

Barrier Busters Network

Barrier Buster Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2009

Meeting Attendance:

(for complete addresses and contact information of Barrier Busters membership in a printable format, click here: http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/community_collaborative/BB/membership/memrosterfiles/condensed_june09)

Barrier Busters Staff	Andrea Plevak, Master Buster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Anita Mure, Minor Buster	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Chantal R. Cotton, Intern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
American Red Cross www.wc-redcross.org/	Linda Dintenfass	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	John Miley	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Ashley Cieslinski	<input type="checkbox"/>
Catholic Social Services www.csswashtenaw.org	Tane Atkins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Mona Ramlawi	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other Staff: Tim Prior	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Center for Independent Living www.aacil.org	George Ridenour	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other Staff: Dorothy Denner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Community Support and Treatment Services (CSTS) www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/community_mental_health	Mary Beth Lampe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Shirley Tarvis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Barb Fortune	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Tara Truax	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other Staff:	
Friends In Deed www.friendsindeed.info	Joanna Barnes	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Helena Prince	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other Staff:	
Home of New Vision	Debra Wright	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Shannon Ellis	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other Staff: Carmita C. Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jewish Family Services www.jfsannarbor.org/	Marie Cope	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Lisa Keefauver	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other Staff:	
Peace Neighborhood Center www.peaceneighborhoodcenter.org/	Kelly Martin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other Staff:	
Personalized Nursing Lighthouse	Julie Merriman	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Taylor Arbuckle	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Karen White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other Staff:	
POWER, Inc. www.powerclf.org/	Erika Graham	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Renette Hicks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other Staff:	
Public Health Dept. of Washtenaw County www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/publichealth/	Kelly Stupple	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Bev Davidson	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Susan Lee	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other Staff:	

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Salvation Army www.sawashtenaw.org	Jennifer Brown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wendi Smith <input type="checkbox"/> Susan Sifuna <input type="checkbox"/> Other Staff: Marla Conkin <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Shelter Association of Washtenaw County www.annarborshelter.org/	Barbara Blom <input type="checkbox"/> Kimberly Graor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Staff:
SOS Community Services www.soscs.org/	Normea Banner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cara Talaska <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Staff:
St. Joseph Mercy Senior Health Services www.sjmercyhealth.org/	Anna Tolis <input type="checkbox"/> Lois Plantefaber <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Carey <input type="checkbox"/> Other Staff:
Treasurer's Office of Washtenaw County www.ewashtenaw.org/government/treasurer	Heather Mooney <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moonson Enische <input type="checkbox"/> Other Staff:
UM Geriatrics Center/East Ann Arbor Health and Geriatrics Center www.med.umich.edu/geriatrics/	Julie Young <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Staff:
Washtenaw Health Plan www.whp.ewashtenaw.org/	Measie James <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katie Lopez <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Staff:

Guests and Presenters (new members, interns, etc):

Agency	Name	Phone	Email
Ann Arbor District Library (www.aadl.org)	Beth Manuel		
Humane Society of Huron Valley (www.hshv.org)	Kelly Swartz	734-662-5585	kelly@hshv.org

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Announcements:

- a. **Lisa Keefauver, Jewish Family Services (JFS):** Next week (November 23, 2009 – November 27, 2009), JFS is not taking any **new** calls. They will still be working with **current clients** however. They have less staff than usual. They are starting citizenship classes at JFS for no charge except a \$5 materials fee. Contact Andre for more details.
- b. **DTE announcement via Mary Beth:** DHS sends DTE payments in bulk. If you have a client who needed a payment by November 14th with DTE, please check with them. Let Mary Beth know that if you need DTE online help. We are not sure if this has happened to you in the past (the serious delay between DHS payments and DTE received). Tara and Lisa had some examples of this.
- c. **Barrier Busters Administration Announcement:** Website has been updated. You can find all Barrier Busters documents there, including the Release of Information

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(Updated form), the Barrier Busters Network Manual DRAFT copy, the sign-in sheet/condensed membership form (with agency contact information on it), DTE online access information, Encompass Link, and more! Please visit the website frequently and let Chantal (cottonc@ewashtenaw.org) know if you find any errors or have trouble viewing.

- d. **Kelly Stupple, Washtenaw County Public Health:** She is drafting a letter of *practical ideas* of how to work better with Washtenaw County DHS. Problems you have and real ways of solving them. Send those to her. She wants them by the end of the week or early the following week (pre-Thanksgiving or November 30).
- e. Public Health is having an H1N1 clinic on Sunday, November 22, 2009. Kelly has some info sheets if people need them.
- f. **Is anyone doing Thanksgiving Meals that they need volunteers for?** Cottage Inn, Holy Trinity Student Chapel, New Testament, Food Gatherers; Zorros Restaurant on Clark;
The Bistro is **not** doing it this year; The Shelter does **not** serve food on that day; Meals on Wheels; JFS does delivery on Christmas.
- g. **Staples Family Center** hired someone so they can take calls again for people who need shelter. The intake worker will take calls. 734-761-7750
- h. **Ypsilanti Jaycees:** If anyone has older adults that they'd like to refer for a program with the Jaycees, just talk to Tara Truax (truaxt@ewashtenaw.org).
- i. **Ann Arbor District Library** has Brochures about their upcoming classes. Please take some for your clients or yourself.

