

**CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND
FAMILIES
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2006
ACOB-5TH STREET, CCF CONFERENCE ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Martha Carroll, 16th District Court Service Unit
Robert Cox, Charlottesville Dept. of Social
Services
Madison Cummings, Albemarle Citizen
Representative
Sara Dansey, Albemarle Citizen Representative
Neta Davis, Region Ten Community Services
Leslie Harris-Scott, Charlottesville Citizen
Representative
Winx Lawrence, University of Virginia
Charles Martin, Private Provider Representative
Dr. Susan McLeod, Thomas Jefferson Health
District
Kathy Ralston, Albemarle Department of Social
Services
Cathy Train, United Way-Thomas Jefferson
Area for Cathy Train
Roxanne White, Albemarle County
Dr. Paul Wisman, Charlottesville Citizen
Representative

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Brian Bills, Albemarle Youth Representative
David Bynes, Albemarle Citizen Representative
Shirley Copeland, Albemarle Citizen
Representative
Tim Heaphy, Charlottesville Citizen
Representative
Tracey Hopper, Chair, Charlottesville Citizen
Representative
Dr. Pam Moran, Albemarle County Schools
Linda Peacock, City of Charlottesville
Laura Purnell, Charlottesville City Schools
Alia Stewart-Silver, Charlottesville Youth
Representative

CCF STAFF PRESENT

Rory Carpenter, Juvenile Justice Coordinator
Gretchen Ellis, Director
Jana Glenn, Juvenile Justice Researcher
Crystal Lantz, Utilization Review Manager
Megan Oliviero, CAC Coordinator
Linda Rahman, Administrative Assistant
Cindy Stratton, CSA Coordinator
Mary Sullivan, Teen Pregnancy/STD Prevention
Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT

Jennifer Bauerle, C/A Prevention Coalition
Monica Maughlin, C/A Prevention Coalition
John Miller, Chief, ACPD
Pat Mullaney, AC Parks & Recreation
Megan Raymond, University of Virginia

HANDOUTS (prior to meeting)

Agenda for June 7, 2006 CCF meeting
May 3, 2006 CCF meeting minutes
Director's Report
Charlottesville CSA Summary Financial Report
Albemarle CSA Summary Financial Report
CSA Meeting Minutes
Recommendation to Schools for Youth Risk
Behavior Survey
Proposal for the Prevention Coalition to become
a CCF Work Group
Proposed Revised Bylaws of CCF

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

M. Cummings, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:37p.m. and welcomed the Commissioners and public. G. Ellis introduced visitors, the members of the Charlottesville/Albemarle Prevention Coalition and new members of CCF staff who were present.

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

A motion to adopt the June 7, 2006 agenda was made by S. Dansey and seconded by C. Martin.

◆ **THE COMMISSION ADOPTED THE JUNE 7, 2006 CCF MEETING AGENDA.**

III. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments were made.

IV. MINUTES FROM THE CCF MEETING FOR MAY 3, 2006

A motion to approve the May 3, 2006 minutes was made by K. Ralston and seconded by B. Cox.

◆ **THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 3, 2006 CCF MEETING.**

V. RECOMMENDATION TO SCHOOLS FOR YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY

M. Cummings introduced Mary Sullivan, the Teen Pregnancy/STD Prevention Coordinator who gave a brief background on the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, its importance and why the Commission on Children and Families should request that the Charlottesville City Schools and the Albemarle County Schools administer the survey in local high schools during the 2006-2007 school year.

M. Sullivan stated that the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) was developed by the National Centers for Disease Control in 1990 to monitor priority health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. She stated that these behaviors, which are often established during childhood and early adolescence, include:

- Tobacco use
- Unhealthy dietary behaviors
- Inadequate physical activity
- Alcohol and other drug use
- Sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases
- Behaviors that contribute to gun use, unintentional injuries and violence

M. Sullivan spoke about how the results can not only be used by communities to identify areas of need, inform policies, assess the efficacy of services and generate resources, but can be a much needed tool for seeking funding. She stated that it was the only survey recommended by Safe and Drug Free Schools program and is far more comprehensive than the PRIDE survey. She noted that the YRBS is administered state-wide in all but six states (including Virginia). It was last administered in Albemarle County in 2000 but has never been given to the City of Charlottesville students. She stated that the Charlottesville City Schools administered the PRIDE survey in 2003.

M. Sullivan stated that YRBS data would be instrumental in furthering the efforts of the Teen Pregnancy/STD Prevention Work Group, Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee, Assets for Youth Work Group, Agency Budget Review Team and the Charlottesville/Albemarle Prevention Coalition seeking funds along with measuring community-wide outcomes and ensuring ongoing prevention funding.

