

Families and Social Services Task Force

Meeting Notes

Task Force Meeting: November 21, 2006
Miracle Hill Ministries

Attendees: Laurie Bailey, Scott Dishman, Bruce Forbes, Reid Lehman, Mark Pfeiler, Robin Longino, Russell Stall, Brock Koonce

Strong Communities

They want to build the communities capacity to fight child abuse and neglect.

It is a comprehensive initiative to build systems of support for families of young children. Strong Communities builds, strengthens, and renews community norms of neighbors' help for each other, an important step in preventing child abuse and neglect.

Strong Communities is a very important part of our Family and Social Services Task Force Vision. Much of the vision is dedicated to SC.

Serve Southern Greenville County.

Focus for This Group

Do we need to really focus on things that are already being done? Meaning, if other groups are working on specific areas already, how much do we need to focus on it? Could become a potential opportunity for duplication?

Plan to end homelessness is already being done.

Substance Abuse is already being done. T

This group could better serve the community by focusing on where the gaps exist.

Items that can be concentrations:

- ☞ Transportation
- ☞ Child Poverty
- ☞ Prisoner Release (14,000 prisoners releases per year. The program is simply a bus ticket)

Moving Forward

The group feels that we need to accomplish something. Even if it is small, at least it's tangible. Maybe even some lobbying for a change in laws for prisoner release. What about mandatory half way housing for prisoner release.

Focus on Local Transportation.

- ☞ How do we get the people in our community to where they need to go?
- ☞ How do we avoid duplications of efforts among all the groups talking about fixing the transportation problem?
- ☞ Is there a solution in doing something like what has been done with the Housing Trust Fund?
- ☞ What is the definition of the problem? User needs, GTA, affect on community. **We need to truly avoid duplicating efforts in analyzing.**

Next Meeting: January 16th, Noon @ Miracle Hill

Families and Social Services Task Force

Meeting Notes

Task Force Meeting: October 17, 2006
Miracle Hill Ministries

Attendees: Scott Dishman, Bruce Forbes, Reid Lehman, John Long, Kelly Walker, Russell Stall, Brock Koonce

Participants List

Group was asked to look at the Participants list and see if there were any areas that were missing. Who/What service organization is not at the table and needs to be.

This group will have a tangible to work toward, eventually. But, currently, a tangible we have is that this group provides a table for a large segment of service organizations to have dialogues about the community. This will not be the tangible that we work on, but it is a start.

Action Item

Who else needs to be at the table? Greenville Forward to call members of list that have not been in attendance and ask where they would like their participation to be.

Discussion

Scott brought up the point that many of the other visions have components that deal directly with Families and Social Services. Are we consciously trying to avoid duplications?

Are we the voice for those without resources? If we pay attention to those without voices, do we all gain?

Is this a "healthy families" group? Not just healthy in a medical way, but emotionally, physically, spiritually. A thriving family that is positive.

We have a "challenge" in finding a common language between both sides of an argument. Specifically dealing with the issues that we deal with, on daily basis, we need to make sure that we speak from a neutral standpoint.

If we can figure out the causes that we are going to be working toward, we can find the common language between the groups.

Action Item

Greenville Forward to pull different data that relate with Families and Social Services.

What about our original focus of Transportation, Substance Abuse, Homelessness/Affordable Housing.

- We would be disappointed if Transportation were not a large part of this group. And, this goes beyond just simple transportation. It talks about getting people where they need to go. This is not a focus on high-speed rail. This is not about bike trails. This is about moving everyone. Most, thriving communities have transportation systems that are designed in getting everyone everywhere.

You have to look at children's early experiences in poverty. This is a root cause to what we all deal with. This affects homelessness, substance abuse, future poverty, crime, etc. This fits in with Vision 2025. We are working to end poverty in our communities by 2025. We start with the Children and their experiences.

Poverty Simulator. Gives people with resources an opportunity to experience what it is like not to have as many resources.

Could this be part of an "Opportunity Summit"

We don't need to have a summit if we don't have a goal.

Focuses for Task Force

Transportation (needs to be more defined)

Homelessness/Affordable Housing

Substance Abuse

Early Childhood Poverty

Looking at the language of how we want to state these, we can begin to form a true mission and attainable goals. i.e. we are not going to deal specifically with "transportation," we are going to deal with getting everyone where they need to go.

If we can do something within these areas, then we can begin to lift these families. We can begin to make improvements.

The focus within each of these areas is looking at these issues that affect families that need to be lifted up, so they can live their lives.

Next Meeting: November 21st, 2006. Noon. Miracle Hill Ministries.

Russell will bring data on most of these new areas. This will include new census data (2006). We will begin to identify gaps and opportunities. Most of the meeting will center around analyzing and reviewing this data. This will help us define where we can make a difference.

Families and Social Services Task Force Meeting Notes

Task Force Meeting: September 26, 2006
Miracle Hill Ministries

Attendees: Scott Dishman, Bruce Forbes, Jane Pressly, Deb Richardson-Moore, Beth Templeton, Russell Stall, Brock Koonce

Russell talked about Community Calendar being formed. Greenville Forward is working with a local web developer to create a community, on-line calendar that will be formatted to individuals. If you fill out a profile on the site, then you set your preferences and, following that, every time you log on, it will bring up events, happenings etc. specific to your interests.

