

**CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION
ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 1, 2006
ACOB-5TH STREET, ROOM B**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Madison Cummings, Chair, Albemarle Citizen Representative
Tracey Hopper, Charlottesville Citizen Representative
Steve Koleszar, County School Board Representative
Tim Longo, Charlottesville Police Department
John Miller, Albemarle Police Department
Pat Mullaney, Albemarle Department of Parks & Recreation
Lilian Peake, Thomas Jefferson Health District
Shaquille Thompson, Charlottesville Youth Representative
Cathy Train, United Way-Thomas Jefferson Area
Roxanne White, Albemarle County
Paul Wisman, Charlottesville Citizen Representative

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Rosa Atkins, Charlottesville City Schools
Brian Bills, Albemarle Youth Representative
Lou Bograd, City School Board Representative
David Bynes, Albemarle Citizen Representative
Martha Carroll, 16th District Court Service Unit
Robert Cox, Charlottesville Dept. of Social Services
Sara Dansey, Vice Chair, 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
Pam Moran, Albemarle County Schools
Kathy Ralston, Albemarle Department of Social Services
Rochelle Small-Toney, City of Charlottesville
Mike Svetz, Charlottesville Department of Parks & Recreation

CCF STAFF PRESENT

Gretchen Ellis, Director
Maryfrances Porter, Planner
Linda Rahman, Administrative Assistant
Mary Sullivan, Teen Pregnancy/STD Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT

Megan Raymond, University of Virginia

HANDOUTS (prior to meeting)

Agenda for November 1, 2006 CCF meeting
October 4, 2006 CCF meeting minutes
Director's Report
Charlottesville CSA Summary Financial Report
Albemarle CSA Summary Financial Report
CSA Meeting Minutes

HANDOUTS (during meeting)

World AIDS Day support card

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

M. Cummings, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:40p.m., welcomed the Commissioners and public and introduced Shaquille Thompson, the new Charlottesville Youth Representative and gave a brief background on her experience.

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

M. Cummings revised the Agenda as noted below.

III. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments were made.

IV. MINUTES FROM THE CCF MEETING FOR OCTOBER 4, 2006

A motion to approve the October 2006 minutes was tabled until the December meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

G. Ellis highlighted several items on the report:

- The quarterly CSA report will be presented at the December meeting as B. Cox was unable to attend this meeting.
- 120 people attended the Youth Networking meeting/luncheon. They were actively engaged and ready to move forward with a Steering Committee and outreach. G. Ellis spoke of the many networking instances that happened at the meeting.
- CCF continues to see a lot of activity on the website and there were 50 media events where CCF was mentioned – that is a 56% increase.
- Systems of Care survey released in partnership between CSA Committee and UVA Psychology Department. G. Ellis asked that everyone please respond to the survey as soon as possible.
- Three of the four ABRT teams have met.
- Roxanne White and Steve Stern presented the Human Service Portfolio to the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors. The Board accepted the portfolio but was concerned over what would happen if State and Federal funds were cut.
- The Secure Facility subcommittee will issue a letter of interest to gauge the interest of vendors in developing a local crisis stabilization/diagnostic/assessment center.
- The Cultural Proficiency Training registration forms will be sent out tomorrow. They will be sent out in three phases due to the large expectation of turnout.

VI. STEPPING STONES RELEASE

G. Ellis gave a PowerPoint presentation on the trends noted in the 2006 *Stepping Stones*. Trends noted included:

- The percentage of high school seniors in both localities who plan on attending a 2 or 4 year post-secondary school has increased in the past five years. The percentage has gone up to 88% in the County and 77% in the City.
- On the Grade 3 Standards of Learning tests, students in both localities have shown a steady improvement in all English, math, history and science scores.
- On the Grade 5 Standards of Learning tests, students in the County showed steady improvements in both their English and math test scores.

- On the Grade 5 Standards of Learning tests, students in the City have shown steady improvement over the past five years on their science test scores.
- The percentage of adults registered to vote in the County has increased over a seven year period. If it continues to increase, there will be a 22% increase over nine years.
- The percentage of students with limited English proficiency has increased steadily over an eight year period in the County (since 1998).
- The number of people utilizing public bus service has increased over the past nine years and is going up – even more this year.
- Teenage pregnancies have decreased in the County for six years.
- Teenage births have decreased in the County for ten years.
- Reports of school violence in Albemarle County schools have declined.
- The percentage of County children enrolled in publicly subsidized pre-schools has increased for five years. It was noted that Local funding in this area has been better than State funding.
- The number of children entering kindergarten that were identified for intervention services on the Early Intervention Reading Initiative decreased in the County and the City.
- The Food Stamp rate has increased for a five-year period in the County.
- Participation in the free and reduced lunch program has increased in the City and County over a five-year period.
- The proportion of instructional personnel to students has increased in Albemarle County over a nine-year period.

