

SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

January 28th 2015
Akron Community Foundation

MEMBERS PRESENT: Roberta Aber, Dottie Achmoody, Julie Barnes, Elizabeth Bartz, Donae Ceja, Jerry Craig, Pat Divoky, Kady Downing, Richard Enty, John Garofalo, Elaine Harlin, Rick Kavenagh, Connie Krauss, James Lawrence, Brian Nelsen, Gene Nixon, Linda Omobien, John Saros, Sandy Selby, Karen Talbott, John Trunk

MEMBERS ABSENT: Malcolm Costa, Pete Crossland, Ken Douglas, Nan McClenaghan, Brad Schroeder

GUESTS: Donna Skoda, Elizabeth James, Rose DeBord

Chairperson Talbott called the meeting to order at 12:03 a.m. Ms. Talbott welcomed John Saros as a new Board member to the group and introductions were made all around.

The minutes from the October 1st 2014 were reviewed and approved as presented.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on January 21st, 2015 to discuss the Board meeting agenda. Additionally, Elaine Harlin was recommended to replace Angela Tucker Cooper as the Health and Human Services Committee Co-Chair. This appointment was approved by voice vote.

Budget and Levy Review Committee

Mr. Kavenagh stated that the next Budget and Levy meeting will be on April 21st, 2015 and will be the first for the year. This is a non-levy year. Mr. Kavenagh also stated that all levy-funded agencies finished ahead of budget in 2014.

Health and Human Services Committee

Ms. Selby reported that the committee met on January 15th 2015. Highlights from the meeting are as follows:

APS Grant Opportunities – The state has received 10 million dollars; the county only gets \$23,000 currently to do APS activities. Costs are offset by Title XX dollars. The state is allocating funds for three different grant projects: Planning grant for up to \$50,000 to complete a plan in segments (\$10,000 awarded for each part of the plan completed); Capacity grant for \$35,000 to build technical and connectivity capacity. Summit County currently uses the OnBase system and hopes to be able to use these funds to add some additional functionality; An innovation grant for up to \$150,000 to meet five core competencies.

The Respecting Options of Care program, which began under leadership from Summa and Neomed, is proposed to be transitioned under SILC after the next SILC meeting. This group has been working on strategies to implement The Conversation Project which works with individuals to promote designating end of life decisions before one becomes too ill to do so. A document

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developed by Judge Stormer was distributed among the group as a resource. Summit County Public Health will serve as the administrative agent on this project.

There will be a White House Conference on Aging on April 27th in Cleveland. This forum will gather public testimony around the issues facing older adults. More information can be found on www.whitehouseconferenceonaging.gov

Donna Skoda provided the Board with brief Summit County Public Health updates. These included a description of the transition of work from ABIA to SCPH. The Health Department, in order to accommodate this work, has created a new health equity unit. Funding has been secured through the Ohio Department of Health (\$400,000), American Planning Association (up to \$150,000), NACCHO Health in All Policies (\$10,000) and Million Hearts (\$10,000) and interviews have commenced to find an Assistant Director to oversee the work. Summit County Public Health continues the partnership with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement Leadership Alliance. Local representation includes the three hospital systems, three local universities and the FQHC. This group receives technical assistance for the Accountable Care Community. A pilot project that has been identified is looking at bi-directional referrals for diabetes.

Pat Divoky presented about the Summer Youth Program and its utilization of the Soft Skills curriculum. There were a total of 1,235 students that got a paycheck from the county during the summer who had completed the Soft Skills Curriculum. This curriculum was developed in partnership with Akron Public Schools.

In partnership with Summit Educational Initiative, IEWD hosted a conference in November with school guidance counselors (90 total) about workforce issues. Guides were presented that can be implemented into school activities to assist young adults in obtaining employment upon graduation. There was representation from most county schools although Akron Public Schools was part of the planning committee and has most of the representation.

Jerry Craig gave an overview of current happenings in the area of behavioral health. The Youth Risk Behavioral Survey has been completed and the full report has been released. Some statistics from the report were disseminated to the group. Funds saved from the implementation of Medicaid Expansion have allowed ADM to release \$840K in RFPs to the community to look at preventative services. This money includes \$10 – 5K mini grants for schools to engage families, \$1 – 140k grant to look at family engagement linked to treatment as it is known that family involvement leads to greater success, \$1 – 325k grants that look at emotional wellness and suicide prevention, identification and education and another \$175k in youth led prevention programs. ADM and SCPH will look at doing another YRBS in a few years to measure change and potential impact of interventions.

New Business/Announcements

There is a new initiative in the county based off a pilot happening in Cleveland about skills-based hiring. This program will look at the actual skills needed for particular jobs and how to get employers to screen applicants based on those skills instead of academic achievement. Sue Lacey at Akron Community Foundation, in partnership with United Way, will be the lead on this project. More information will be sent out as it becomes available.

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Doug Lumpkin has been appointed by Gov. John Kasich as the director of the Office of Human Services Innovation. He is charged with improving assistance for the poor and looking at ways to cut costs. Goals include looking at workforce issues and helping people out of poverty so that they no longer rely on public assistance. Mr. Lumpkin will be in Summit County on March 2nd to talk to community representatives so Pat Divoky may be reaching out to some to include in this conversation.

A new Quality of Life contract will be considered in the coming weeks.

The SSAB proposed Committee structure for 2015 was presented. Motion by Roberta, second by Sandy to accept. All approved.

*Respectfully submitted on February 11, 2015
By Elizabeth James, Summit County Public Health*