Beth Templeton stated that she and United Ministries are working on the Leadership Greenville Human Services day. They are trying to pull information on the specific issues that they want to deal with. Homelessness, children, transportation, etc.

Homeless has been in the news a lot lately. Bruce shared some articles with the group on homelessness in Greenville. Some good. Some bad. Some misunderstood. But, all raising awareness for the fight to end homelessness.

From Bruce:



Opportunity Agenda
Get on website at www.opportunityagenda.org

Basically, it's a group that promotes the opportunity agenda when dealing with community issues.

The Opportunity Agenda is a communications, research, and advocacy organization that is building the national will to expand opportunity in America. We work to ensure that the United States lives up to its promise as the land of opportunity for every person who lives here. In collaboration with other groups and leaders, we pursue innovative efforts that:

- **Connect Americans through core values.**
Americans believe in the values of equality, community, and human dignity as cornerstones of opportunity. We develop ways of rooting social change efforts in opportunity themes and speaking in a language that unites diverse communities.
- **Change the public discourse.**
We work with advocates and other public commentators to explain the threats to opportunity in America and the steps that are needed to realize our nation's full potential.
- **Translate ideas into policy.**
We highlight innovative practices and policies that expand opportunity, capture the imagination, and improve people's lives.

The Opportunity Agenda is a project of the Tides Center. Visit us at www.opportunityagenda.org.

Very similar to The Frameworks Institute.

Discussion

- Ⓞ Could this Task Force start talking on a bigger level or bigger area on a community wide scale. "Okay community, these are our values. These are the issues that we need to focus on. Let's do something about it"
- Ⓞ We need to have a balance between our economic development and our values. Rather than focus on a treatment solution, focus on the message that is going to move us all forward.
- Ⓞ What Greenville Forward is doing, as an organization, is to build bridges between organizations and individuals that need to talk to one another. If we want to be a caring, compassionate community then we need to raise the level of conversation that deal with fairness, values, what is right.
- Ⓞ Everything we do, since we are dealing with the future, it has to begin with values. What do we value now, and how do we want to foster that?

Why, as a community, do we want these things?
- Ⓞ The higher level thinking, asking the questions "why" is missing from the discussion at the table during Task Force meetings.
- Ⓞ **What about an "Opportunity Summit?" What about a "Poverty Summit?"**
- Ⓞ Maybe we help manage the communication aspect of it all, then if there is an issue or gap we help bridge that.
- Ⓞ **Let's educate our community about the realities of poverty. Education the community of why a number of people in this community live in poverty and can't help it.**
- Ⓞ **Are there other communities that are doing this type of work? And, doing it well?**

Beth gave an example of holding a meeting where there is no agenda. The meetings are centered around an issue. i.e. "What are your feelings about poverty." Then, open discussion occurs where everyone can share passions, etc.

There was a brief discussion about the participants list. Many of the participants are not attending. What should we do?

Do we need a focus and determine this?

1. What do we want for the future?
2. Where are the gaps that currently exist that are keeping us from getting there?
3. How can we manage or connect those gaps to move forward?

This area, specifically, has other organizations working on very tangible things within it. This Task Force, therefore, can take a step back and look at more top line things, value-oriented ideas.

"You're only as good as well as those that are hurting or in pain." "You are only as strong as your weakest link."

If there was an area/place/opportunity for people to come and have these types of open conversation. Open up and articulate their passion and compassion, "a support group for people that suffer from compassion."

Homelessness isn't about fear, but about compassion.

As Americans we are taught to believe in the Declaration of Independence and we look out and see that not everyone has the opportunities that are outlined in it.

Action Items from Meeting

- Review participants list and call all participants to determine their interest.
- Prepare a white paper on homelessness and poverty to present to the community.
- Develop a list of who to talk to and the agencies to go to for specific issues. Develop a two page info sheet on the issues including addiction, mental illness, education, healthcare, children.
- Put homeless news report a disk and send to task force members.
- Explore creating an "opportunity summit" not a "poverty summit."
- Explore creating an "Institute of Social Justice" with the role to better educate the community on why this is important.

Next Meeting

October 17th.

Dates for future meetings have changed to the 3rd Tuesday of the Month.

- October 17th
- November 21st
- December 19th

Email to Task Force from Russell

Here are a few things to read before our next meeting that were mentioned at yesterday's task force meeting. Also, we are in the process of refining our list of task force members. If you haven't been to a meeting in a while, please let me know if you would like to continue to serve on this important committee. Otherwise, I will take your list off the list.

Patients find nation's health care lacking.

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060921/NEWS05/609210315&SearchID=73258154578771>

The Commonwealth Study

http://www.cmfw.org/publications/publications_show.htm?doc_id=401577

Maybe we can learn something from some of these organizations....

The Opportunity Agenda. An organization committed to positive change.

