

Caring & Sharing

June 12, 2009

8:30-10:00 a.m.

Minutes

In attendance: Nick Hardy, Katie Reiff, Jane Bradley, Lauren Powers, Kate Kosaloyski, Elise Tobler, Lizzy Slatt, Lisa Scott, Kathy Wolfe, Linda Fellion, Gail Yant, Anne Chaisson, Betsy Cairo, Tracy Mead, Gloria Kat, Jeff Wright, Rachael Bibby, Pia Jansen, Karen Bettis, Amy Engelman, Kiersten Guerrero, Brenda Guzman, Lyric Wiesley, Gail Barrera, Kim Sharpe, Andrea O'Connell

Presentation—Kim Sharpe, Healthier Communities Coalition

- HCC interviewed leaders in the community who expressed an interest and need for data around children and youth in Larimer County.
- HCC took this information and began work on the “State of Children and Youth in Larimer County”. Began in January, 2007 by interviewing over 100 people in Larimer County to find out what they wanted to see in this “snapshot”. Ended up using over 29 sources to put document together. The snapshot is organized loosely around the five Promises of America’s Promise, although there are a lot of gaps in what data is available for certain promises such as Opportunities to Serve
- Demographics Section--22% of Larimer County residents under age 18, while 20% of Fort Collins residents under 18
- 18% of children in Fort Collins live in poverty, a 25% increase since 2000. Poverty rate for Larimer County is 13%
- There was an increase in the number of homeless students in PSD in 2007 from 2006
- Foreclosure rates increased 502% in Larimer County between 1998 and 2007
- Healthy Habits section includes information on infant health such as mortality, birth rate, unintended births and immunizations. Also includes a section on child and teen health including information on health insurance, personal health care provider, dental care, nutrition, activity and weight. 95% children in LC have some form of insurance while 37% of children in poverty in Colorado uninsured (almost double national average)
- Health section also includes information on child abuse including out of home placements, foster and kinship care
- In Larimer County between 2004-06 the number one cause of injury in children 0-14 was falls; suicide attempts were number 1 for 15-18 year olds. Cancer was the leading cause of death in children 1-14; motor vehicle accidents number 1 for 15-18 year olds.
- While birth rates are low in Larimer County, 50% of a teen births are to Latinas
- Juvenile arrests have decreased 27% between 1197 and 2006
- Education—Includes information on enrollment and school performance. For example, 54% of elementary schools, 75% of middle and 75% of high schools rank high in CSAP testing in PSD. PSD has an 82% graduation rate compared to 75% for the state and an overall dropout rate is 3%, 4% for the state.
- 78% of PSD students are Caucasian while 94% of teachers are Caucasian and a section is included in the document about the number of students who receive free and reduced lunch and its effects on test scores.
- Safe Places—Includes information on non-school hour programs, recreation and open space and child care openings in the county.
- The document concludes with a list of references and a list of child and youth focused resources in Larimer County
- Some of the most startling information is the differences between Caucasian children and Latino/Hispanic children in the areas of high school graduation and drop-out rates and teen births. In addition, the lack of information on positive indicators such as youth volunteering.

Sharing

- Responsible Fatherhood Program—Offering a class called Conscious Fatherhood which is a baby care class. Also offering a 24/7 dad/circle of parents support group for dads on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 2573 Midpoint Drive. Call Lyric at 498-6357 for more information.
- Family Leadership Institute—20 week program for families interested in civic and leadership development. Will give families tools to make a difference in their community. Will start in October. Contact Lyric at 498-6357 for more information
- Look Both Ways—Planning a reproductive health conference on July 30 and 31 at the UNC Centerra campus. Cost is \$50 for both days and will cover a wide variety of topics around reproductive health.
- Disabled Resource Services—Lost a contract with PSD to provide services to students. Will be a gap in services in the community.
- Early Childhood Council—Statewide childcare referral system is changing to provide only 4 sites in the state. Larimer County will have to partner with Weld County and all of Northeastern Colorado. The state is currently looking at where the referral site will live. ECC has expressed interest in being the primary site for the system, even though funding will be more limited now.
- Child Safe—Offering a parenting class on parenting traumatized children with Love and Logic. Also trying to include a healthy eating component of services for clients. Looking for free activities and services around this. Suggestion to contact CanDo.
- SkyHill—now officially a 501(c)3. Doing a feasibility study on fundraising potential for a child and youth focused non-profit campus. Hoping to open in the winter 2014
- Macdonald Family Charity—Fashion Show at Café Vino on June 16. Tickets are \$30. Also having a luau on July 17. Trying to fulfill dreams for 9 children this summer
- CSRC—Doing a fundraiser for early literacy. Selling children's books by Barbara Murray. Proceeds go to the organization and the books will go to children in two early learning programs.
- SAVA—Supergirls running program. Training 40 girls to run a 5K on July 25 with female mentors.
- HCC—Updated Parent Education Network resource lists now available in packets of 50.

Next meeting: Friday, August 14, 2009. No July meeting.