

Welfare Advisory/Family Services Planning Committee Meeting

Minutes

July 15, 2008

11:30 a.m.

Sandusky County DJFS

Cindy Bilby
Jerri Carper
Leah Harper
Ruthann House

Janet Quaintance
Laura Warren
Gloria Graham
Jared Pollick

Kay Reiter
Debbie McGrath
Marsha Bordner

WELCOME/GENERAL ISSUES – Ms. Cindy Bilby

Introductions were held. Ms. Bilby distributed three editions of past agency newsletters. She stated that she had not passed these out in a while but they cover the hot topics around the agency. She added that another item they had not touched base on in a long time was the State reviews. She stated that their had been some changes and that the position was obsolete but they expect to hear something regarding this. Another hot topic around the agency is budget issues. Ms. Bilby mentioned that TANF is near dry because it had been parceled out to other entities. There are also budget issues with Food Stamps and Medicaid. There has been expansion in the programs yet no increase in funding. There has also been an increase in customers. The cuts made have been to Administrative costs.

OWF/MEDICAID/FOOD STAMPS– Ms. Laura Warren

Ms. Warren discussed the OWF/CFCM handout. She stated that the first column, OWF All Cash, showed a slight reduction each month. There are fewer individuals on OWF as they seem to be coming off of the program. The second column, OWF Time Limited, seems to be holding steady. The third column, OWF Returning Customers, shows a reduction. The bottom of the page shows a comparison between several counties. Dr. Bordner inquired if anyone had seen the articles on lunches for children during the summer and that this program was not being utilized. The group believed this was at the state level....not a county program.

The second handout that Ms. Warren discussed was the Migrant Comparison. She stated that overall there had been an increase in assistance groups for Food Stamps. Ms. Warren explained that an Assistance group could be a family, a group of people, or anyone who lives and buys their food together. For the OWF comparison it shows more individuals this season and an increase in applications taken. There was discussion on why this is. Ms. Warren stated that some parents are undocumented or don't meet citizenship requirement. Mr. Pollick added that they are moving around a lot, going to Michigan because the work is not here. Ms. Reiter added that she had heard also that the specialty crops are disappearing from the area.

FOOD STAMPS/CHILD CARE – Ms. Jerri Carper

Ms. Carper stated that the handout covers October 2007 to February 2008. During this time period 14 cases were pulled to be reviewed and the county is still at 0%. The state likes to see the error rate below 4%. Currently the state is at 5.68%. She added that there has been a push on Food Stamps lately...TV ads, etc. There is talk of changing the Food Stamps name to SNAP – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

For the Child Care portion of the handout it shows that numbers are lower. This is due to a program known as ELI – Early Learning Initiative. ELI numbers are not reported back to the county.

Teen pregnancy rate is even with last years numbers. It was explained that these are only teens that are on assistance.

Ms. Carper also distributed the 2007 Annual Report for anyone who wanted a copy.

PRC/MIGRANT PRC/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT – Ms. Janet Quaintance

Ms. Quaintance discussed the PRC Report. She stated that each chapter shows the dollar amount spent and the average spent. She added that so far this year they have assisted 4 possible foreclosures as compared to 6 total last year. It was explained that if eligible the county would work with the lender and also do a budget to make sure they could afford future payments.

The next handout discussed the Migrant Statistics. Ms. Quaintance stated that overall they are the same. She did update page 2 since it was e-mailed out.

The next handout was the WIA Report. She stated that there was a big jump this quarter on the PESCO testing. PRC stayed the same. They provided one mass recruitment for Heinz. It was added that many employers do not know this program exists. The county can screen potential employees and even provide testing.

PEAK – Ms. Leah Harper

Ms. Harper passed out a handout for PEAK. This handout shows January through June numbers. She added that attendance numbers are about the same. Shredding has gone up along with hose and wire assembly. The zeros on the handout are items they are not currently doing at PEAK.

Ms. McGrath added that regarding the school lunch program, there is a website you can go to to see if a particular school is covered. She added that several Fremont schools were listed. Ms. House stated that those schools would be for the summer program.

FUTURE MEETING – Ms. Bilby

January 13, 2009