

Partners for an Enriched Community (P.E.C.)
Minutes - September 9, 2009

In attendance: **A Safe Place:** Caprice Killingsworth, **Benton Township:** Jan Suthard, **CareNet Family Resource Center:** Brenda Benegas, **Catholic Charities:** John Turner, **Community Collaboration Inc.:** Mark Kendall, **Compass Christian Counseling:** Kelsie Newbrough, **CREW, Inc.:** Maggie Maxwell, Connie Steinke, **Illinois Department of Human Services:** Willie Lewis, **Kids Hope United:** Francine Jones-Brantley, **Lake County Health Department:** Diane Eggers, **Lake County Workforce Development:** Eva Locke, **LOVE INC:** Jacqui Franclemont, **Teen MOPS:** Beth Fitzgibbons, Jean Studebaker, **YouthBuild Lake County:** Zandra Genous, **Zion Benton Children's Services:** Gaby Gallegos, **Zion Benton Public Library:** Nann B. Hilyard, **Zion Benton Township High School:** Jenny Hoy, **Zion Benton Workforce Development Training Center:** Kera Rhyan, Danielle Young, **Zion District #6:** Grace Robinson, **Zion Township:** Eunice Bridges, Cheri Ditzig, Gail Gloudemans, Adriana Ortiz

Maggie Maxwell, Facilitator, called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM.

The Lake County Community Foundation Bus Tour: Cheri announced that The Lake County Community Foundation has chosen to feature Pearce Campus on its bus tour for foundations and individual donors this year. The tour will be held on **Thursday, October 22** and will also be making a stop at the Northern Illinois Food Bank. CREW's Community Development Division will be putting together binders with information about the organizations located within Pearce as well as New Tech Campus for each bus tour attendee. Maggie will be e-mailing a template to all Pearce tenants requesting information and an organization wish list. This is a tremendous opportunity for us to educate others about the collaborative efforts being made in Zion-Benton to better serve our community members.

August Minutes: Motion from Jacqui Franclemont to approve the minutes from August 12, 2009. Kelsie Newbrough seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote of members present.

MPOWR Database: Jenny Hoy is interested in setting up all of the counselors at ZBTHS and requested that Maggie facilitate a training session. Cheri Ditzig mentioned that she attended a meeting with Peter Duggan and Joel Williams from Lake County, Ted Byers from United Way, Don Nylin from Executive Service Corps and Gail Gloudemans and Maggie Maxwell to discuss how HMIS Service Point, Community Point and MPOWR are used within the county.

Move the Mountain: Cheri asked the group to consider if we had twenty five families focused on getting out of poverty, what our part would be. She explained the Move the Mountain model and its relation to Bridges out of Poverty. Zion Township hopes to kick off a similar initiative in January working with twenty-five people who live in Section 08 Housing and are TANF clients. Jacqui Franclemont stressed that we need to work with community members who are strongly committed to getting out of poverty. She explained that frequently issues with housing, transportation and child care impede people's progress and we need to be mindful in assisting them to overcome those obstacles.

Book of the Month Club: CREW, Inc. used additional funds from its Lake County Community Foundation grant to purchase thirty copies of *Seedfolks* for PEC members. The books were distributed at the meeting. There are still a few copies available for anyone interested in reading it prior to our October meeting. Maggie will work with members of the Book of the Month Club committee to generate ideas as to how best to facilitate this process. Recommendations will be presented to the group in October.

Measuring PEC Success: Maggie thanked members for completing the “Measuring PEC Success” spreadsheets on a monthly basis and explained that this information is used to track our coalition’s progress. A “Measuring PEC Success Outcomes” report was included in the meeting packets and will be supplied on a monthly basis.

Announcements:

Zion Township: Cheri and Jan invited members to attend Night Golf at Shepherd’s Crook on **Saturday, September 26**. For more information, contact Cheri at cherid@ziontownship.org or 847.872.2811.

Zion Benton Township High School: The first home football game is scheduled for **Friday, September 11**. Parent Night will be held on **Wednesday, September 17**. For more information, contact Jenny Hoy at hoyj@zbths.org.

Zion Benton Public Library: The Library will be offering FREE passes to a number of museums in the Chicagoland area **now through August 31, 2010**. Visit the library and present your card to receive a Museum Adventure Pass. For more information visit: www.museumadventure.org. Librarypalooza will be held on **Saturday, September 26** from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM and will offer FREE games and activities including face painting, crafts, a T’weens Table and a book sale. For more information about this and other events, visit the Library’s website at: www.zblibrary.org.

Illinois Department of Human Services: Willie Lewis expressed his gratitude for Salvation Army which has given many of his clients workforce hours. He mentioned that IDHS would be touring LOVE INC later that day.

