

## IMPACT POVERTY TASK FORCE MEETING

June 11, 2010

Members Present: Gary Adkisson, Sherry Anderson, James Berry, Brenda Brown, Jim Brown, Olivia Burr, Michael Byers, Anitha Davis, Bill Evans, Doug Harnice, Jon Hayden, Tina Hayes, Lisa Heine, Deanna Henschel, Georgann Lookofsky, Maurie McGarvey, Chris McNeill, Bill Mogan, John Operle, Marianne Potina, Stephanie Reece, Cal Ross, Mark Rowe, Cynthia Sanderson, Nancy Waldrop, Gerald Watkins, John Williams, Sr., Kristin Williams, Ashley Wright

Members Absent: Cynthia Alston, Danny Fugate, Randy Greene, James Hudson, Patty Mills, Gerry Montgomery, Melanie Nunn, Rosa Scott, Cintia Sutton

Ashley began the meeting at 7:30am after materials were distributed.

Kristin discussed the goals and focus of the task force. In order to get a meaningful plan, she outlined expectations of the Task Force, which included:

- Task force members getting beyond preconceived ideas
  - o Being open to hear other ideas
  - o Breaking paradigms
  - o Getting creative in addressing issues
- The process relying upon facts:
  - o Avoiding biases in presentations
  - o Avoiding biased data sources
- Open and honest conversations
  - o Task Force members feel free to express opinions
  - o Opinions are valued-not necessarily agreed with (“Seek first to understand”)
  - o Task Force members feel free to change opinions
  - o No bullies in the room
- Inciting questioning and probing
  - o Task Force members researching on their own
  - o No rubber-stamping
  - o Creation of that nagging feeling in their guts-Want to find out “why?”
- Buy-in and Implementation
  - o Vested in the process
  - o Vested in the plan; part of the solution
  - o Ambassadors to implement and champion the plan

Each member introduced themselves and talked about why they are passionate about the future work of the group. Members hope to address issues such as the cycle of poverty, teen pregnancy and how crime relates to poverty. As a whole, the members are interested in looking at data, statistics, current programs, education and government policies that are directly related to poverty. They are interested in studying drop-out rates, the demographics of poverty and how Paducah-McCracken County compares

statistically to other cities comparable in size. The group made suggestions of what type of data they would like to examine in the next scheduled meeting.

The book entitled, Bridges out of Poverty, by Ruby Payne was distributed to the group. The book will be discussed at a seminar to be held August, 27 from 8:30am-3:30pm.

The next meeting will take place July 9, from 7:30am-9:30am at the Paducah City Schools Board of Education. The meeting will focus on an environmental scan of Paducah and McCracken County.

Meeting was adjourned at 9am.