G. Ellis stated that there are four areas where trends could be seen next year:

- Enrollment in fine arts dropping.
- Juvenile arrests for violent crime in the City has been dropping for four years..
- The drop in prenatal care is now going up.
- A decrease in mobility of children attending schools.

S. Koleszar stated that he would like to see the schools work on kids staying in the same school for the entire year.

VII. REPORT ON UVA/CCF/COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE

M. Porter and Megan Raymond gave a summary on the UVA/CCF/Community Roundtable co-sponsored by the Provost's Office of Public Service and Outreach that was held on October 17. The invitees were 39 University faculty members who had been engaged recently in research or service learning with the community and invited them to attend this roundtable. Twenty-three individuals from 13 departments across UVA, plus 3 individuals from the Provost's Office, and 12 CCF and Community leaders, attended. M. Porter stated that the goal was to celebrate partnerships already underway, to connect faculty doing this type of work and to begin to think about ways to unify and formalize this type of work.

M. Porter reported that after a lunch in a relaxed atmosphere, attendees broke into 4 groups, of people from different UVA departments along with CCF staff and community members to discuss what the successes and barriers to community partnerships have been. She reported that they were then brought back together to discuss ways to move forward.

M. Porter stated that throughout the discussion, some major themes emerged, which included:

- There are a lot of partnerships already in place which are extremely beneficial for faculty, staff, and the community and there is energy among the faculty to network, communicate and coordinate activities both within the university and in the community.

- There is already some formal support brewing within the university for this type of work – as demonstrated, in part, by the turnout for the event and the Provost’s Office’s continued support – however there is more work to be done to formalize this support and build infrastructure to support partnerships.
- The faculty wants to continue to build support for, and eliminate barriers to, faculty participating in community oriented work.
- The group noted that it continues to be important to continue to break down the “town/gown” divide by working to build relationships and trust with the community – although specifically how this would be done and the role of the community was not explored.
- Several steps forward in developing a more unified and formal partnership were presented.

M. Raymond with the Provost’s Office of Public Service and Outreach stated that she was still debriefing from the roundtable but felt it was a big success – just in creating a list of people to invite, finding all the tremendous achievements across the various schools, and learning that the people who could not attend, still wanted to be in the loop.

She noted that there are many projects underway at UVA:

1. The “Double Hoo awards” support graduate/undergraduate teams conducting community research.
2. Community engaged courses. She spoke about the Student Leaders Program that Winx Lawrence created and leads and noted that it is a great model for other programs, course development grants and folding them into the university’s curriculum.
3. Communication/information sharing (Outreach VA) – engaged learning similar to what Sara Dansey and the Girl Scouts and Winx Lawrence are doing are highlighted on the UVA website.
4. CCF/Maryfrances Porter’s partnership in the Psychology luncheons.

Commissioners discussed the many areas in the community where they see the partnership of UVA and the community. M. Cummings noted that the City and County nurture the university and the university gives back to the community. R. White stated that the Human Services Portfolio could not have been accomplished without Steve Stern and the University.

M. Cummings thanked Maryfrances Porter and Megan Raymond for their report.

VIII. REQUEST FROM TEEN PREGNANCY/STD WORKGROUP FOR SUPPORT OF WORLD AIDS DAY

M. Sullivan, the Teen Pregnancy/STD Coordinator gave the Commissioners background on the work group’s request for CCF to co-sponsor distribution of an information card on the World AIDS Day and the use of condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS transmission was made by the Blue Ridge Planned Parenthood Association. She explained that there is a low rate of HIV infections in Charlottesville/Albemarle but a high rate of other sexually transmitted diseases. She stated that in 2004, Charlottesville/Albemarle had the 4th highest teen pregnancy rate in Virginia other statistics showing the increase in STD’s. She stated that she sees girls who do not want to become pregnant or have infections but feel uncomfortable discussing condom use with their partners. M. Sullivan believes that promoting condom use for World AIDS Day will help with other sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies as well.

M. Sullivan would like to distribute some of the information cards with condoms and some with ribbons. She noted that condoms would not be distributed to schools and that the Ryan White Foundation would be paying for the printing of the information cards. Commissioners discussed the pros and cons of having CCF co-sponsor the condoms with the information card. As a quorum was not present, CCF was not able to vote on co-sponsoring the distribution of the information card on World AIDS Day.

IX. MEMBER'S COMMENTS

M. Cummings encouraged all Commissioners to join a work group. G. Ellis stated that as the university puts a work group together, UVA would like a Commissioner to join. T. Longo and S. Koleszar volunteered to join the UVA work group.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00p.m.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMISSION WILL BE
DECEMBER 6, 2006
IN THE ALBEMARLE COUNTY 5TH STREET OFFICE BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM "A"
5:30pm to 7:00pm**