

Audubon Area Community Services
Community Services Committee Meeting

MINUTES
March 18, 2008

The meeting at the Elizabeth Munday Senior Center was called to order at noon.

Committee Member Present:

Ms. Norma Brown
Rev. David Combs

Ms. Daisy James
Rev. Jesse Johnson
Mr. Jerry Manning

Mr. Tom Platt
Ms. Jaime Rafferty

Staff Present:

Robyn Mattingly, Senior Service Corps Director
Cathy Lamar, Counseling Services Director
Terry Payne, Chief Financial Officer
Judi Whitney, Recorder

Programs' Financial Report

Mr. Payne reviewed all the respective program budgets under the oversight of the Community Services Committee. The CFO reported that, overall, the respective programs' budgets were in pretty good shape.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT AND BUSINESS

Counseling Services.

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Ms. Lamar began by informing the Committee that LIHEAP Crisis Component was now at an end. The Crisis Component provided \$483,734 in direct assistance to low-income-eligible families in the Green River Area. With the \$363,053 provided in Subsidy Component benefits prior to Christmas 2007, 6,793 families received a total of \$977,668 in heating assistance benefits was provided this LIHEAP season. Additional funds badly needed and hoped for, but were not allocated.

Ms. Lamar advised the Committee that the FY2008 LIHEAP monitoring visit by staff from Community Action Kentucky would occur April 23rd. Angie Ditch, CSBG office manager, is working on gathering materials called for by the LIHEAP monitoring tool.

Community Services Block Grant. Ms. Lamar informed the Committee of CSBG Supervisor Vikki Embry's resignation, effective March 18, 2008. She advised the Committee that in the short run the position would not be filled, as she would handle those responsibilities at least temporarily. Too, Ms. Lamar advised that her current priority was the completion of the CSBG FY2009 grant proposal.

There are, in fact, a number of refunding proposals due for completion within the Counseling Services Department...

By unanimous consent of the members present, the Committee agreed to recommended Board approval of the four grant proposals — the CHFS-funded FY2009 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), the FY2009 Senior Community Service Employment Program (Title V), and FY2009 Family Preservation/Family Reunification Program, and the DJJ-funded FY2009 Middle School Conflict Resolution Program.

Senior Community Service Employment Program (Title V) Monitoring. Ms. Lamar discussed the Cabinet for Health and Families' monitoring visits. The Title V monitoring visit held on March 3rd.

There were areas which needed improvement, but Ms. Lamar stated there was always room for improvement.

Kentucky Intensive Services Program (KISP) Monitoring Visit. Three KISP monitoring visits are scheduled in April, said Ms. Lamar. Staff from the Department of Juvenile Justice will visit Owensboro April 16th, Lexington April 23rd, and Louisville, April 24th. Ms. Lamar said that Sandy Free, assistant director of Audubon Counseling Services, has attended KISP site visits before and that she was prepared for the upcoming ones.

Family Preservation Program Supplemental Services Grant. Ms. Lamar also informed the Committee about the Green River expansion grant for the Family Preservation Program (FPP) services. That expansion grant was awarded to an agency in Bowling Green, so at least between now and July 1st there will be two entities providing FPP services locally. Ms. Lamar said that she is planning for and working on the July 1st proposal to provide all the Green River area FPP services.

Senior Service Corps.

FY2008 Senior Service Corps (SSC) Programs' Revised Budgets. Ms. Mattingly reported revisions in the budgets for Foster Grandparent Program (FGP), Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and Senior Companion Program (SCP). She explained that these revisions were necessitated by the FY2008 federal Appropriations Bill requirement for percentage budget reductions from grants already awarded. She informed the Committee on the ways in which the respective budget had to be adjusted to comply with the Corporation for National Service-mandated grant reductions. She asked for the Committee's approval of the revised FY2008 budgets.

Ms. James moved to recommend Board approval of the revised FY2008 budgets for FGP, RSVP, and SCP. The motion was seconded. Motion passed.

SSC Service Summary. Ms. Mattingly also handed out packets which broke down the numbers—clients and volunteers for the year.

United Way 2008/2009 Funding Requests. Ms. Mattingly discussed the funding requests sent to the local government and to United Way. She said that she hadn't heard back from the Henderson United Way. The City of Owensboro allocated its FY2009 funding for senior programs to the United Way of the Ohio Valley, which is now in charge of city allocations. There will be *no changes* this year, she said, but only for this year. The funding **may** continue after this year, but there is no assurance of that.

2008 Economic Stimulus Package. Ms. Mattingly briefly discussed the economic stimulus package and her programs' efforts to assist seniors to file to receive that benefit. The RSVP program is working to assist seniors with 2007 tax preparation. The IRS stimulus package is causing more people to file taxes because they won't receive the stimulus benefit unless they file in 2007, she said. Ms. Mattingly announced several Saturdays in March will be designated for taxes and for those wanting to file for the stimulus package.

SCP Receives Governor's Award. Ms. Mattingly also announced that the Governor's Award has been given to the Audubon Area Community Services Senior Companion Program.

Next Meeting. The next Committee meeting is set for May 20th at 12:00 p.m. at the Elizabeth Munday Center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Rev. Jesse Johnson
Committee Chairperson