<http://www.opportunityagenda.org/site/c.mwL5KkN0LvH/b.1405867/k.BF38/Home.htm>

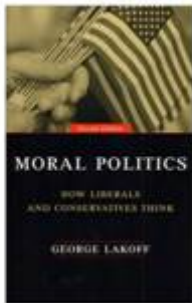
Spin Project

<http://spinproject.org/>

Framework Institute

<http://www.frameworksinstitute.org/strategicanalysis/perspective.shtml>

A book recommended by Scott Dishman.



http://www.amazon.com/Moral-Politics-Liberals-Conservatives-Think/dp/0226467716/sr=8-1/qid=1159384866/ref=pd_bbs_1/002-7803416-6016867?ie=UTF8&s=books



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Families and Social Services Task Force Meeting Notes

Task Force Meeting: August 22, 2006
Miracle Hill Ministries

Attendees: Bruce Forbes, Mike Coggin, Linda Wilson, John Long, Jane Pressly, Deb Richardson-Moore, Ginny Stroud, Reid Lehman, Russell Stall, Brock Koonce

- ⓪ This is the one group where there is another agency in town that is doing similar things (United Way.) We need to make sure that we are not duplicating the efforts already underway.

Mission Statement discussion

Current Vision (Original) states that everyone has:

- ⓪ A home
- ⓪ Solid education
- ⓪ Viable income
- ⓪ Opportunity to get where they are going
- ⓪ Access to services
- ⓪ Just society

Are there glaring holes in the current vision? Are there duplications? Are there items that we should concentrate on more than others?

Strong Communities. What is this? What does it mean?

- ⓪ All communities are looking out for each other. They are concerned about the communities around them and help to ensure that everyone is doing well.

Here's the link: <http://www.clemson.edu/strongcommunities/about.html>

Point was made that the Task Force made the decision to cover Public Transportation, Substance Abuse and Affordable Housing. We agreed that if those issues are covered then we can affect all others covered in Vision.

Action Item / Homework

Review Vision for Families. See what is missing or what needs to be revised.

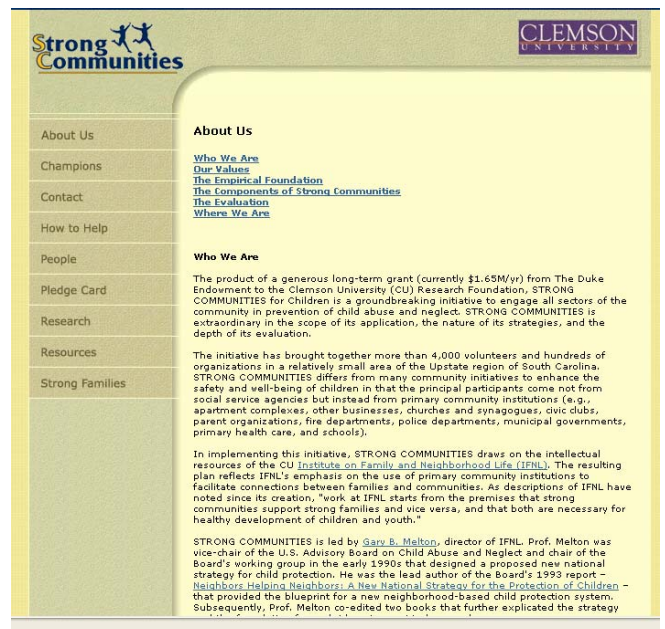
Our next task is to find measurable items and begin to mark them off as they are done. There are items in the Vision that are not measurable. Find those items and figure out how we can make them measurable.

example

Russell passed out a copy of what the Education Task Force did when coming up with their mission. The idea behind this group was that the Task Force covered all educational aspects from birth to death. They made that the focus of their mission, due to the fact that it was the most unique aspect of the group.

- ⓪ There are 5 strategies that work under this mission statement.
- ⓪ Under each of those is a list of tactics.
- ⓪ Under the tactics is a list of how we will measure each (benchmarks.)

The Education TF has decided upon some specific projects. Graduate Greenville is an example. These projects are directly tied into its mission.



Strong Communities

About Us

Who We Are

The product of a generous long-term grant (currently \$1.65M/yr) from The Duke Endowment to the Clemson University (CU) Research Foundation, STRONG COMMUNITIES for Children is a groundbreaking initiative to engage all sectors of the community in prevention of child abuse and neglect. STRONG COMMUNITIES is extraordinary in the scope of its application, the nature of its strategies, and the depth of its evaluation.

The initiative has brought together more than 4,000 volunteers and hundreds of organizations in a relatively small area of the Upstate region of South Carolina. STRONG COMMUNITIES differs from many community initiatives to enhance the safety and well-being of children in that the principal participants come not from social service agencies but instead from primary community institutions (e.g., apartment complexes, other businesses, churches and synagogues, civic clubs, parent organizations, fire departments, police departments, municipal governments, primary health care, and schools).

