quality child care;
- Goal 2 was family support – where parents recognize their role as their child’s first and most important teacher, provide safe and healthy environments, loving relationships and age-appropriate expectations.
- Goal 3 was for school/community partnerships (ready the schools and community) – welcome all children, provide seamless transitions to kindergarten and a high-quality learning environment; businesses, community services, faith-based organizations, schools, early childhood providers, community groups and local governments commit to ensure successful school readiness for all children.

J. Nafziger stated that the grant was managed by United Way and supports the Seal of Quality Child Care. In addition, the grant also supports the Arc of the Piedmont’s Early Development program, a home visiting program for our Spanish speaking community, a pre-school worker at Johnson Elementary, positions at Children, Youth & Family Services, and mentoring and support to 20+ preschools in Charlottesville.

He stated that United Way will be releasing a report on the state of school readiness locally in the next month. The report is based on the data of child care and preschool experience prior to kindergarten, school readiness indicators and PALS assessments. Reports show that children with preschool experience are doing much better than children without. He stated Smart Beginnings provides small pilot grants to work with child care directors on preschoolers transition to kindergarten as that transition period is key to a child’s success in kindergarten.

Smart Beginnings is raising the profile of early childhood development and pulling in community leaders to help generate private resources to help sustain the initiative. They recently had a successful event with the Darden and Curry schools on investment in early childhood development and have PSA’s running on local radio with the help of Leadership Charlottesville. J. Nafziger stated that the Smart Beginnings grant will end on July 31st and that they expect to only receive a quarter of the current funding. There will be a \$110,000 shortfall over the next two years. He stated that the General Assembly has not approved any additional funds but the Governor is repositioning money to help fund the Seal of Quality Child Care Program and that Smart Beginnings is looking at securing philanthropic grants.

Commissioners discussed how Smart Beginnings has a bigger impact on childcare centers than individual home providers and the necessity to reach those home providers. It is estimated that the number of children in neighborhoods is higher than the number of children enrolled in early childhood development. R. Price suggested making partnerships with Urban Vision and other programs that involve neighborhood children so that they will be included in early childhood development. R. Stone thanked J. Nafziger for his report.

X. YOUTH ACTIVITY MAPPING PROJECT

R. Stone introduced Professor David Phillips with Urban Planning at the University of Virginia. Professor Phillips stated that undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Virginia participated in the project of mapping youth in our community and that they examined indicators that were found in *Stepping Stones*. Professor Phillips presented a slide show presentation on the different types of maps the students had prepared:

- Gaining and Losing Spatial Independence – the activities spread out with the youth’s age and independence.
- A Google map indicating how activities spread out when a child moves to middle school and high school.
- Geographic Orientation, Geographic Orientation with census tracts, Geographic Orientation and block group areas
- Community Characteristics – distribution of youth in Charlottesville/Albemarle, population under the age of 18 grouped by sex, population under the age of 18 grouped by race.
- Family Structure – children in families by type of family unit within age group.
- Percent of children under six years living with two parents.
- Percent of children under six years living with only male and female parents.
- Percent of children 7-17 living with two parents; living with only male parent; living with only female parent.
- Children in families by type of family unit
- Income and Poverty – white children below income poverty line; black children below income poverty line.
- Dot density public and private school students in grades 1-12.
- Access to private schools
- Elementary schools and their districts
- Elementary students by block, elementary schools and districts
- Average time on school bus for elementary school students
- Drive time to elementary schools
- Middle school students by block
- Average time on school bus for middle school students
- Access to middle schools in Albemarle County
- High schools and districts
- High school students by block
- Average time on bus for high school students
- Drive time to high schools
- Transit – Independence – miles traveled and decisions made
- CTS bus routes and stops
- Percent of youth within ¼ mile buffer to CTS bus stops
- Accessibility to youth entertainment services, recreations centers, parks and theaters
- Accessibility to youth summer programs offered in CCF Low Cost Summer Programs
- Accessibility to Guide to Youth Service Opportunities
- Accessibility to crisis resources, faith based activities and healthcare
- Suggestions: additional resources for 29 North, Crozet and Scottsville

Full report can be seen on the CCF website:

www.ccfinfo.org/mappingyouth09_presentation.pdf

R. Stone thanked Professor Phillips and his students for their work. K. Galvin stated that she would like to see adult education, job training, and employment centers in the city mapped. C. Henderson stated that it appears resources for youth are isolated, however, W. Lawrence commented that counseling may be done in the home and therefore not represented on the map. G. Ellis stated that the Youth Development Network will be looking into youth without transportation to access what is available for these students.

XI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

G. Ellis highlighted the following items on the Director's Report:

1. Community need for day school/day treatment services – G. Ellis stated that there are four meetings set up with vendors to look at our statement of community need for day school/day treatment facilities to see how they can help us and which vendors would match what the community needs.
2. During Spring Break, the CCF staff played Bingo with the residents of Westhaven.
3. M. Porter and R. Carpenter are putting together some training opportunities – one is with Karl Dennis, a renowned speaker on Systems of Care planned for August 21st at the Doubletree Hotel. Workshops and lunch will be free. On September 8 and 15th or 15th and 29th, a conflict management training and meeting facilitation skills workshop with Bob Garrity is being planned. Information and materials will be out soon. It will be open to the surrounding counties.
4. Kudos to R. Carpenter for his work with the Summer FUNd. Over \$5,000 raised.
5. Last week's Child Abuse Prevention Forum was a great success and the best attended event to-date for child abuse prevention.
6. CURSP has submitted a letter of recommendation for a development of an advisory committee at UVa. If the advisory committee is developed the CURSP committee will cease.
7. The Celebration of Youth Service Awards was held at Charlottesville High School and our Commissioner, Chelsea Henderson, won an award

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMISSION WILL BE

July 1, 2009

IN ROOM B - ACOB5TH STREET EXTENDED

5:30pm-7:00pm