III. Minutes and Agenda Approval: The October 28th Meeting Minutes, which can be found on the Barrier Busters website (www.ewashtenaw.org/barrierbusters), are approved.

IV. New Business

- a. **Humane Society of Huron Valley (HSHV) Bountiful Bowls Program: Kelly Swartz** (kelly@hshv.org); www.hshv.org; 734-662-5585
 - a. **Overview of Program:** Around June of 2008, they started getting far more animals that were loved and well cared for that was being dropped off at the shelter because people couldn't afford food.
 - b. **Kelly worked for Food Gatherers before HVHS:** It was a natural transition for her. They had to find somewhere to store the food at HSHV. They take donated food and repackage it and put it into 5 gallon buckets. They donate food for up to 5 animals per person.
 - c. **Originally,** people gave them really crappy food. Foods that start with "ol" like "ol-Rielly" "ol-roy" etc, are generally no good for the animals.
 - d. **Now** they have upped the standards of types of food that they receive.

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- e. **It is volunteer run from 12pm-5pm every Sunday.** People can come and get their allotment for the month. The food provided is supposed to be supplemental to other food for the animals. Not the sole diet.
- f. **The requirements for the program:**
 - i. Washtenaw County Residents
 - 1. Canton too
 - 2. Plymouth too
 - ii. Spade and neuter; as of right now, they are taking those that are not spade and neuter as much. But the reason this was originally a requirement is because they do not want to perpetuate the problem of not being able to feed your animals because you are having too many animals.
- g. They partner with Meals on Wheels
- h. **The program is distributing about 4000 lbs per month now. They are always short on cat food. They recommend that people have dog food and cat food drives. Talk to Kelly for more information on how to do this.**
- i. **For those receiving food,** HSHV wants people to get the application and just bring it with them on Sunday that they pick the food up.
- j. Staff is well versed on the program. They try to engage people about their options with the pets so that they do not have to give up the animals.
- k. Preventative animal health is a longer term goal for the HSHV

Q&A:

Q: Are you interested in working with A2 Meals on Wheels?

A: They tried before and they will try to do it again in the future.

Q: Do you have materials for people who want to do food drives?

A: You can direct them to contact Kelly for her to set that up.

Q: Are there flyers?

A: Yes. They can print any types of materials that people want to do. They will be doing a lot more marketing.

Q: Do you need volunteers on Sunday and if so, how many?

A: We have about 450 volunteers in our database. They have to go through training in order to do dog walking volunteering. But doing a food drive is great for groups to do. It does not require training.

Q: Can you take opened food?

A: Yes, as long as it is in the regular original package. Walmart in Saline is a huge supporter of this program and they often donate food to HSHV.

Thanks Kelly!!

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- b. **Cancelling December Meeting? No.** We are having a presentation on HPRP. Please send someone to our meeting on the 16th. It will be important. We will also have Paws with a Cause to present!
- c. **We will have Bobby presenting in January from B & B Payee Services.**

V. Old Business:

Funders Meeting Updates:

We are in good financial shape due to Anita Mure. She is good about spacing out our allocations. DHS funding has always been hard to keep consistent and she is doing a great job.

Dollars by fund:

- \$14,000 in general fund (county) through the end of December
- About half of Ann Arbor general funds
- Ann Arbor Utilities Fund we will have about \$7000 for the new year.
- Eviction Prevention County funds have been fully funded for 08-11. But it is based on private match dollars. For 08, we received most of this money because we got the match. For 09, we never received the allocation because we did not have the match. We are hoping to work with the county to get the definition of "match" changed. We will keep you posted on this
- In the Bach and Reimold Funds, we are down to just a couple hundred dollars in each. Lowest we've ever seen in these funds ever. We will get between \$8,000-\$12,000 next year for these depending on the endowment.
- Hotel/Motel cost fund: available

We are doing well overall, especially since we are nearing the holidays.

VI. Case Consultation

What are other agencies doing and what do other agencies see as the lag time for DHS?

HPRP requirements are about the same as Barrier Busters requirements. The DHS denials are an issue sometimes, but try to work with Mel at DHS for this.

Have people had experience with the new DHS online system?

You can fill out SER applications online. They may not be up to doing everything online now. People who applied online never really have to go into the office, everything would be done through phone and fax. However, some issues come up with the online system is that the local office does not know about the ones on the online system. But online health applications (women (related to women parts) and children) can be successfully done online.

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We will have DHS talk to us in a 2010 meeting too. **Kelly Stupple** will send out the DHS worker list out to the listserv. Can we get email addresses on it too? That has been really helpful.

Measie has email addresses for them. She can send it out.

What are the DHS deadlines? **Andrea** will find out. She will also find out what documentation is necessary for clients.

The Barrier Busters funding does not require DHS denial. The new HUD, MSHDA-HPRP funding will require it.

Maybe we can get a Barrier Busters staff person to give a presentation at one of the upcoming DHS staff meetings.

We (Barrier Busters Staff) are also putting together a brochure about the Barrier Busters program. We are working with the City of Ann Arbor on this.

VII. Other Business / Announcements?

You now get email approvals after your requests are approved in Encompass. Hooray!

Motion to Adjourn; Meeting Adjourned at 2.50pm.

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