In implementing this initiative, STRONG COMMUNITIES draws on the intellectual resources of the CU *Institute on Family and Neighborhood Life (IFNL)*. The resulting plan reflects IFNL's emphasis on the use of primary community institutions to facilitate connections between families and communities. As descriptions of IFNL have noted since its creation, "work at IFNL starts from the premises that strong communities support strong families and vice versa, and that both are necessary for healthy development of children and youth."

STRONG COMMUNITIES is led by **Garv B. Melton**, director of IFNL. Prof. Melton was vice-chair of the U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect and chair of the Board's working group in the early 1990s that designed a proposed new national strategy for child protection. He was the lead author of the Board's 1993 report - *Neighbors Helping Neighbors: A New National Strategy for the Protection of Children* - that provided the blueprint for a new neighborhood-based child protection system. Subsequently, Prof. Melton co-edited two books that further explicated the strategy

Their process happened outside of the scheduled meetings. The Chair asked the TF to send mission statements and vision statement. The next meeting was centered around reviewing each one, followed by a discussion about where the groups wants to head.

Missions:

From Jane Pressly:

"In 2025 every Greenville County citizen has within his/her reach: Affordable housing, a living wage, convenient transportation, and access to comprehensive health and social services when needed.

The mission/purpose of our committee is to: "Synergize"/hold accountable the community elements which will create a convenient transportation system, affordable housing and treatment for substance use disorders---a missing element in healthcare services."

- Ⓞ *How do we address Poverty? Resources? Substance Abuse?*

Reid Lehman

"Create an environment where no one has to live in poverty or addiction."

- Ⓞ *What about domestic violence? What about child abuse?*
- Ⓞ *Should the term "oppression" be added to this?*
- Ⓞ *What about those that prey on the poor? Payday Loan companies.*
- Ⓞ *Vulnerable? Interpersonal violence?*

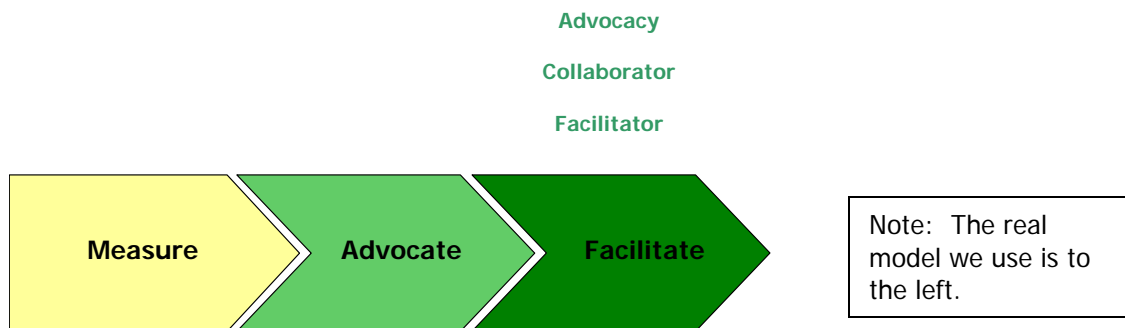
Make it more positive. We need to cover it from the standpoint of "living into something" rather than simply cover the negative. You don't want to get rid of the negative as a goal. We need to add or accentuate the positive-ness of our goals.

Individual Strategies

- Ⓞ More resources for affordable housing & more case materials
- Ⓞ Establishment for a trust fund for non-profits to access for affordable housing. Housing Trust Fund.
- Ⓞ 600 accessible transitional beds. Currently 330 beds in Greenville Co.
- Ⓞ Housing First – model.
- Ⓞ Different housing vehicles. Look at all the steps along the way. What needs to be done.

Model of Involvement of Task Forces for Greenville Forward

These are the levels that we are asking the task forces to consider. Some work different ways from how they can best serve the community.



A large part of this Task Force needs to be education. We need to education the community. We need to educate the service providers.

What about a Families and Social Services Summit?

Create a Grid of Where People Are.

Where	Needs	Who's Doing	Holes	Causes / Case Mgmt
No Place				
Shelter				
Trans.				
Permanent				
Own Home				

Homelessness Discussion from Bruce Forbes

The federal poverty level annual income for a family of four is \$20,000 or below. This is the definition that the federal government puts on the face of poverty. Poverty is integral in what affects homelessness in Greenville County.

In Greenville County

Close to 200 people are sleeping outside, under bridges, in a bamboo thickets, in abandoned buildings, etc. each night. (based on the overflow numbers that are experienced during cold weather.)

Currently:

- 440 Emergency Shelter Beds (230 overflow beds for cold weather)
- 330 Transitional Housing Beds (another 20 beds coming at the end of 2006)
- 53 Permanent Supportive Housing Beds (another 15 coming July 2006)

Based on the waiting lists at Greenville Housing Authority, it is believed that 1000 to 2000 people are doubled-up with others. These are the near-homeless or precariously housed, meaning that, at any time, they can be asked to leave a place where they are staying. It is not their home.

