

**Medina County Family First Council
Planning Committee Meeting
October 28, 2008**

Attending: Lynne Castele, Vincent DeGeorge, Joyce Giles, Debra Grace, Suzanne LeSure, Beth McGuire, Debra Radecky, Christine Ruf, Nick Solar, and Phillip Titterington.

1. Welcome and Agenda – Lynne Castele

Lynne Castele welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m. The agenda is the OFCF Cabinet Council, First Lady's 88 County FCFC Visit, Prioritized Challenges and Issues, July 2008, which was e-mailed to the Planning Committee on Thursday, October 23, 2008 (copy attached to original minutes). Superintendent Dale Fortner will be our guest at the November 25, 2008 Planning meeting. November's agenda will be the Strategic Planning Retreat scheduled in September of 2009. If time permits then we will continue discussion of the First Lady synopsis.

2. Approval of the Minutes from September 23, 2008

Joyce Giles made a motion to approve the minutes from September 23, 2008. Debra Grace seconded. The motion passed.

3. OCFC Cabinet Council, First Lady's 88 County FCFC Visit, Prioritized Challenges and Issues, July 2008 – Vincent DeGeorge

Vince DeGeorge received this document from Angela Sausser Short, OFCF Director. Lady Strickland visited all of the Family First Councils (88 counties) in 2007. This document is a compilation of what issues surfaced repeatedly by several counties. Lady Strickland is very involved with Family and Children First Councils. We are being asked to identify three short-term challenges and three long-term challenges that are pertinent to Medina County. These challenges are to be addressed within a three to six month basis. The report is to be submitted by December 15, 2008. Some issues may influence the budget in 2010-2011 and in the coming years. We need to prioritize and identify the barriers.

The report is to include:

- Challenge taken from (Issue Area, Page #).
- What would the intended outcome be?
- What are the policy implications (if any) involved?
- Describe the costs (if any) associated with the recommendation.
- What are the potential barriers and risks?
- Is there a content expert locally that is willing to assist with this challenge? If so, please provide their name and contact information (email address and phone number).

After much discussion, it was decided that Medina County Family First Council should focus on:

- Flexible funds for youth services.
- Teen pregnancy prevention.
- Focus on lifespan and funding to support more than youth initiatives.
- More local control. Third bullet point on page 3 of the document . . . *"Allow for more local control; counties determine priorities and use flexible funds to meet local needs; could support strategies the counties identify through their planning efforts for HB 289. Policy and funds need flexibility for local level decision-making. Difficult to use funding, especially when it is tied to a lot of rules and regulations."*
- Consistent sustainable funding that doesn't shift from year to year.
- Implement a health and human services block grant.
- Integrate more within the schools.

- Encourage collaboration.
- Continue collaboration.
- Need for after school related programs.
- Need for more health and human services in the schools.
- Encourage more school participation at Family First Council.
- Expand the service coordination to more vulnerable populations including senior citizens.

Vince DeGeorge will work with the recommendations and discussion will continue at the next Planning meeting on November 25, 2008.

4. Adjourn

Joyce Giles made a motion to adjourn. Debra Radecky seconded. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Jayme McCourt