

# **Barrier Busters Network Action Group**

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**February 22, 2006, LLRC  
1:30pm—3:00pm**

**BBN Attendees:** Beth Manuel, Child Care Network  
Mitch Steils, WHA  
Mary Beth Lampe, CSTS  
Cheri Nalepa, NSS  
Shirley Tarvis, CSTS  
Mel Batkins, DHS  
Cindy Maritato, DHS  
Helena Prince, FID  
Peggy Johnson, SOS  
Harriett Bakalar, Housing Bureau for Seniors  
Jodi Trisdale, Help Source  
Efrion Smith, Power Incorporated  
Mira Sussman, Jewish Family Services  
Dale Wanty, Salvation Army  
Rosemary Mety, Housing Bureau for Seniors

**Staff Present:** Mike Scholl, Staff Coordinator HSCC  
Bethany Morton-Jerome – HSCC Graduate Intern

## **I. Welcome/Introductions**

- Mary Beth Lampe and Beth Manuel opened the meeting

## **II. Public Comment**

- None

## **III. Agenda Format and Future Agenda Items**

- The new agenda format was introduced by Mary Beth.
- This will serve as the basis for all future meetings.
- Harriett Bakalar commented that the recent work on the utility issue has been very helpful and a good success for the action group.
- The agenda was reviewed and no objections were raised regarding the format.
- Below is a list of future agenda items that were suggested by the participants and staff:
  - Invite the Apartment Owners Association and area landlords to have a discussion on eviction prevention. Opportunity to see if there is room for a strategic partnership.

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- Transportation continues to be a large issue for all members of the action group, particularly in light of the potential closing of the Ypsilanti bus routes.
- Michigan Prisoner Re-entry Program was suggested by Mitch Steils. We will contact Mary King who is working on this issue.
- Michigan Work First program. Employment is a key piece of what we do and we should work to get better participation from Michigan Work First.
- Access to mental health evaluations and treatment with emphasis on the state's implementation of Kevin's law.
- Services fair. Looking at recreating the Service Providers Network. Efrion Smith volunteered to work on this issue as did Cindy Maritato.
- Mitch Steils also suggested an Ohio program that he was part of that did case presentations for families.
- Mary Beth talked about the case consultations and that there will be time reserved on the agenda to discuss difficult or unusual cases.
- Members should contact Mike Scholl, or one of the co-chairs to request time on the agenda for a case consultation.
- The above items will be on the future agenda.
- If you would like to add an item to the agenda, please contact Mike Scholl or one of the co-chairs.

### **IV. Action Group Membership and Emergency Unmet Needs Fund Participation Agreement**

- The final draft of the agreement was issued at the meeting.
- There was a request that the fund participation agreement include two individual logins.
- After the meeting, the fund agreement was changed to allow for two logins though the executive director must sign the agreement affirming responsibility for all requests.
- The agreements need to be signed and delivered to the staff coordinator before the next meeting on March 22.
- Some minor changes were made to the agreement and the final documents were posted online at the following address:
  - <http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/hsc/c/BB/bbmember.htm>

### **V. Fund Update**

- We are about to receive our DHS reimbursement check and can make payment on the existing requests.

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- We have money in the account for Ann Arbor residents.
- When you submit a request, please double check the address, some residents have an Ann Arbor mailing address but live in one of the adjacent townships.
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Adjourned 3:00 pm

***The Next Meeting is scheduled for  
Wednesday, March 22, 2006 - 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm @ LLRC***