In Greenville County (between 3/1/05 – 2/28/06), 2,565 unduplicated individuals were served by the shelters, transitional housing and/or permanent supportive housing that was captured by the HMIS (Homeless Management Information System.) Of the 2,565, 362 were children and 2,203 were adults. The children were evenly split with 50% boys and 50% girls. The adults were split 64% men and 36% women. Based on race for adults and children, 49% were White and 43% were African American.

Within the number of 2,565 unduplicated homeless individuals, it includes 81 families that were served. They comprised 87 adults and 155 children. (Since HMIS is not capturing all homeless families at this time, we estimate that 135 families experience homelessness during a 12 month period.)

In the Upstate

For the 13 counties in the Upstate, there were 3,143 unduplicated individuals (adults and children) served by HMIS. We estimate that for the Upstate, we are only capturing 60% of the beds, so you can extrapolate and say there were 5,238 unduplicated individuals who experienced homelessness during this time period. (This means 4,212 adults and 1,027 children experienced homelessness.)

Within the number of 3,143 unduplicated homeless individuals, it includes 246 families that were served. They comprised 265 adults and 453 children. (Since HMIS is not capturing all homeless families at this time, we estimate that 410 families experience homelessness during a 12 month period.)

Currently, our HMIS does NOT cover all of the shelter, transitional and permanent supportive housing beds in Greenville County or the Upstate.

If we had all the beds we need to serve those who need it, how many would that be? 500.

Homeless Court

Initiative being worked on by Bruce and his team.

A problem solving court for those that have outstanding warrants that are misdemeanors. For those that live on the streets and have citations, warrants for things not uncommon to the homeless:

- Ⓜ Drunkenness
- Ⓜ Disorderly Conduct
- Ⓜ Begging
- Ⓜ Disturbing Persons
- Ⓜ Nuisance
- Ⓜ Open Container
- Ⓜ Trespass
- Ⓜ Unlawful Occupancy

The Homeless are not know as those that will go to court to take care of these issues. The Homeless Court will serve those and help put them on a path to clear themselves through treatment centers, etc.

This will remove the blockages that seem to keep many from moving forward to getting employment, etc.

Many of the homeless that are currently being abused, beat up, etc. were not born homeless. Something happened along the way to make their situation they way it was. We need to understand that they don't necessarily want to be homeless...

Bruce is currently pulling together the costs of serving Homeless individuals for Greenville County.

Homework

Send Brock and Russell your strategies (Task Force related) for your area. Brock and Russell will send out meeting notes to work from to entire group.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, Sept. 26

Continuum of Housing Opportunities City of Greenville



Emergency Shelter

Summary:

- Persons suffering from crisis that disrupts ability to remain housed for example domestic violence, medical emergency, loss of job;
- Many suffer from mental illness, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS and may be veterans or youth;
- Transportation, child care, lack of job skills often keep persons from being able to maintain stable housing.

Resources:

- Salvation Army
- Safe Harbor
- Shepherd's Gate
- Greenville Rescue Mission
- Palmetto Boys Shelter
- Red Cross (victims of fire or other natural disaster)

Gaps:

- Need for shelter for families
- Need for shelter for persons suffering from substance abuse (low demand program)

Efforts Underway:

- Upstate Homeless Coalition received funding to develop a 15-bed low demand shelter in Greenville

Special Needs Supportive Housing

Summary:

- Permanent housing provided to persons living with mental illness, HIV/AIDS, disabilities and elderly with supportive services provided to assist persons live independently
- Typically this person pays no more than 30% of their income on housing expenses.

Resources:

- Rosewood House
- SHALE WE CARE
- Gateway House
- Shepherd's House
- Greenville Mental Health Association
- Private development

Gaps:

- Need for 1, 2, and 3 bedroom units

Efforts Underway:

- Implementation of Neighborhood Master Plan:
- Homes of Hope - Queen Street development
- SHALE's Perry Place apartments
- Homes of Hope - is developing 15 units for persons living with mental illness
- Upstate Homeless Coalition has developing 12 units for persons living with HIV/AIDS
- Green Orthodox Church developing 50 units for the elderly

Affordable Rental Housing

Summary:

- HUD defines affordable housing for a person or family to pay no more than 30% of income on housing related expenses;
- 34.7% of households in the City pay more than 30% of income on housing
- Housing wage is \$10.81 per hour to afford a 2-bedroom unit. This equates to an annual income of \$22,494
- Fair Market rent—\$962 for a 2 BR unit
- Persons earning minimum wage can afford a monthly rent of \$368 according to HUD guidelines (30% of income)

Resources:

- Housing Authority of the City of Greenville
- Greenville Housing Futures
- Homes of Hope
- 8445 - Azah Shreve Temple
- Upstate Homeless Coalition
- SHALE
- Henry Housing Southeast
- Private property owners

Gaps:

- Increased number of units with 3 or more bedrooms

Efforts Underway:

- City implementation of master plans
- Greenville Housing Futures developing rental housing in the Viola Street, Green Avenue, South-entrance and Greenville-Spartanburg
- Housing Authority developing the Arcadia Hills neighborhood
- Housing Authority's redevelopment of Jesse Jackson Townhomes
- 8445 - Azah Shreve Temple • redevelopment of former Gover School

Homeownership

Summary:

- Homeownership rate is 47%
- The City is working to reverse the homeownership rate in some of its Special Emphasis Neighborhoods from 30% to 70%.

