

Hennepin South Services Collaborative

Self Sufficiency Coordination Team

Summary 3-9-10

Attended By: Susan Bongaarts, HC; Jim Downie, MN Workforce Center; Patricia Fenrick, City of Eden Prairie; Molly Link, VEAP; Michelle Nast, Cornerstone; Howard Odor, Normandale Community College; Pat Rigoni, Bloomington Public Health; Clare MacDonald-Sexton, HSSC

Objective/Mission

To facilitate solutions to support people participating in the MFIP program, unemployed individuals, and those working and remaining in poverty, move toward self-sufficiency.

Announcements/Updates

- Penelope 35 still has openings in their independent living apartments for folks 62/older.
- No Kids Left Indoors-NKLI—April 10 sponsored by the Optimist Club of Richfield Youth Foundation, for more information go to www.nokidsleftindoors.com.
- Save the DATE: April 19th 11:15am -1pm -- Seminar on Stigma and Mental Health, Presenter: NAMI, ED, Sue Abderholden
- Cornerstone is having a fund raiser at the MOA, Walk A Mile in Her Shoes. The focus is to promote men taking a stand against domestic violence. Men pay \$25 to walk a half a mile in heels as demonstration of their support. See Cornerstone's website for more information.
- March 15th MN Workforce Center in Bloomington will have a new MFIP counselor, Mary Williams. Mary previously worked at the N. Minneapolis Workforce Center.
- Car Repair Funds –Patricia will look into the status of these funds at CAPSH.
- Phone Assistance—funds are available for discounted for landlines from phone service providers. These funds need to be accessed through providers.

Work plan Issues and Activities

Working Skills and Support—Seminar

Seminar Focus: Provide information on programs receiving stimulus/new federal funding that support self-sufficiency.

Target audience: Human service professionals across environments.

Desired outcomes:

- Understand the benefits available to clients
- Identify eligibility and application process
- Know the options for people in transition- career path redirection, training options, employment counseling
- Clarify misinformation
- Provide effective and efficient referrals

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Agenda & Speakers:

- Unemployment –State of the state--**Jim will look into a presenter from the state**
- Workforce Investment Act-- George Ryan—**Jim will confirm for May 4th**
- Dislocated Worker Program-- Steve Barker—**Jim will confirm for May 4th**
- CAPSH—HIRED-SHARRA employment counseling Judy Swanson-**Clare will confirm Judy for May 4th**

Speaker details:

- Speakers will include information on statistics on use of the program, eligibility, application processes, included services, what a participant can expect, how services/ benefits change over time, appeal processes if applicable, and extensions if applicable
- Speakers will have 30 minutes to present on their topic with an additional 15 minutes for Q& A—**45 minutes total** for each topic area.
- Speakers are asked to send electronically a PPT presentation and any additional handouts to Clare at HSSC no later than Friday, April 22nd.

Date: Tuesday, May 4th 9am-12:30pm

Possible Locations:

- Haeg Room Civic Plaza—max 50 people--**Clare has contacted Denise Royer about this location. Denise is looking into this and additional possibilities.**

Flyer:

Clare will create a flyer for review by Molly on 3/22. **Molly will review** and send the draft back to Clare with corrections by 3/24.

The completed flyer will be sent to the HSSC Community on 3/31.

Refreshments:

Patricia will pick up bagels and cream cheese for this event.

In February, the team discussed posting the information from this seminar on the HSSC website and agreed to provide a summary on the programs presented. Patricia, Molly, Michelle and Susan volunteered to record a summary for the presentations. Clare will compile this information and have it reviewed by presenters prior to posting on the HSSC website.

Next Meeting

FOCUS: May 4th event details and topics for Navigating the Waters workshop on HC services for people moving toward self-sufficiency.

Tuesday, April 13th, 1:00 - 2:30 pm
at Cornerstone