

Audubon Area Community Services
Community Services Committee Meeting
MINUTES
March 17, 2009

The March 17 meeting of the Community Services Committee was called to order at noon at the Senior Service Corps' Training Room in the Elizabeth Munday Center, Owensboro, by Rev. David Combs.

Committee Member Present:

Rev. David Combs

Ms. Henrietta Taylor

Staff Present:

Ms. Cathy Lamar, Counseling Services Director

Ms. Robyn Mattingly, Senior Service Corps Director

Mr. Bryon Mayes, Chief Financial Officer

Ms. Judi Whitney, Recorder

Financial Report. Mr. Mayes presented the February financial updates. He distributed handouts which covered the programs under the Committee's oversight. He explained the new report form he used, called the Federal Financial Report. He discussed each fund/program's expenditures relative to each one's year end and the balance of funding left for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Mr. Mayes also discussed the Budget Performance Report that demonstrates the expenditures spent to date by FPP/FRP/FPS and CSBG programs. Senior Services expenditures by program were also included in his report.

The report was approved without objection.

Board Member Resignation. Ms. Lamar reported that word had been received that Mr. Dudley Atwell, recently elected District VIII Consumer Representative, had asked to be replaced on the AACCS Board. There is no alternate for that seat, so the District VIII Board seat is now vacant. The subject of his replacement will be checked with Mr. Logsdon.

NEW BUSINESS

Program Updates and Committee Oversight...

Counseling Services

2009 Federal Poverty Guidelines. Ms. Lamar began by informing the Committee of the new 2009 Poverty Guidelines now in effect. Since the guidelines have changed to allow for slightly more income, more lower income families may be eligible for assistance, she said.

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) "Stimulus" Funding. Ms. Lamar informed the Committee of the agency's CSBG "stimulus" funding, which will be available April 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. The agency expects to receive \$775,991 to \$783,829, depending on whether the state opts to take its allowable 1% share for administration. The agency will conduct a meeting for potential CSBG "stimulus" partners on Thursday in Owensboro, March 19th. Social service agencies from the seven counties will meet to brainstorm and collect ideas on how the money should be used in the communities. Ms. Lamar distributed handouts which better explained the areas in which the CSBG money could be spent. Any non-profit organization is invited to attend and contribute to the brainstorming discussion,

submit proposals to subcontract various services and partner with AACS in the CSBG portion of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act initiative.

Volunteers In Service To America (VISTA). Ms. Lamar gave an update on the AmeriCorps*VISTA program. There is one AACS, Inc. VISTA slot open — at the Neblett Center, she said. Ms. Lamar said that she has a likely candidate who is waiting to be interviewed for the position.

Weatherization Assistance Program. Ms. Lamar reported that the AACS Weatherization program also received a substantial funding increase from the Stimulus Package. Applications are taken by her staff and other agency departments/programs to help low-income families' access weatherization services for their homes. Everyone who might be eligible, i.e., those with incomes up to 200% of the federal poverty level, is encouraged to complete a Weatherization application.

Family Preservation Program (FPP) — Program Supervisor's Leave of Absence. Ms. Lamar informed the Committee of the leave of absence for the FPP program supervisor, Ms. Sandy Free, whose expected return date of return to work is April 27th.

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) — Crisis Component. Ms. Lamar explained that additional money has been funded for the 2009 Crisis Component of the LIHEAP program. The available LIHEAP money must be obligated by March 31st. A Community Action Kentucky monitoring visit for the AACS LIHEAP program is scheduled for May 12th, she said

Ms. Lamar asked if anyone had further questions. There were none.

Senior Service Corps.

Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) Monitoring Visit. Ms. Mattingly announced that the Corporation for Community and National Service (CNCS) Kentucky State Office would make a FGP monitoring visit April 22nd through April 23rd. She asked that Rev. Combs be available in case the CNCS monitor wanted to interview a Board committee member.

Senior Service Corps 2009 Strategic Plan. Ms. Mattingly discussed the Senior Service Corps' (SSC) Strategic Plan for 2009 in which volunteers are to be recruited and added to each SSC program — Foster Grandparent Program (FGP), Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), and Senior Companion Program (SCP). She noted, however, that the Food Pantry in Ohio County was no longer an RSVP volunteer station. Their Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was not executed for the new year. Work will continue to increase the volunteer base, she said.

Staff Commendation. Mrs. Mattingly recognized her department's Support Service Manager, Beth Russelburg, for her diligent efforts when preparing SSC's funding requests and updates.

Senior Service Corps Volunteer Recognition. The Senior Service Corps' Volunteer Recognition is planned for May 1st, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. It will be held at Blessed Mother Parrish Hall in Owensboro for all SSC volunteers.

2008 SSC Report Summaries. Ms. Mattingly distributed a handout which had the year-end SSC programs' reports.

Possible Senior Service Corps Legislative Changes on the Horizon. Ms. Mattingly also discussed certain anticipated legislative actions of concern which would make some changes in eligibility for SSC volunteers, by lowering the age limit, but also present a possibility that SSC funding will come under a *competitive bid process*. Another issue of concern is that SSC program oversight may be transferred from the Kentucky State Office, Corporation for National and Community Service to the state volunteer

commissions. Finally, there are contemplations that CNCS might opt to utilize the state commissions for volunteer services as the vehicle for the distribution of SSC funds.

OTHER BUSINESS

Board Training. It was noted that Board Committee had been asked to include a training segment on the agenda for each committee meeting to discuss training and responsibilities of the Board members. However, there was nothing the staff had to report this meeting.

Next Committee Meeting. The next Committee meeting is set for May 19th at 12:00 p.m. at the Elizabeth Munday Center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Rev. David Combs
Chairman