Resources:

- City of Greenville
- Housing Authority
- United Way
- Greenville Housing Futures
- Habitat for Humanity
- Private development

Gaps:

- Continued need for home buyer education and training
- Cover payment and closing cost assistance
- Affordable product

Efforts Underway:

- Housing Authority's Arcadia Hills redevelopment
- The City of Greenville's Viola Street neighborhood redevelopment
- Greenville Housing Futures homes in South-entrance
- Habitat for Humanity redevelopment in the W. Greenville neighborhood
- Housing Authority's redevelopment plans for Jesse Jackson Townhomes
- The Randolph Group's developments at Hubberry at Pickens and Pendleton West
- Tower Real Estate Group's 40 unit development in Green Avenue
- Haynie Street redevelopment

Families and Social Services Task Force

Meeting Notes

Task Force Meeting: July 25, 2006
Miracle Hill Ministries

Attendees: Bruce Forbes, Ken Kelly, Jane Earle Pressly, Deb Richardson-Moore, Baxter Wynn, Cartisha Jenkins, Russell Stall, Brock Koonce

Who Needs To Be Here?

- Ⓞ Shouldn't the representatives for this group be related to our focus areas (Transportation, Substance Abuse, Homelessness?)
- Ⓞ Who from Phoenix Center should be on the Task Force?
Chair of Board – Paul Keck
Tom Inman – longtime Board Member (Jane to call)
- Ⓞ Are we represented from homelessness and affordable housing?
Don Oglesby – affordable housing.

Who all can be on this group to keep us informed and up to date?
- Ⓞ Goodwill? – Michelle Nealy, Diane Bowers
- Ⓞ Cars for needy families. They don't give them away, but they offer them at a considerably reduced rate.
Bill Riley, CEO Goodwill – Bruce will call.

What about someone from Turning Point? Off of Whitehorse Road. Old motel that they have turned into a halfway house. Inviting them to this group would help them become more legitimate.

Would anyone be opposed to moving the meeting date? A key member, Judy Dudley with the Transportation Commission, has Rotary on this date.

- Ⓞ What about taking up the cause to make sure that we don't lose the things we have. i.e. Transportation. This group could take the cause of Transportation, and help ensure that it does not go away.
 - Ⓞ The purpose of this Task Force is going to be to find specific projects to complete one at a time. We need to keep the movement going forward. We need to encourage the community.
 - Ⓞ Did everyone get the newsletter? Currently, it has been sent to current Task Force members. Today, we are sending it out to the individuals involved in the original Vision process.
-

Regroup on Substance Abuse – Jane Pressly

County Council has formed a TF on Substance Abuse. 12 members. 3rd meeting was this past week. Don't want to re-invent the wheel. Many of the initiatives set forth in that Task Force can be address or worked on in-tandem with this group.

They are there to make recommendations to the county administrator Joe Kernell who will take them to council.

J.J. Larson

County has hired someone to run a treatment center so that those who have been there after 30 days. Big breakthrough.

- Works for County Administrator

- **Jane will call to add to the list.**

48 bed treatment center for adjudicated adolescents. This will be built along with the new Detention Center.

70 – 80% of those in Detention Center have a substance abuse problem.

Miracle Hill

National Recovery Initiative. Funded by Corporate Donors. Potential for 5 year study (\$10MM). Centered around faith-based recovery treatment. Should help bring together some empirical data. First time there has been a national effort to be able to do this.

Can this provide empirical data as compared to the rest of the Country. Comparative analysis.

Timing: Pilot project to start in January. This 13 month study should finish in 2008 and hopefully set the stage for the larger 5 year longitudinal study.

Will look at sustainable recovery. Look at process measures.

What do we see going on at the County level so we don't duplicate efforts? We are waiting on the elections to see what happens on that front.

What else can we be doing?

- Ⓞ Keep this conversation going. Monitoring. Ready to call others to support.
- Ⓞ Does this Task Force have a mission statement? We have tasks, but nothing in the form of a mission statement. Do we need one? Yes.
- Ⓞ Identify specific tasks for this group.
- Ⓞ What about adding Turning Point? What if they become part of this group?
- Ⓞ One of the keys to ending homelessness is to prevent it in the beginning.

Mission

- Ⓞ Purpose of Task Force is that we want the key people at the table dealing with Substance Abuse, Homelessness and Transportation. They can exchange what's going on.
 - Ⓞ Provide a comfortable forum for the interchange of ideas and programs relating to Transportation, Homelessness and Substance Abuse.
 - Ⓞ Developing a political role among the Families and Social Services. But, more advocacy instead of controversial.
-

- 🕒 Neighborhood association leadership.
- 🕒 Prevent duplication amongst all groups.
- 🕒 Continue to monitor where we are on the bigger stuff from the original vision.

