

**Medina County Family First Council
Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2007**

MEMBERS PRESENT

1. Anderson, Jeff Ohio Department of Youth Services
2. Andregg, Carol Family Representative
3. Ball, Gloria..... Wadsworth City Schools
4. Castele, Lynne Family Representative, Chair Elect, Family First Council
5. Dell'Anno, Amy..... Family Representative
6. DePasquale-Hagerty, Dianne Medina Creative Housing
7. Dockrill, Diane Solutions Behavioral Healthcare
8. Giles, Joyce..... Medina General Hospital
9. Gordon, Jan OSU Extension, Medina County
10. Grace, Debra..... Wadsworth Salvation Army
11. Hardin, Beverly..... Society for Handicapped Citizens
12. Jenks, Mike ADAMH Board
13. King, Julie..... United Way of Medina County
14. Koran, Will..... Medina County Schools
15. Kubena-Yatsko, Debbie Metro Housing Authority, Chair, Family First Council
16. LaForme, Greg..... Medina County Achievement Center
17. LeSure, Suzanne Cornerstone Wellness
18. Leuthaeuser, Judy..... Medina County District Library
19. Lohn, John Medina County Juvenile Court Judge
20. Manes, Jan..... Medina County Board of MR/DD
21. McDaniels, Pat Community Action
22. McGuire, Beth Hospice of Medina County
23. Meador, Barb Community Action
24. Nowak, Brian..... Medina County Drug Abuse Commission
25. Putka, Tim Catholic Charities
26. Quallich, Kris Medina City Schools
27. Ray, Billy Family Representative
28. Robertson, Patricia..... Family Representative
29. Shema, Tim..... Domestic Relations Court
30. Simon, Elizabeth Family Representative
31. Solar, Nick..... City of Brunswick
32. Stepp, Randy Medina City Schools
33. Strebler, Lisa Medina County Health Department
34. Tahajod, Sharon..... Family Representative
35. Titterington, Phillip..... Juvenile Court
36. Wilkins, Mead..... Medina County Job and Family Services

GUESTS PRESENT

1. Calvert, Sandy..... HANDS Foundation
2. Hartman, Don..... Office for Older Adults
3. Nimmo, Nancy..... Medina County Schools ESC

STAFF PRESENT

1. DeGeorge, Vincent..... Family First Council Executive Director
2. McCourt, Jayme Family First Council Administrative Assistant
3. Ruf, Chris Help Me Grow Project Director

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairperson Debbie Kubena-Yatsko called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Introductions were made.

2. PRESENTATION – STRATEGIC PLAN – Debbie Kubena-Yatsko

Debbie Kubena-Yatsko distributed copies of the final draft of the Strategic Plan. Jayme McCourt will create a column on the plan to show the status of our goals. Debbie reviewed the Plan, line item by line item, and discussed the status. A copy of the plan is attached to the original minutes with the progress to date noted.

September's presentation will be the Medina County Health Department. October's presentation will be the Medina City Schools. November's presentation will be the Society for Handicapped Citizens. There is no meeting in December of 2007. January 2008 will be new member orientation. February 2008 will be another review of the Strategic Plan.

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Vincent DeGeorge

Vincent DeGeorge distributed and discussed his written report for ICAT and State/Other Issues. (Copy attached to original minutes.) Medina County Family First Council received an administrative grant for \$20,000 from the state. He also distributed a graph on the FAST \$07 expenses. (Copy attached to original minutes.) We have to address attendance issues for membership. If people miss a certain number of meetings, we must send letters to the Commissioners and respective boards. This pertains to mandatory members only.

Sandy Calvert reported on the Legislative Breakfast held in June of 2007. (Copy attached to original minutes.)

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Greg LaForme made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Pat Robertson seconded. The motion passed. Judge Lohn did not vote.

5. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Mead Wilkins made a motion to approve an agreement between the ADAMH Board/FAST \$08 funds granting Family First Council \$37,120. Will Koran seconded. The motion passed. John Lohn did not vote. Mike Jenks abstained.

B. Greg LaForme made a motion to approve the staffing request for Help Me Grow and to enter into a contract with Catholic Charities for an additional \$58,738.40. Billy Ray seconded. The motion passed. Tim Putka, Mike Jenks and Betsy Simon abstained. John Lohn did not vote.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mead Wilkins reported that there was no Administrative meeting in August, 2007. The time was used to talk about some challenging ICAT kids. Amy Perrine is doing great job of organizing this. These are complicated cases and no-win situations.

B. FAMILY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Sharon Tajajod thanked all the agencies and volunteers that attended the Back to School Rallies. The rallies were well-attended, even with the bad weather. We sponsored Medina and Buckeye this year. Thank you to Lynne Castele for answering so many questions about the rallies. Thank you to Jayme McCourt for going to WalMart to shop (three times!) and providing a recap of the money spent. At the next Family First Council meeting we'll have data on how many individuals were served. At the Family Advisory Committee meeting it was discussed nominating a new member with experience, maybe an older adult. Lynne Castele thanked Sharon Tahajod for taking on the Family Advisory Committee back to

school rallies. Pat Robertson stated that Sharon spent MANY hours preparing for this endeavor and thanked her for all of her hard work.

C. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Beth McGuire reminded everyone that the next Membership Committee meeting is Wednesday, September 12, 2007. She is requesting that all of the committee members attend from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The application deadline is September 30, 2007. Get your renewal in! We will be looking at attendance at council and committee meetings and that data will be on the ballot. Our bylaws and HB289 mandate tracking of attendance on council members. Make sure you sign in at the meetings so your attendance can be tracked. Please think about the Chair Elect position. Lynne Castele will be Chair next year. Debbie Kubena-Yatsko will continue as a member of the Planning Committee for another year.

D. PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Phillip Titterington reported that the Medina County Family First logo is in the process of being revised through the Career Center. Chad Allan has put the final touches on the web site. Jayme McCourt was trained on how to edit and manipulate the data. She will be our Web Master. The site is very simple to maneuver and it will allow us to tie in other initiatives. Contacts and links section will have council members and links to their places of employment. We are hoping to have Family Focus archives on the site but it will not replace Family Focus on paper format. Please sign up for "What Family First Means To Me" upcoming editions. The committee will be looking at a new brochure. Our next meeting is Tuesday, September 4, 2007 from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. at the Housing Authority.

E. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Debbie Kubena-Yatsko reported that the Planning Committee met August 22, 2007. The priority was planning the October 19, 2007 training at Williams on the Lake. The brochure will be designed and a mailing list formed. We are in need of facilitators for each table. We are also looking at offering CEU's for social workers, counselors, and nurses. The next meeting is October 17, 2007 where we will be training the facilitators for the seminar. Vince DeGeorge added that the Wellness grantees are invited. We are trying to get people educated on this process of outcome driven models.

F. AD HOC COMMITTEES

i. EARLY CHILDHOOD COMMITTEE

Jan Manes is revamping the committee. A meeting with the task force will be held in mid September. A Help Me Grow program flyer is attached to original minutes.

ii. WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Diane Dockrill reported that the first Wellness Committee meeting for FY08 was held on August 3, 2007. We have five teen pregnancy prevention grantees and five neglect and abuse prevention grantees. The next meeting is on September 7, 2007. We lost Steve Carlson as a Committee member and we are looking to fill that position. The Wellness Committee has three family advisory members. Grantees will continue to write for Family Focus.

iii. PFS IMPLEMENTATION TEAM REPORT

Vincent DeGeorge stated that sustainability is our biggest issue of PFS. We will continue to meet, although no meeting is scheduled at this time.

7. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- a. **Julie King** – For the first six months of this year, 211 has seen a 57% increase in calls over last year. Anyone needing posters, cards, or flyers please contact Julie. Pledge cards are going out for the annual drive.
- b. **Carol Andregg** – Is involved with Let's Make A Difference this summer.
- c. **Mead Wilkins** – Coats for Kids and Rally in the Alley is still in need of volunteers. We are looking to buy and distribute 500 coats this year.
- d. **Judge John Lohn** – Under the guidance of Philip Titterington, the Community Service Program will be making stuffed animals for kids in foster care.
- e. **Nick Solar** – The Salvation Army enabled kids to purchase school clothes.
- f. **Diane DePasquale-Hagerty** – Medina Creative Housing wrapped up its summer project. Eight single-unit housing for handicapped individuals was completed.
- g. **Mike Jenks** – HB289 for statutory members may have conflicts with the meetings, especially at the state level. People are involved in other things besides this council. Contribution to the FFC should count when data is compiled.
- h. **Philip Titterington** – Thank you for the recognition on the Community Service Program. Judge Lohn has an initiative on working with families of drug court kids. Over the next year we will have a more specialized docket.
- i. **Barb Meador** – Community Action is offering a camp for respite on October 6 and 7, 2007.
- j. **Beth McGuire** – Handed out flyers on Kids/Teen Connection and A Scrapbook of Memories. (Copies attached to original minutes.)
- k. **Debbra Grace** – \$10 cookbooks are for sale for their division of the Salvation Army. Belinda Godin is leaving and we are in need a person for 25 hours a week and a 12.5 hour per week person for tutoring. Debbra announced that she is the grandmother of two-week-old baby boy
- l. **Chris Ruf** – Attended a workshop called SPARK which was for ages 3-4 in preparing children for school. It was one of the best workshops she ever attended. There are things we can do in Medina County for few dollars to get our kids ready for school. Canton, Ohio has a \$10 million budget to do this. Chris will present more information at the next meeting.
- m. **Jan Manes** – The early intervention program is changing their focus on how they place children in their classrooms.
- n. **Pat Robertson** – Pat will portray Annie Oakley at the Medina County Historical Society on September 10, 2007.
- o. **Jayme McCourt** – Thanked everyone for the sympathy on the recent loss of her father.
- p. **Sandy Calvert** – November 2, 2007 is a fund raiser for the Battered Women's Shelter.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Nick Solar made a motion to adjourn. Beth McGuire second. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Jayme McCourt