

IMPACT POVERTY TASK FORCE MEETING
October 15, 2010
MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Gary Adkisson, Olivia Burr, Danny Fugate, Randy Greene, Tina Hayes, Deanna Henschel, Lisa Heine, Patty Mills, Maurie McGarvey, Chris McNeill, Bill Morgan, Terri Osucha, Marianne Potina, Stephanie Reese, Cynthia Sanderson, Nancy Waldrop, Gerald Watkins, John Williams, Sr., Kristin Williams, Ashley Wright

Members Absent: Cynthia Alston, Jim Brown, Anitha Davis, James Hudson, John Operle, Cal Ross, Charlie Ross, Sherry Anderson, James Berry, Brenda Brown, Michael Byers, Bill Evans, Doug Harnice, Jon Hayden, Georgann Lookofsky, Gerry Montgomery, Melanie Nunn, Mark Rowe, Rosa Scott, Cintia Sutton,

- I. Welcome and Housekeeping – Ashley Wright
- II. Review of Process to Date and Next Steps – Kristin Williams
 - a. List of Questions
 - i. The Task Force has generated a list of questions over the past several meetings. Kristin is organizing the questions by topic and will email the list to the Task Force. Members with subject knowledge expertise and/or interest are asked to identify the subjects for which they would be willing to take responsibility in researching and then reporting their findings back to the group.
 - b. Plan for “Getting Ahead”
 - i. The Steering Committee would like to pursue the “Getting Ahead” Program.
 - ii. Glenda Adkisson has agreed to attend the Bridges/Getting Ahead training in November. Upon completion of that training she, along with the DVD series, will train others to become certified facilitators.
 - iii. Facilitator training will be held one night per week in January in order to be ready for “Getting Ahead” groups in February.
 - iv. Anyone interested in becoming a certified facilitator should talk to Kristin or Ashley.
 - v. Additionally, we will be soliciting 2-3 Getting Ahead groups from United Way Partner Agencies, churches, or representatives of the Task Force.
 - vi. Kristin then introduced John William, Sr. attending the meeting via Skype.
- III. Presentations
 - a. Angela Houser, Public Assistance Program Specialist, Cabinet for Health and Family Services-Paducah Office
 - i. Ms. Houser gave the panel information about the cash assistance program, the food stamp program, the Medicaid program and other various social services available through her office. Following is some of the more pertinent information given to the Task Force:
 1. Most of the participants receiving Public Assistance are under the age of 25.
 2. In order to receive benefits a participant must be volunteering somewhere in the community or in school.
 3. K-TAP provides cash assistance to those who meet the income limits and have a deprivation of some sort.
 - a. Cash amounts range from \$186 for a single person home to \$432 for a home with 7 or more persons.
 - b. There is a 60 month/5yr. maximum for cash assistance, but no cap on other benefits available.
 - c. Cash assistance is available when there is no parent in the home or the parent is unemployed or underemployed.
 - d. When a student in the home between the ages of 16-18 is receiving K-TAP they are required to be enrolled in and attend school. That is tracked by quarterly bulletins provided by Frankfort. Additionally when a student turns 16

school attendance must be verified by someone in the home. The family is given 10 days to respond to each attendance verification request.

e. Other benefits, considered supportive services, under the K-TAP Program are FRYSC, domestic violence counseling, child care assistance, help in securing financial support from an absent parent and CHFS, which is a job readiness program.

4. The KY Works Program will provide \$100 per week for transportation plus \$500 per year car repair and child care.
5. Family Services helps to provide child care in the home.
6. Other programs exist to encourage self-sufficiency.
7. Food Stamp benefit on average is \$640 per month per family.
8. Kentucky Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provides low cost health insurance for Kentucky's children.
9. Enrolling a child in the Head Start Program is not a requirement to receive benefits.

b. Karen Thompson, Social Security Administration

i. Ms. Thompson gave the panel information about Social Security and SSI benefits. Following are some of the important points brought up by Ms. Thompson:

1. There is no family maximum for benefits.
2. The maximum amount that can be paid out to an individual is \$674/month and for a couple the maximum is \$1,000.
3. Disability claims have supporting documentation from a doctor.
4. There is no monitoring system in place for persons who are receiving disability benefits.
5. Cases are reviewed every three years.
6. Children with disabilities can receive benefits; the benefits are intended to support the child, not the family or parent/s. When a doctor has verified the disability it is difficult for the Social Security Administration to track that.
7. The most common medical issues for disability claims are ADHD in children and in adults it would be mental disabilities and back related issues.

c. Deanna Henschel, WIC and Child Support

i. Ms. Henschel, who is a member of the Task Force, gave the panel information on the WIC program stating what it offered in the way of formula, food for older babies and medical care.

ii. The panel followed up with questions.

IV. Meeting Adjourned

a. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 am with the next meeting being set for Friday, November 12th at 7:30 am, location TBA.