

Barrier Busters Network Action Group

April 27, 2005, LLRC

1:30pm—3:00pm

BBN Attendees: Joan Doughty, Patricia Parker Self, Beth Manuel, N. Price Reed, Mel Batkins, Peggy Johnson, Harriet Bakalar, Chris White, Frank Cambria, Ann Rogers, Katie Doyle, Helena Prince, Mary Beth Lampe, Bobbi Kolluniak, Terri Wadsworth, Amity Walter, Mary Hewlett

Co-Chairs: Paul Sher, Lynda Marion, Cynthia Maritato

Staff Present: Mike Scholl, Staff Coordinator HSCC

I. Welcome/Introductions:

- Meeting begins with a brief welcome and introductions.
- Agenda and minutes approved as presented.

II. Public Comment

- No Public comment at this time

III. HSCC Update and Introduction: (Frank Cambria)

- Frank Cambria, Chair of the HSCC, addressed the Action Group on behalf of the HSCC.
- State Government has adopted a Barrier Buster process, which is testament to the work that we have done to create real system reform.
- The BBN Action Group needs to take a look at the process and begin to identify possible barriers for the State Barrier Buster process.
- The group should seek a dynamic relationship with the HSCC.
- We are not stuck or limited to how we currently do things; we can and should identify areas for improvement and change.
- The relationship is interactive and we should work to provide recommendations to the HSCC on solutions and broad system reform.
- Frank is working with the local banks to solicit funds for the Barrier Busters program. Many of the banks have already given money to the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation for that purpose.
- He is also working with Diana Kern, McKinley Properties, and the local Apartment Owners Association to get contributions.
- Frank promised to get a list of donors and send it to the group so that we can assist in obtaining donations.

Barrier Busters Network Action Group

- The Barrier Busters Network should focus on broad system reform.
- The program is a huge public good but it needs to be about the network and not simply another pot of money to draw from.
- Frank indicated that he looks forward to working with the Action Group and will be following the progress closely.

IV. Barrier Buster Work Plan

- The Action Group will need to complete a work plan that outlines its areas of interest along with outcomes and actions that the group will take in the coming months.
- There has been a lively discussion on the focus and purpose of the Barrier Buster at large.
- In light of the new relationship with the HSCC, it is important to really begin to think about what the group wants to take on.
- Because the group is relatively new to this process, Mike Scholl volunteered to put together a discussion draft work plan for the next meeting.
- However, a couple of pressing issues should be addressed but are not limited too the following:
 - 1) Centralized response systems for consumers and improved case management services.
 - 2) Eviction reduction, the Barrier Buster Network Staff is identified as a convener for the Blueprint to End Homelessness.
 - 3) Improved transportation for Human Service consumers.
 - 4) Discussion of the ACCESS qualifications, mental health issues.
- The work plan serves as the basis for the activities of the group and is used as a tool to guide the group in its activities.

V. Ann Arbor Transportation Authority Discussion

- Chris White from the AATA discussed some shared issues with regard to human service bus line.
- Transportation funding is based primarily on use and not as much on need.
- This is important when we look at populations that do not have access to automobiles or the transportation system.
- It is much cheaper to provide bus lines than door to door transportation services.
- AATA is very interested in working with the Barrier Busters Network to identify pilot projects for improved human service transportation networks in the county.
- We will need to review the existing information.

Barrier Busters Network Action Group

- Chris White was invited to join the Barrier Buster Network Action Group.
- Some work had been done as part of the Adult Action Group, the information needs to be located and will be discussed at future meetings

VI. Announcements and Updates

- Please remember to ask the consumers if they are a veteran, additional services are available if they are.

Adjourned 3:30 pm

***The Next Meeting is scheduled for
Wednesday, May 25 - 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm @ LLRC Room A***