

Barrier Busters—A Project of the HSCC Adults Action Group

September 29, 2004 555 Towner St., Ypsilanti, MI
1:30pm—3:00pm

BB Attendees: Mary Beth Lampe, Kim Thompson, Pat Parker-Self, Julie Steiner, Kathy Reynolds, Ellen Rabinowitz, Jenny Bivens, Beth Manuel, Jodi Trisdale, Lynda Marion, Jennifer Zynda (for Ruth Shabazz), Mel Batkins, Hannele Waissi, Caton Gauthier, Edwina Jarrett, Doug Plant, Paul Sher, Monica Tijerina

Public: Jeremy Nelson, Laurie Carpenter, Helena Prince

Meeting Convened: 1:30pm

I. Welcome/Introductions:

- Meeting begins with a brief welcome and introductions.

II. Public Comment

- No Public comment at this time

III. New Business:

A. Leadership Committee Update

- Kathy Reynolds updates on the status of the Barrier Buster Unmet Needs Fund and the developing Eviction Reduction Fund. The group goes over the one pager that explains the eviction reduction fund process. The Eviction Reduction Fund will be started through the Washtenaw County \$100,000 Challenge Grant. This fund can also be accessed to help people in mortgage foreclosure situations but it will be very important to do the financial counseling etc for people in this situation.
- There is an idea to see if the on-line application system can have a place to mark if people have completed their financial counseling requirement.
- Monica will work with Friends in Deed and the Washtenaw Health Plan to develop a sheet that people sign to agree to repayment when appropriate.
- There will have to be some type of training with landlords about the appropriate times to access this fund. Paul Sher agrees to help draft an agreement for landlords who wish to participate to sign. Paul will also check on the law details of requesting that money used to pay deposits be returned to the fund.

B. Barrier Buster On-line Application

- Jeremy Nelson from WCHO/Encompass gives a demonstration on how Barrier Busters will make request for funds through an electronic process.
- There is a reminder that all releases are assumed good for one year. Also, the release should be updated to include specific information that informs that information will be entered and shared on an electronic database. Also, in addition to listing the agencies that currently serve as Barrier Busters, the release should also allow for sharing of data with new agencies that become Barrier Buster agencies after the release has been signed. NOTE: a phone release with a witness is acceptable.
- Monica will set up a Barrier Buster training so that all Barrier Busters will know how to request funds via the electronic system. This training will take place on October 27th from 1:30-3:30pm location TBD.

IV. Old Business:

A. Old Business

- No items at this time

V. Announcements and Updates:

VI. Wrap Up and Next Steps

- In addition to our regularly scheduled November meeting, we will meet on October 27th from 1:30-3:30 (extended two hour meeting) for a training on how to use the on-line request system. Location TBD.

Adjourned 3:00pm