

Barrier Busters Network Action Group

Barrier Busters Network
March 23, 2005, LLRC
1:30pm—3:00pm

BBN Attendees: Diane Davidson, Dawn Vogel, Patricia Parker Self, Carolyn Hastings, Lynda Marion, Mel Batkins, Peggy Johnson, Paul Sher, Kathy Reynolds, Jennifer Renkema, Jill Williams, Katie Doyle, Helena Prince, Julie Steiner, Jennifer Bam , Mary Beth Lampe, Susan Gialanella

Staff: Mike Scholl – Interim Coordinator HSCC

Meeting Convened: 1:30pm

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. New Business:

A. Barrier Buster Fund Update: (Mike Scholl)

- The fund will be adding \$20,000 from the county for use countywide. The funds should come online in 7 to 10 days. You will receive an email when it is made available and posted.
- The Department of Human Services (DHS) has agreed to contract with Barrier Busters for release of their emergency service funds.
 - Mike Scholl is interested in working with a small subgroup of the Barrier Busters Network to review the contract requirements.
- The fund was also awarded \$15,000 from the County CDBG application.
- The fund also was awarded \$25,000 from the Council of Michigan Foundations, Homeless Prevention Challenge for eviction reduction & prevention.
- When these and other funds come online, an email will be sent to the listserv.

B. Reorganization Plan (Mike Scholl)

- As part of a broader reorganization with the Action Groups of the HSCC, there was a proposal to make Barrier Busters Network a full Action Group of the HSCC.
- Underlying the reorganization is the need to reemphasize Barrier Busters as a Network of Human Service agencies and not simply a fund, please keep that in mind as we move forward.

Barrier Busters Network Action Group

- As an Action Group, the Barrier Busters Network would have a broader policy focus. Some of the issues may include data collection from zero auto households for a human service bus line in Washtenaw County as well as other strategies around reducing poverty. The HSCC outcomes that, tentatively will be addressed by the Action Group are:
 - Decrease the number of adults living in poverty. (Outcome II-B)
 - Provide comprehensive public transportation that meets the needs of transit dependent populations. (Outcome II-C)
- Cindy Maritado, the new County Director of the Department of Human Services has tentatively agreed to be the HSCC co-chair along with Paul Sher and Lynda Marion.
- The motion to accept the reorganization proposal was moved and carried by unanimous consent.

IV. Old Business

A. Guidelines Subcommittee

- The guidelines subcommittee met for a preliminary discussion on creating some basic guidelines for Barrier Buster Network participants.
- In the interim, we will begin reviewing cases on a monthly basis at the Barrier Busters Network Action Group meeting.
- There was a discussion around a case where a consumer attempted to inappropriately cash a check. We will be discussing ways to red-flag those cases to prevent future attempts at fraud.
- It was suggested that for auto repairs we should wait until repairs are complete and reimburse the repair shop. The motion was tabled for lack of support.
- The group is scheduled to meet again on Wednesday, April 13 – 1 pm @ the LLRC.

B. The Outreach Subcommittee

- The subcommittee will continue to meet to discuss ways to coordinate services among non-network agencies.
- Periodic updates will take place

V. Announcements and Updates

If you have an unused check from Barrier Busters, please write VOID across the front and return it to Neighborhood Senior Services, ATTN: Malinda.

VI. Wrap Up and Next Steps

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 27th from 1:30-3:30 at the Washtenaw County LLRC.

Adjourned 3:00 pm

Barrier Busters Network Action Group

*The Next Meeting is scheduled for
Wednesday, April 27 - 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm @ LLRC Room A*