



Health & Human Services Advisory Committee

HHSAC Minutes

January 21, 2010

Roll Call

Present: Betty Calvin, Bob Davis, Wendy Fiedler, Felix Flechas, Sheryl Gross, Norma Linderholm, William MacPherson, Tom Parsons, Anita Roberts, Pat Springer, Lynn Wixted-Holland, Councilmember Martha Derda, and Councilmember Sam Taylor.

Absent: Tom Coogan, Hal Lunka, Madhav Narayan, and Thomas Reid.

Staff: Debbie Oldenettel, Frank Schoengarth, Connie Linn, Julie Jary, and Jeff Stoll.

Agenda Minutes

The HHSAC meeting began at 5:35 p.m.

HHSAC Business Items

November Minutes

Minutes from the November 12, 2009 retreat were approved.

Agency Updates

Council's Position on Proposed Human Services Reorganization

Debbie Oldenettel, Health and Human Services Director, provided an update regarding the Governor's Child Welfare Action Committee (GCWAC) recommendations. She explained that a City Council Study Session was held to discuss the two most controversial recommendations. Under the proposed recommendation, Broomfield's Human Services would no longer be run by the City and County. Council voted to oppose the two most controversial recommendations of the GCWAC, including the reorganization of human services and a proposed state-run central call center to replace local child protection hotlines. The recommendations of the GCWAC are currently being evaluated by the Colorado Department of Human Services and other Human Service organizations throughout the State, and no legislation has been proposed at this time regarding these recommendations. Legislation would be required to implement the proposed restructuring of human services in Colorado.

Staffing Update

There are 3 vacancies in the **Family and Children's Division**. A new Adoptions Coordinator will start on Monday, January 25th. There are two other vacancies, including a Casework Supervisor position and an Intake Caseworker position.

Public Health recently filled 2 vacancies in Environmental Health, which are child care and restaurant inspection positions; the part-time nurse position; the HOPE Nurse, and the part-time WIC Nutrition position, which is paid with WIC grant funds. The division also just announced the Health Educator position for the Tobacco Prevention and Cessation program, which will be funded with LiveWell grant dollars.

Self-Sufficiency, Employment and Public Assistance is in the process of filling a regular part-time Veterans Services position. The position was converted from a temporary position in January.

Budget/Grant Funding Update

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) reserves, which were in excess of a million dollars in recent years, are beginning to dwindle due to the 2008 legislative change limiting the amount of reserves that Counties are able to maintain. Beginning last year and for the next few years, the State is ratcheting down those reserves from 70% of annual allocation in 2008-09 to 30% of annual allocation in 2011-12. Any reserve funds in excess of the applicable percent of the County's annual TANF allocations must be remitted to the State. By 2011-12, the Department will be allowed to maintain only \$262,000 in reserves based on our current TANF allocation.

Broomfield anticipated this change and implemented a spending plan to utilize the excess reserve funds. As the allowable reserves diminish in the coming fiscal years; however, the funds available for some of the programs/projects that were implemented to spend down reserves and serve the greater needs that have arisen in the past year due to the economic downturn will also dwindle. Many of these programs have proven to be very successful and have been filling a need during a tough economic time. As a result, the department is seeking grant opportunities to continue some of these new programs, including the Tenant-Based Rental Assistance program (TANF funds cover the salary for the coordinator of this program and the rent/utilities are covered by HOME funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development), the HOPE Nurse Home Visitation program, and the Life Skills program. If any members know about or identify any grant opportunities for any of these programs, please share those with the Department.

Finalized Community Indicator Report Discussion

Debbie provided a copy of the final Health and Human Services Indicator Study to committee members. She reminded the group that she presented on the preliminary report to HHSAC at the summer retreat. The report provides a wide range of data about the health and wellness of Broomfield residents. Debbie explained that the Department has conducted the following analysis and asked that committee members also review the document for the same:

- ◆ What was surprising about the data?
- ◆ What other data might be useful for the Department or its stakeholders to have?
- ◆ Did the report identify anything that warrants further analysis?
- ◆ Did the report identify areas of greater need on which the Department should focus more resources?

The committee suggested that we identify a task force to conduct this analysis and report back to the group. Anita Roberts, Wendy Fiedler, and Bill MacPherson volunteered to serve on the task force.

Review of 2009 Annual Report Format

Julie Jary, Operations Manager, explained that the Department is revising the format for the Annual Report for 2009. The first annual report was created in 2008, and provided information about each division, giving each division a full section in the report to educate the public on the services of the Department. This year, the Department plans to condense the report to provide an overview of Department services, financials, accomplishments, and challenges. Julie asked that committee members review the report and provide any feedback to her in the coming weeks.

