

St. Vrain Community Council

Meeting Agenda

November 22, 2011 8:30-10am

Location: Longmont Police Dept. Safety & Justice Center
225 Kimbark Ave. Longmont, CO

SVCC Mission: "Non-profit organizations collaborating and advocating to enrich the St. Vrain Community."

8:30a **Welcome:** Sue McCullough - Facilitator, Sue McCullough- Minutes

Attendance: Margie Aguirre-Moreno (OUR Center), Marsha Caplan (Voices For Children CASA), Cammie Edson (BCPH GENESIS/TER), Laura Hochman (BCPH GENESIS), Jackie List (Safe Shelter of St. Varin Valley), Sue McCullough (FHUW's Volunteer Connection), Michele McCracken (H.O.P.E.), Robin Menschenfreund (St. Vrain Family Center), Jen Kovarik (BCPH Tobacco Education & Prevention), Kathy Webb (Longmont Housing Authority).

Guest: Morgan Rogers (Community Foundation, Civic Forum Director) – TRENDS Report

Additions: None

SVCC Business:

- 1) Approve October Minutes- Correction to October minutes made by Robin Menschenfreund: October minutes stated that Jessica Cowan is the new Safe Services Coordinator with St. Vrain Family Center. Jessica is not new to the organization, Robin is the newby! Michele McCracken moved to approve corrected minutes, Kathy Web 2nd, Unanimously approved.
- 2) Treasurer's Report- balance \$10,031.41. Report distributed and will be emailed.
- 3) 2012 Executive Committee – Slate for 2012: President: Marc Cowell, Tiny Tim Center. Vice President: Carla O'Boyle, Community Member. Treasurer, Margie Aguirre-Moreno, Our Center. Secretary: Open. At large: Bob Norris, El Comite & Robin Menschedfreund, St. Vrain Family Center. Secretary position is still open. If interested in filling this important role, please contact Sue McCullough. Council will vote on slate at January meeting.
- 4) 2012 Membership Application – SVCC membership dues are due by 1/31. \$25.00 per agency. Form distributed and will be emailed.
- 5) 2012 Agency Presentation Sign-Up. Executive Committee is building 2012 calendar with agreed upon format as in previous years; combination of agency presentations, off-site visits, panels and social. Sign-Up sheet distributed. Remaining dates available for agency presentations are: 8/28 and 11/27. Email Sue if you'd like to present on one of these dates.

Agency Intros & Info Sharing:

Laura Hochman, BCPH GENESIS - GENESIS has seen an increase in referrals and is down 1 case worker position. They maybe hiring a ½ time case worker and will provide more details as they become available.

Jen Koravik, BCPH Tobacco Education & Prevention – There is a Tobacco Free Longmont initiative. They're asking for pledges from minors and adults. They ask that minors not use tobacco products and that adults do not support (buy/sell) tobacco products for/to minors. It's a comprehensive community effort to support kids in a tobacco free life.

Margie Aguirre-Moreno, OUR Center – Thanksgiving dinner will be held at Old Chicago on Thursday, 11/24. It's a free dinner and all are welcome. Shuttle at 3rd & Collyer will transport folks to/from Old Chicago. OUR Center is still accepting coat donations for the Coat Distribution on 12/10 at the old Wicks Building.

Michele McCracken, H.O.P.E – The drop in center is now open 3 nights a week. They've had ~525 visits in the first few months. Hosts (volunteers) can also come in to talk with or assist folks with writing resumes, computer work, etc. Their recent fundraiser was the biggest and best! Housing for Christmas Eve & Christmas Day will be available again and those staying will also receive a new backpack with some clothes. Contact Michele for more details.

Kathy Webb, LHA – LHA is going through some ups and downs. They had their housing drawing in September. Funding didn't come through for 2012 so they can not issue new vouchers. They will be able to maintain housing for their current clients/families.

Robin M. – St. Vrain Family Center. Their fall fundraiser was Saturday, 11/20 and couldn't have been better. Over 200 attended. Their parenting coach program will kick off after the 1st of the year. Robin is looking for assistance with designing logos. Sue suggested posting the opportunity on Volunteer Connection's database. Many people are interested in graphic design/logo design on a volunteer basis. Cathryn is coming back on December 1. She will be splitting hours with Cameron.