Due to the importance of this survey, M. Sullivan requests that the Commission endorse the administration of this survey by the Charlottesville City and Albemarle County Schools to learn the types of behaviors kids are involved in and view whether the programming that is being implemented in the community and schools is effective; this survey provides the only source of this type of information.

The Commissioners discussed in length the advantages and disadvantages of administering this survey. M. Cummings stated there would be a \$15,000 cost associated with this survey. The Commissioners addressed the following concerns of the survey:

1. The survey being age appropriate
2. The time it takes away from school work
3. The accuracy of the answers on the survey
4. Anonymity
5. Parents' objections to the content of the survey
6. The lack of seriousness by both the students and the schools
7. SHAB (School House Advisory Board) endorsing the survey

The Commissioners recommended this topic would be better to discuss when representatives of the City and County schools were present and a more in-formal approach was taken than a resolution.

A motion was made by K. Ralston and seconded by C. Train that the Commission on Children and Families endorse the idea of administering the YRBS to the City and County Schools and for the CCF Executive Committee to contact the Superintendents and School Boards to determine the best process to achieve this and offer assistance. The Executive Committee to follow up with a letter stating the background, rationale and reasons why the Commission thinks the survey would be valuable.

- ◆ **THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE IDEA OF ADMINISTERING THE YRBS TO THE CITY AND COUNTY SCHOOLS AND FOR THE CCF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO CONTACT THE SUPERINTENDENTS AND SCHOOL BOARDS TO DETERMINE THE BEST PROCESS TO ACHIEVE THIS AND OFFER ASSISTANCE. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO FOLLOW UP WITH A LETTER STATING THE BACKGROUND, RATIONALE AND REASONS WHY THE COMMISSION THINKS THE SURVEY WOULD BE VALUABLE.**

VI. REQUEST FOR WORK GROUP STATUS – PREVENTION COALITION

G. Ellis introduced the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Charlottesville/Albemarle Prevention Coalition, Jennifer Bauerle and Monica Maughlin. G. Ellis gave a brief background on the Prevention Coalition stating that in May 2001, Region Ten convened a number of professionals and community members to develop a Prevention Coalition. The group was formed with three intents:

1. To meet a state mandate for such a body
2. To coordinate and enhance substance abuse prevention efforts locally
3. To respond to a request for proposals from the Governor's Office of Substance Abuse Prevention

She stated that while much of the initial work of the coalition was focused on the grant application, there was some discussion about the structure of the coalition. In January, 2002, CCF staff made a proposal that the Prevention Coalition become a CCF work group. The proposal was rejected by the Prevention Coalition due to the belief that the Coalition should be a “grass roots” citizen based organization. In the four years since 2002, the Prevention Coalition has developed a structure, including a mission statement and by-laws and has had a small but fairly consistent core of members. However, a number of organizations involved have stopped attending and the desired “grass roots” membership has not emerged. G. Ellis stated that at this point, it would be prudent to reconsider having the Prevention Coalition become an external CCF work group focused on substance abuse prevention and is therefore bringing a proposal to the Commission for the Charlottesville/Albemarle Prevention Coalition to become a work group of the Charlottesville/Albemarle Commission on Children and Families effective July 1, 2006. G. Ellis noted the specific CCF activities and findings related to prevention and the advantages the affiliation would offer to the community. She stated that the Prevention Coalition approved the recommendation at their May 24, 2006 meeting.

G. Ellis presented the proposed work plan for the Prevention Coalition as a CCF work group:

1. Expand Coalition to include representative of current prevention programs, neighborhood groups, citizens, youth and Commission members.
2. Convene a joint meeting of all prevention-focused CCF work groups to determine scope of current efforts, overlaps and needs.
3. Utilize CCF’s needs assessment, as well as other community reports, including Drug Court and Family Treatment Court evaluations, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, PRIDE Survey, City and County citizen surveys, court and social service data, to identify and prioritize prevention needs.
4. Identify additional best practice prevention programs.
5. Calculate the financial benefit of effective prevention programs.
6. Convene local meetings/focus groups to enhance the coalition’s understanding of prevention needs and to inform the community of the benefits of prevention.
7. Conduct public awareness campaigns around critical issues.
8. Evaluate prevention programs to determine outcomes.
9. Seek funding sources to expand effective prevention programs.

Commissioners discussed whether the Coalition fit the CCF guidelines for a work group, how CCF work load would be affected, the Coalition’s by-laws and the membership of the Coalition. The Commissioners recommended having representatives of organizations, faith based organizations and youth involved if CCF proceeds with the recommendation of making the Prevention Coalition into a work group. The Chair of the Prevention Coalition spoke on how the Coalition would enhance the efforts of CCF as substance abuse is tied together with teen pregnancy/STD’s, teen violence and though these issues could be looked at separately, they were all connected to substance abuse.