Action Item

Write a one line mission statement for this group. Ask the question of “what does this group do? For whom? Why?”

Next Meeting

- 🕒 **Compile mission statements to discuss**
- 🕒 **Presentation on Homelessness**

Meeting Date Change – August 15th. We will now meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Families and Social Services Task Force Meeting Notes

Task Force Meeting: June 27, 2006
Greenville Transit Authority

Attendees: Molly Taylor, Zack Weaver, Dick Berger, John Long, Jane Earle Pressly, Beth Templeton, Luanne Johnson, Judy Dudley, Russell Stall, Brock Koonce

The group decided that a significant portion of each meeting will be spent on reviewing what members are currently doing. The hope is that further collaborations and partnerships will be built from this.

Phoenix Center

- Adolescent program is moving forward. Hopefully, in a year the program will be available. This will be a separate facility that will specifically treat adolescents. They are trying to raise money for this department. The Executive Director is going to confirm how the money will be used. The money should start to funnel through in October.

Will be having a walk (August 26th) to support treatment programs. Will help people become aware of the issues. Will be held at Furman.

United Ministries

(Look up UM website and give overview and each program)

United ministries have four major programs. Each program has layers.

- House of Hope. Have helped 106 people move into long term housing this year so far.
- Emergency Assistance. Deals with heat, utilities, etc. Over 2,000 households were helped last year.
- Employment Readiness Program. Helps those that need jobs, get jobs. They hold seminars about how to dress, what to do, etc.
- Adult Education – 5 or 6th grade level. Once they get to the 9th Grade level, they begin to take the GED. Then, UM can determine what they do and don't know.

ACTION ITEM: Look up Scarborough Missions Canada on the Internet

ACTION ITEM: Provide links to all Greenville non-profits on the Greenville Forward website.

Greenville Faith United

- Second Annual Festival of Faiths project will be in September. Beginning working now.
-

United Way

- 🕒 **Helping Youth Succeed Council** – “Graduate Greenville”. Work with County to improve graduation rate in County. Graduation rate goal is to improve to 85%. Greenville Forward is a partner in this.
- 🕒 **Success By 6** – Developing the “Child Impact Center” - pulling together partners that are interested in child development to age 6 and bring them all together with a model program with high quality and high standards.
- 🕒 **Building Healthy Communities** – Working with SC Business Coalition for Healthcare – working on a cooperation between UW and the South Carolina Business Association for Healthcare.
- 🕒 **Sharing Smiles** – a mobile clinic for building healthy teeth for individuals across the county.
- 🕒 **Strengthening Families and Neighborhoods** – IBA programs
- 🕒 **Neighbors Helping Neighbors In Crisis** – 211 System is going to be a long term system. www.SC2-1-1.org. Upstate doesn't have the 211 yet, but we are having conversion issues from one technology to another. Once the centers are developed you will have access to resources that can help you. 2-1-1 is up and running in the rest of the state.

ACTION ITEM: Look at “Young America Bank”. This is a bank for young people and teaches commerce. Also look up “Ameritown”

- 🕒 United Way has a new home. On Fredricks St. behind the Buck Mickel Center.

Faces and Voices of Recovery of SC (FAVOR)

- 🕒 501(c)3 will come through soon. Applying for a DOADAS grant to do a state-wide conference on issues, and local chapters organizing.
- 🕒 3 committees, Community Education, Public Action, Media Awareness – determining how they can raise awareness in community.

Transportation Presentation (presentation is attached)

Annual ridership for the GTA is 700,000 to 750,000. This year, it is 900,000 and could be 1,000,000. The highest boarding rate per bus is 26. GTA operates 13 peak vehicles.

30th year in the Fall

- 🕒 **Funding:** Same as it was 10 years ago (dollar-wise). City increased funding by \$80K in 2005. The County/State has fluctuated within no more than a 10% increase. With the costs associated with GTA going up, they don't match with local funding. Gas, Tire, etc.
- 🕒 In 2000, the GTA lost the ability to use the federal dollars for general operating expense, due to the County being designated at \$200,000. So, they had to use other money.

ACTION ITEM: Educate the public that public transportation is an economic indicator. This is also a social issue.

- 🕒 **GTA is about to crash.** If we don't do something soon, we will have a 2nd crash of GTA. Have tried to do everything they can to ensure that their maximum dollars were being spent to serve community.
- 🕒 Solutions.
 - Find a way to get the \$4 million in Federal Appropriations.
 - Encourage a \$5 per car tag fee. Asked for a \$5 increase on vehicle registration (currently \$15). \$5 increase would help GTA meet the organizational costs necessary. This would provide \$1.3 million a year.

“Put two gallons of gas into Greenville Transit”

ACTION ITEM: Look up the Charleston funding mechanism.

Next.

Start thinking about ways we can become advocates for issues.

- 🕒 **What about one sheet marketing materials that all the other organizations can use to hand out?**

Next Meeting: July 25th. Location TBD



Families and Social Services Task Force Meeting Notes

Task Force Meeting: May 23, 2006
Miracle Hill Ministries

AROUND THE TABLE DISCUSSION

Phoenix Center

Things that are currently in the news are specifically about Board, rather than services. The services continue and are doing well.