Jackie List, Safe Shelter – They're very busy with gift donations and toys for kids at this time. They just put out their Thanksgiving meals. They are beginning work on their 2012-2015 strategic plan. #s are up 30-40%, good and bad but it's good that people are finding them. They have expanded their legal program; started with 3 attorneys and now have 23.

Marsha Caplan, VFC CASA – They're in the midst of interviewing applicants for 2012 CASA positions. Office has been especially busy with this as well as people delivering toys for their year-round toy closet.

Sue McCullough – Foothills United Way’s Volunteer Connection. The Holiday Guide is complete and on website. It’s a great resource for folks looking for alternative giving options this season with many great volunteer opportunities, donations & drives and also adopt-a-family/sponsor programs. Agencies can still submit applications if they have needs specific to holiday season.

Agency Presentation

Cammie Edson – BCPH GENESISTER

GENESISTER is in its 2nd year and with the rearrangement of TANF dollars, the program was able to come to life. It’s completely grant funded. The program supports siblings of pregnant teens. When compared to siblings of non-parenting teens, adolescent siblings of teen parents are 2-6 times more likely to become pregnant, are more likely to be sexually active during early adolescence and tend to have lower educational aspirations and more problems at school - characteristics associated with increased risk of early sexual activity and pregnancy. GENESISTER is a partner program to the GENESIS Program for pregnant and parenting teens. GENESISTER was developed in response to the high number of GENESIS siblings who become teen parents themselves.

To participate, youth must be female, the sibling of a pregnant or parenting teen (a.k.a. a teen aunt), between the ages of 11 and 17, a resident of Boulder County. Program Service are: Individualized case management for teens and their families, Group-level intervention with evidence-based curricula for teens. Pro-social groups that include positive peer functions such as sport- and art-based activities, Service learning opportunities, Educational and career advancement support activities and Group- and individual-level support for parents of GENESISTER participants.

There are currently 2 youth specialists, 1 serves SVVSD & 1 serves BVSD. There is also a full-time parent specialist serving the county that works with mothers & fathers. Cammie distributed materials in both english and spanish. The program offers academic support via a homework club as well as 1:1 tutoring and always needs volunteers to fill these roles. In addition, volunteers can support the program by offering transportation. GENESISTER is working to build on reproductive health in the home with adults. Since the program has rec’d a grant that requires matching, please send funding ideas to Cammie.

The girls in the program also participate in group volunteer projects so if your agency has a need, please contact Cammie.

GUEST: Morgan Rogers, Community Foundation –

The Community Foundation’s primary focus is in 3 areas, grant making (~ \$6 Million in 2010), community leadership (leadership fellows program) and advocacy & research (tracking community indicators and identifying strategic opportunities for future).

TRENDS Report

Important take-aways from the TRENDS Report:

- 1) Poverty – Boulder County’s poverty rate is the same as the nations. Many are unaware of this and this is a real concern for us and our community. Poverty Level for a family of four is ~\$24,000 and 1/3 of latino kids are living in poverty.
- 2) Achievement Gap – There is a big difference between kids who are doing well and kids that aren’t and there is a significant gap by the time kids are reaching 3rd grade. Most gaps are align with economic lines. High achieving kids are outperforming and moving at a faster pace. Low income kids score lower on CSAPs and are moving at a slower rate, widening the gap. The dropout rate among latinos is higher than economically disadvantaged.
- 3) Community Attachment – Boulder County was among 26 communities across the US participating in measuring community attachment. Community Attachment is tied to GDP. There are 3 key influences: Aesthetics, Social Offering and Openness Issues. Not surprising, we scored very high with regard to aesthetics and also high with regard to social offering. We scored low with regard to openness (how open our community is to others). And we scored exceptionally low on openness to immigrants and minorities.

Other CF info:

Demographical Changes: Boulder County grew 8-9% in past 10 years compared with Larimer & Adams county growth of ~ 20%. City of Boulder ~3%, City of Longmont ~40% and Erie ~200%.

Trends in Aging Community – 12% elder population now, will be 22% by 2020!

Next Meeting is January 24, 2011 – 8:30 to 10:00 am.

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