

**CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION  
ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 7, 2007  
ACOB-MC INTIRE, TOTIER ROOM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Bryant Bibb, Charlottesville Police Department  
Ralph Chester, Albemarle Citizen  
Representative  
Robert Cox, Charlottesville Dept. of Social  
Services  
Bryan Elliott, Albemarle County  
Hallie Freer, Charlottesville Youth  
Representative  
Jim Henderson, Charlottesville City Schools  
Gertrude Ivory, Charlottesville City Schools  
Robert Johnson, Region Ten Community  
Services  
Steve Koleszar, County School Board  
Representative  
Charlie Kollmansperger, City School Board  
Representative  
Amy Laufer, Albemarle Citizen Representative  
Carolyn Lawlor, Albemarle Citizen  
Representative  
Winx Lawrence, University of Virginia  
Pam Moran, Albemarle County Schools  
Pat Mullaney, Albemarle Department of Parks &  
Recreation  
Jon Nafziger, United Way Representative  
Lilian Peake, Thomas Jefferson Health District  
Kathy Ralston, Albemarle Department of Social  
Services  
Paul Wisman, Charlottesville Citizen  
Representative

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Leslie Beauregard, City of Charlottesville  
Martha Carroll, 16<sup>th</sup> District Court Service Unit  
Madison Cummings, Chair, Albemarle Citizen  
Representative  
Tracey Hopper, Charlottesville Citizen  
Representative  
Hannah Langlet, Albemarle Youth  
Representative  
Charles Martin, Private Provider Representative  
John Miller, Albemarle Police Department

Ruth Stone, Charlottesville Citizen  
Representative  
Mike Svetz, Charlottesville Department of Parks  
& Recreation

**CCF STAFF PRESENT**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Lisa Godwin, PFC Coordinator  
Mike and Jodie Murphy  
Megan Raymond, UVA  
Steve Stern, UVA

**HANDOUTS (prior to meeting)**

Agenda for November 7, 2007 CCF meeting  
Draft of the September 5, 2007 CCF meeting  
minutes  
PCF Annual Report – Executive Summary  
Systems of Care Executive Summary  
Engaged Scholars Executive Summary  
Director’s Report  
CSA Monthly Program Report  
Charlottesville CSA Summary Financial Report  
Albemarle CSA Summary Financial Report

**HANDOUTS (during meeting)**

PFC Annual Analysis 2006-2007

**I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

B, Elliott, called the meeting to order at 5:32pm, without a quorum present, and welcomed Commissioners and public. Quorum was reached at 5:50pm.

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

Due to a lack of quorum, a motion to adopt the November 7, 2007 Agenda was not made.

**III. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No comments from the public were made.

**IV. VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER – MIKE MURPHY**

B. Elliott and G. Ellis presented Mike Murphy with the CCF Volunteer of the Quarter. Mr. Murphy was nominated due to the incalculable amount of time he volunteers to various CCF workgroups and initiatives. Not only is he the Chair of the Family Assessment and Planning Team, but he also serves on the CSA Committee and Program Subcommittee, as well as the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee and Agency Program Application Advisory Team. He was also a long-term member of the Outcome Measurement Work Group and the Human Services Budget Advisory Team. G. Ellis stated that Mike is known for being an extremely well-prepared and involved participant in every meeting he attends. Mike is the Director of Community Attention and an outstanding advocate for local children and families.

**V. REMINDER ON DECLARATION ON CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

B. Elliott reminded Commissioners to remove themselves from voting if there is a conflict of interest.

**VI. COMMISSIONER ISSUES**

The Commissioners reviewed the invitation from the Communities of Champions regarding their November 16<sup>th</sup> event at First United Methodist Church on Jefferson. G. Ellis will be recognized for her participation in the community.

P. Moran shared with the Commissioners the “Human Rights Watch” – a national organization that is trying to engage our local community. Their website is [www.humanrights.com](http://www.humanrights.com)

**VII. MINUTES FROM THE CCF MEETING FOR SEPTEMBER 5, 2007**

A motion to approve the September 5, 2007 minutes was made by B. Cox and seconded by R. Chester.

**◆ THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE SEPTEMBER 5, 2007 CCF MEETING MINUTES.**

**VIII. PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN ANNUAL REPORT**

G. Ellis introduced Lisa Godwin, Partnership for Children Coordinator who distributed the 2006-2007 PFC Annual Analysis and gave a PowerPoint Presentation with a brief overview of who the Partnership For Children is, the partner agencies, who they serve and their mission. L. Godwin

highlighted areas in the report, spoke about the PFC's initiatives and gave an analysis of their impact. K. Ralston asked her to share with the Commissioners some of the challenges that were discovered last year and how they were overcome. L. Godwin stated that prenatal care visits had declined and that a sub-committee was formed to discuss ways to improve the consistency of referrals to their Home Visiting Programs. She stated that two multi-step phases have been outlined and sub-committee members are working on phase one steps to get a consistent process in place for screening and referral; how to develop a system that would track unmet needs; and how to fund this system. She stated that another challenge was all children in the Bright Stars and Charlottesville four-year-old preschool programs are not consistently reaching or exceeding the benchmark scores on the Pre-K PALS by the end of the pre-school year. L. Godwin stated that the Partners learned that the discrepancy in Pre-K-PALS scores was influenced by a change in the test itself. A sub-committee had been formed to look into improving linkages between the Home Visiting services and pre-school programs to ensure that children are receiving the services they need. She noted that this was not as high on their radar as the issue with pre-natal care and that the Partnership was looking into how to hook into referrals at UVA – utilizing student nurses, home visiting services, to identify high risk children and gaps in services to advise local government.