Zion Benton Workforce Development Training Center: ZBWDTTC is looking for technology volunteers to assist with evening classes. Many classes still have openings. To learn more, visit www.workforceskills.org. Those interested in registering should call 847.731.9143 to schedule an orientation. The Center will be hosting a Job Fair in **October**.

Benton Township: Flu and Pneumonia vaccines will be administered by a Certified Pharmacist on **Thursday, October 29** from 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM at Benton Township. Flu shots cost \$24.99 and Pneumonia shots cost \$49.99. These vaccinations are free for Medicare patients. Cash and credit cards will be accepted. Care Coach will be providing FREE health screenings at Benton Township from 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM on **October 29** as well. They will screen for high blood pressure and cholesterol, diabetes and osteoporosis.

Jan announced that Boys & Girls Club officially opened in Zion over Labor Day and will serve children ages 6-18. The Club operates out of Grace Missionary Church and will be open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30 PM - 6:30 PM. The cost is \$15 per child, per year. To register, please contact Michael McCauley at 847.746.8840.

CREW, Inc.: CREW's Fourth Annual Corporate Spelling Bee will be held on **November 12** at North Point Christian Church. Refreshments begin at 6:00 PM with the Spelling Bee kicking off at 7:00 PM. Teams of three can enter the Spelling Bee for \$300. This year CREW is sponsoring a 50/50 raffle with tickets selling for \$10 each. Those who enter the raffle have a chance to win up to \$1500. CREW will be hosting an open house for Red Ribbon Week on **Wednesday, October 21** from 12:00 - 2:00 PM.

Zion Central Middle School (formerly Central Junior High School): The school recently underwent a name change as a means to have a fresh start. Grace expressed the school's gratitude for the City of Miracles event and stated that a number of their students benefitted from receiving the resources needed to succeed in school.

LOVE INC: LOVE INC is in need of fitted sheets, towels, beds and bedding. They are almost out of dishes, silverware, pots and pans as well as children's shoes. Volunteers, especially those fluent in Spanish, are needed to help in the closet. Their annual fundraiser will be held **October 17** at The Country Squire in Grayslake. Tickets are \$75. For more information or to volunteer, call LOVE INC at 847.731.0526.

CareNet Family Resource Center: CareNet is in need of gently used boys' clothes sizes 2T and under. If you would like to make a donation, contact Brenda at 847.731.8370.

Compass Christian Counseling: Kelsie announced that some of the counseling staff will be attending the American Association of Christian Counselors conference in Nashville the week of **September 14**.

Zion Township: Adriana shared her most recent CCI success story. One of her clients received a paycheck after being unemployed for three years.

Kids Hope United: Francine reported that she will be giving a presentation in Harvard to encourage more seniors to volunteer.

YouthBuild: Zandra announced that classes have started. They currently have thirty-eight students participating in the program and are considering opening enrollment for another class. Referrals area welcomed for participants between the ages of 18-24 who have a low-income and no GED. Another program will hopefully start in October to initiate a green building project. Participants involved in YouthBuild's programs are either in class or working Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM. For more information, call Zandra at 847.473.3483.

A Safe Place: A Safe Place is offering domestic violence support groups in Zion, Waukegan (Spanish) and Round Lake. Life skills classes and a parent group will be starting soon. For more information, call Caprice at 847.731.7165.

Lake County Health Department: The Health Department's immunization clinic has the flu vaccine. Vaccinations are being provided for Health Department clients. The Health Department hopes to vaccinate all school aged children. Diane mentioned they are short on funds.

Teen MOPS: There is an open house on **Wednesday, September 16** at Zion Benton Public Library. The open house will have six information tables. The organization is hoping to meet more teen moms between the ages of 12 and 19. There will be information sessions at ZBPL on the second Wednesday of each month from 6:30 - 8:00 PM. Teen MOPS and CareNet partner to provide services to teen moms. The MOPS group meets Wednesday mornings. Child care is provided. There is a small fee to be a part of this group.

Lake County Workforce Development: The Job Center of Lake County is excited to welcome Sylvia Valadez as the RESP coordinator for IDES. Sylvia can interview individuals who have a felony or misdemeanor about their job search and make referrals to community resources. Individuals who wish to make an appointment should call 847-543-7657. Sylvia is at the Waukegan Job Center on Thursdays. On all other days, she is at the Grayslake Job Center.

The Repatriate Demonstration Project is continuing at 1 N. Genesee St. in Waukegan. This is a 5-week work-readiness and computer training program for ex-offenders. For more information, contact Warren Thomas at wthomas@clcollinois.edu or (847) 543-2865

Zion Benton Children's Services: Zion Benton Children's Services now has two chairs open for child dental care. They are in need of a dentist for Tuesdays. The office sees between 10 and 15 children daily. For more information, contact Gaby at 847.872.9227.

Meeting adjourned.