N. Davis stated that the Prevention Coalition is not part of Region Ten and that she is very supportive and believes it would be in the best interest of the community to have it be part of CCF. K. Ralston raised the issue of the Prevention Coalition’s plan being very broad and believed it should be tightened up. B. Cox recommended changing the name to distinguish it from the original Prevention Coalition – possibly changing to Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition.

A motion was made by K. Ralston and seconded by B. Cox to approve adding the Prevention Coalition as a work group to the Commission on Children and Families with the provision that they change their name and work plans to reflect a focus on substance abuse activities.

- ◆ **THE COMMISSION APPROVED ADDIN THE PREVENTION COALITION AS A WORK GROUP TO THE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WITH THE PROVISION THAT THEY CHANGE THEIR NAME AND WORK PLANS TO REFLECT A FOCUS ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE ACTIVITIES.**

VII. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

S. Dansey and K. Ralston reported that the Nominating Committee nominated Madison Cummings as the FY07 Chair and Sara Dansey as Vice Chair with Charles Martin and Winx Lawrence as Members at Large of the Commission on Children and Families.

M. Cummings opened the floor for other nominations. As no other nominees were nominated, a motion was made by C. Train and seconded by S. McLeod to approve the nominations of Madison Cummings as the FY07 Chair and Sara Dansey as Vice Chair with Charles Martin and Winx Lawrence as Members at Large of the Commission on Children and Families.

- ◆ **THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE NOMINATIONS.**

K. Ralston thanked T. Hopper for her energy, intelligence and remarkable help during this past, transitional year. She also thanked M. Carroll and S. Copeland for their service on the Executive Committee. Commissioners all voiced their accolades for the Executive Committees' hard work.

VIII. REVISIONS TO BY-LAWS

R. White stated that the revisions to the CCF By-laws could not be adopted until the County Board of Supervisors and City Council approved a change to the Agreement between the City and County.

The adoption of the by-laws was tabled until the issue with the Agreement was resolved.

IX. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

G. Ellis highlighted several areas on the Director's Report for the Commissioners. She stated that the CCF office had been notified, by the Department of Justice, that the "Justice and Mental Health" grant was awarded and a functional family therapy. She noted that the Community Human Service Budget would be completed by July 1st.

M. Cummings inquired about the partnership meetings with the University of VA. G. Ellis stated that the University was looking for projects that could be coordinated with their nurses. Karen Walker, will partner with us on project for students.

G. Ellis announced that the Children Advocacy Center had the funds available to do a Cultural Proficiency training that would be available to all partner staff. The training would be six, full-day forums that would be held in September and October. Commissioners discussed the number of African American children vs. non African American children in Foster Care due to delinquency and the issues of racism that needed to be addressed. G. Ellis stated that would be a great follow-up to the Cultural Proficiency training and will speak to M. Oliviero to see about doing that next year with the available funds.

W. Lawrence reminded Commissioners on the need for summer employment for youth. G. Ellis stated that youth employment was receiving a lot of support from Urban Vision, City Schools, Parks and Recreation Department, Abundant Life, TeensGive and the City Manager's Office and that the first step is going great.

M. Cummings thanked United Way for a great job with the Youth Service Second annual Celebration.

S. Dansey spoke about the NetSmartz Internet Safety Forum CCF is having in conjunction with the Skyline chapter of the Girl Scouts and the Police at Charlottesville High School on June 29th that is open to the community. Flyers were distributed for Commissioners to distribute and help advertise. Radio ads and press releases were sent to the Hook, C'Ville and Daily Progress. S. Dansey stated that there would be one forum for younger children and one for older children. Parents would be advised of resources to contact for help with internet crimes. K. Ralston suggested developing one for the Boys and Girls Club and Chief Miller stated that the police also have programs available.

X. MEMBER'S COMMENTS

R. White congratulated Gretchen Ellis on her appointment as new Director of CCF and spoke about the hiring process. CCF is currently advertising for a Planner position.

M. Cummings and the Commissioners honored S. McLeod for her retirement from both the Health Department and the Commission on Children and Families and thanked her for her hard work and dedication to the children of Charlottesville/Albemarle County. M. Cummings acknowledged Shirley Copeland and Alia Stewart-Silvers whose terms on the Commission were also ending.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00p.m.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMISSION WILL BE
JULY 5TH, 2006
IN THE ALBEMARLE COUNTY 5TH STREET OFFICE BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM "B"
5:30pm to 7:00pm**