W. Lawrence inquired if UVA was represented. K. Ralston stated that it was hard to get a representative from UVA and the schools and asked if W. Lawrence had anyone to recommend. W. Lawrence stated that she would inquire. C. Kollmansperger inquired if the PFC received any information from Head Start? L. Godwin stated that they did not report the data in time for the publication of the report. Commissioners discussed the weakness in the public system to not share information; having a data depository to be able to track people through the system to see how they fair – an information system that would talk to each other and the privacy issues involved with that. G. Ellis stated that a two-year study was conducted on information sharing and the barriers involved. She noted that there is a link to the study on the CCF website. She asked Commissioners to think about what kind of information system they would like to see and the possibility of getting UVA assistance. She stated that she would get the available report to the Commissioners and information on other communities who have tried information sharing with success and put it on the March agenda. Commissioners thanked L. Godwin for her report.

## **IX. SYSTEMS OF CARE UPDATE**

M. Porter presented a PowerPoint presentation to Commissioners and gave a brief progress report on the efforts staffed by CCF to foster the development of a local SOC for Charlottesville/Albemarle children. She reported that the SOC is essentially a philosophy, with a set of core values and principles attached, which can be used to guide service provisions for children with significant mental health needs and their families. M. Porter reviewed the core values and principles and how SOC works. She reported that the research of local service providers in the Fall of 2006 resulted in the following recommendations coming out of the CSA Committee:

- Holding community-based SOC trainings
- Understanding the limits of local service array
- Improving family participation in policy/administration
- Facilitating culturally competent service provisions
- Developing on-going SOC assessment

M. Porter stated that a Leadership Team was convened to address these recommendations and promote the development of a local SOC. The SOC Leadership Team adopted the following short term goals:

- Be champions/ambassadors of SOC philosophy
- Develop the Leadership Team

- Study best practices in other communities
- Identify local unmet needs, gaps and barriers

And intermediate/long term goals:

- Make recommendations about how to improve the local SOC
- Develop consumer/provider knowledge of the service array
- Develop provider cultural proficiency
- Make recommendations regarding a SOC structure

Commissioners inquired about who the members were on the Leadership Team. G. Ellis stated a list would be emailed to the Commissioners. Commissioners discussed how other communities were operating.

## **X. ENGAGED SCHOLARS UPDATE**

M. Porter gave a brief history of the Engaged Scholars' Work Group noting that this time last year a roundtable was convened of faculty partnering and community folks in community-based research. The roundtable voiced a desire to develop a work group to explore what kinds of formal infrastructures would be needed to support this work. Thus a work group was convened in February. M. Porter stated that there is a work group at the University called the Future of the University Commission and that these two work groups pulled together their research to date and wrote an Interim Report that was submitted to the University and to the Commission this evening for review.

M. Porter stated that the report states three things:

1. The work group recommends the development of a formal office of community-university partnerships.
2. The work group requests that an upper-level administrator at UVa request a final report from the Engaged Scholars and appoint staff to the work group.
3. A network of partners be built to demonstrate the wealth of interest in an office of community-university partnerships and to continue networking and joining together people already doing this work.

M. Porter stated that starting in January, the work group would like to change their name to the "Community University Research and Service Partnership Work Group". They are asking faculty, community agencies and residents to sign the Declaration, they will be developing a Steering Committee of 50% faculty and 50% community agencies/residents to advise any additional research and process of pulling together a final report; and developing an Executive Committee of the Steering Committee members to meet regularly to do the actual report writing.

She stated that today, she is asking the Commission to comment on and accept this Interim Report, approve the reorganization and renaming of the work group, sign the declaration on behalf of CCF and for each Commissioner to take a copy of the report and the declaration and either sign it on behalf of themselves as an individual or bring it back to their organization to sign on behalf of the organization.

M. Raymond, with the University of Virginia, spoke about how their work fits in the big picture and what they are looking for in an infrastructure/network. P. Moran stated that there is a center for creation and innovation at UNC which partners with local schools that the Committee may want to investigate.

A motion to accept the Interim Report, approve the reorganization and renaming of the work group to the "Community University Research and Service Partnership Work Group" and for the

Chair of the Commission on Children and Families to sign the declaration on behalf of CCF was made by S. Koleszar and seconded by R. Chester.

- ◆ **THE COMMISSION ACCEPTED THE INTERIM REPORT, APPROVED THE REORGANIZATION AND RENAMING OF THE WORK GROUP TO THE COMMUNITY UNIVERSITY RESEARCH AND SERVICE PARTNERSHIP WORK GROUP AND APPROVED THE REQUEST FOR THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO SIGN THE DECLARATION ON BEHALF OF CCF.**

## **XI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

G. Ellis highlighted areas of the Director's Report noting:

- The Juvenile Justice Coordinator met with Ed Bowman, Post Dispositional Coordinator of Reenrollment Regulations. She stated that big changes should be seen on how we provide services.
- She reported that CCF has received a tremendous amount of media coverage lately and that the media is contacting CCF for expertise. CCF is looking into doing a newspaper column for the Daily Progress.
- The Agency Budget Review Team received applications from 26 agencies representing 54 programs.
- A Truancy Case Manager has been hired to work with Elementary school students.

K. Ralston inquired about the release of *Stepping Stones* – G. Ellis reported that it should be printed soon. B. Cox inquired about any recent reports on the Functional Family Therapy; G. Ellis stated that there would be a progress report in January's Director's Report and if there was time, the Commission would hear a report from them January.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMISSION WILL BE**  
**JANUARY 2, 2008**  
**IN ROOM "B" - ALBEMARLE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING – 5<sup>TH</sup>**  
**STREET EXTENDED**  
**5:30pm to 7:00pm**