Summer Youth Job Hunt

Frank Schoengarth, Manager of Self-Sufficiency, Employment, and Public Assistance provided an update on the summer youth job hunt. The Workforce Center puts on an annual event in which numerous employers come to recruit youth for their summer jobs. In years past, the event has been held at the Paul Derda Recreation Center, and this year, Frank is trying to identify a new venue. Committee members recommended seeking the Odeum Event Center, which will open its doors under new management in March. Frank indicated that he would follow up with the City Manager's Office regarding that possibility. Frank also requested volunteers for the event, and stated that Stacey will send out a reminder as the date approaches for members to volunteer.

Lynn Wixted-Holland suggested having volunteers available to help the youth who may not know anything about the process of applying for and interviewing for positions. Pat Springer suggested that on the list of participating employers, staff include an asterisk on those employers that hire 14 year olds.

Community Groups Project Update

Debbie provided an update on a project that she is working on to evaluate and potentially enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the many community groups of which HHS is a part or which the Department operates/coordinates. Over the years, the Department has set up or become involved in a wide variety of community groups. Some were established due to specific grant requirements, others were established as information sharing groups, and yet others may have been established for a specific purpose. In the past, staff moved forward quickly to establish a task force without first determining what groups already exist. Many of the members of these groups serve on multiple committees, which may stretch our resources too thin. As a result, Debbie began a project to take inventory of these existing groups, identify best practices with regard to coalitions and groups, and use that data to enhance the effectiveness of existing groups and combine or even disband groups that may no longer be necessary. She also intends to establish a streamlined process by which staff will analyze our existing inventory of coalitions/groups before establishing any new groups.

Task Force Updates

- Sustainability – Hal Lunka and Felix Flechas serve on the City and County-wide Sustainability Task Force. Felix Flechas provided an update. The task force has had 8 meetings in the past 9 months in which they identified focus areas of sustainability for the City and County of Broomfield. They established teams for each of these focus areas, including Resource Conservation, Energy, Transportation, Community Education, and Economic Development. The University of Colorado at Denver assisted by providing presentations on these areas. A review was also conducted by MWH. Committee members are now putting all of the information and their resulting recommendations into a report. Each focus area team reported their findings/recommendations to the entire task force, and the task force then decided upon the final recommendations to include in the report that will be ready for public viewing at an open house in the Community Center's Lakeshore Room the end of March. Final recommendations will be presented to Council this summer.
- Easy Ride Task Group – Tom Coogan was not present Debbie reported to the committee. Senior Services was awarded a \$7500 grant from the Colorado Department of Transportation for local transportation services. The funds will pay for a coordinator to facilitate a new local coordinating council on human services transportation. Through this council, Senior Services hopes to work with other transportation providers to improve the effectiveness of human services transportation in the region.
- Public Health Reauthorization – Hal Lunka is the HHSAC representative on this group. Jeff Stoll provided an update on the Department's progress toward implementing the Public Health Act of 2008 (SB 08-194). Much of the activities were stalled due to the H1N1 efforts of

the department, but now that much of that work is done, the division has been able to return its focus to this. The committee has met a couple of times and is currently working on using the Health and Human Services Indicator Report, which serves as Broomfield community assessment required by the bill, to develop a local community health plan. The state has developed its health plan, and local agencies are now required to develop theirs. The community assessment and local health plan are required every five years under the Public Health Act.

- Grant Review Committee – Bob Davis, Anita Roberts and Betty Calvin serve on this task force. Julie provided an update on the 2010 non-profit grants process. The Department has \$220,675 in discretionary funds, which are City and County dollars, to award to nonprofit agencies that provide health and/or human services to Broomfield residents. Twenty-three agencies applied for grants and their requests total approximately \$380,000. The committee, which includes three HHSAC representatives, six staff members, and Karen Smith of the Community Foundation as an advisory member, will meet on January 26th for an overview of the process and training on how to review the applications according to the established criteria. Members will score the applications and come to a consensus on grant awards in the next month.
- CSBG Tripartite Board – Sheryl Gross, Pat Springer, and Tom Parsons serve on this task force. There is currently no update on this board as it will not be activated until the Spring or Summer.
- Community Service Needs Senior Services – Lynn Wixted-Holland, Pat Springer, Betty Calvin, and Bob Davis volunteered for this is a new task force that will focus on strategic planning for community service needs within Senior Services. Debbie will determine whether Betty Calvin and Bob Davis may already be called upon to participate as Senior Resource Board representatives.
- Community Indicators Report—Anita Roberts, Wendy Fiedler, and Bill MacPherson volunteered to serve on a new task force to analyze the Health and Human Services Indicator Report and report back to the committee.

Next Meeting

The next HHSAC meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2010.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Approval

Minutes Prepared by Julie Jary

Approved by HHSAC on March 18, 2010