Miracle Hill just opened its first transitional home. Hope to open 6 to 7 more over the next couple of months.

United Way, just finished with allocation that has come through April and May. How do they best deal with the issues now? How can they continue?

Upstate Fatherhood Coalition – everyone at the table can be used. Moving forward with strengthening families through fatherhood. Currently asking for funding throughout the community.

Greenville Faith Communities United

The Golden Rule and how that can apply to everyone in their daily lives. Aspiration is to possibly become the "Golden Rule City."

City of Greenville Community Development Division

Currently master plans for 7 communities around city.

Plan to End Homelessness

Talking about issues about how do we solve not criminalizing homelessness? How do we deal with it other than just putting them in jail?

Grand for HUD, 2.8 million dollars for homeless assistance programs for entire Upstate. In a few years, could possibly bring about 3.5 million.

Bruce to provide a summary sheet.

United Ministries

2nd summer in a row providing a workshop on education in classroom.

Adult education program, about ½ of students go on to Greenville Tech (one just got accepted to Clemson).

1st Quarter 2006 – 16 GED graduates

Substance Abuse Presentation – Jane Earle Pressley

The problem is that we have no where to send people for treatment without a lot of red tape. They have to be diagnosed, etc. before they can get help. They can't just check themselves in. There is really nowhere to send them in-house that is ready and available for them to go into.

Miracle Hill has 60 in-house recovery beds. Most come from outside community because many don't know about it. They've developed a mentoring program. 14 local churches participate in long term mentoring.

If we recover them and send them to the treatment homes, what happens after? Where is the follow-up? Once they leave the jail, treatment home, etc. what do we have in place to deal with the continual education / support for those addictions.

Palmetto House – Eric Harris, based on Oxford House model. People making that step from treatment house to normal living, but not completely inundated into society again. "We Program."

In 2025, what is going to be in place to deal with the continuum of care?

1. Engagement
2. Treatment
3. Continuing Care / Aftercare

Beth – Several years ago a program at G'ville Hospital had a program. Clergy, Teachers, and Organizations. Week long program. Training to be clearer about the whole issue and playing field of addiction. You went to AA, Alanon, etc. You saw it up-close. Then, when you needed to refer someone to AA, you were aware.

Program does not exist anymore.

If Agencies and Organizations that were not specifically tied to alcohol or drug abuse, had an on-site counselor. Some type of system that would coordinate all the places together. To find a location with a bed, etc. and you could send them there. But, it would join all the organizations together.

Education is an issue with providers and general public. They don't have a construct for what to do and how to do it. Don't know how to analyze.

Education and Accessibility. (Trust Factor)

Continuum. Affordable house piece and substance abuse have to come together. Creates a vicious cycle.

Bruce – Missing area of prevention. Go into the schools and talk about the pros and cons. Proactive vs. Reactive.

County Council and Hospital cooperation.

Agencies that deal with this on a daily issue, should be a be a major player with the cooperation above. Education with our communities.

Education communities.

Vouchers with Transportation

Dom Assilary (example from Bruce / Beth) 232-6463 ext. 13 (Hank – UM – Place of Hope).

Where does the minor population come into play? Over 5,000 17 and under need treatment today.

Next Meeting

June 27th, noon. Greenville Transit Authority.

From this point on, meetings will take place the 4th Wed. of every month.





Families and Social Services Task Force Meeting Notes

Task Force Meeting: March 21, 2006
United Ministries Learning Center

Attendees: Mike Coggin, Bruce Forbes, Dick Berger, Ginny Stroud, John Long, Reid Lehman, Cindy Roddy, Judy Dudley, Russell Stall, Brock Koonce

Greenville Forward hopes that each person on this Task Force can form connections. Those collaborations happen from this, as a result. Everyone helping everyone else.

Perspective on original Families and Social Services meetings during Visioning:

History: Met 5 or 6 times. 30-40 people. Health providers, Family Service providers.

- Housing was a major component. Everyone should have a good safe house.
- Everyone should have access to solid education
- Transportation
- Income
- Healthcare
- Job training/Job placement.
- 2-1-1 System
- Increased community movement for a "Just Society"

Future for Families and Social Services:

Pick up the news in 25 years; what do you expect the lead headline to be in dealing with Families and Social Services? What is the dream?

- No homelessness
- Everyone has a good home to live in.
"Good" = a house they can afford without having to live paycheck to paycheck
Affordable
Good location/job
- 0% Dropout rate
- Transportation that works
Goes to where the jobs are
Operates, at least, on second shift, possibly 3rd shift
Used by people of varying income levels (not just low income)
- "Greenville Wins Again, Most Welcoming Community Award"
- "Most Livable City in US"
- People knew you were talking about Greenville, SC instead of some other Greenville. We are distinctive.
- Less people are in need. Those in need are getting the help they require.
- Greenville provides opportunities to intelligence, social, economic well-being
- My children want to live here when they grow up.
- Community and family violence are low.
- Strong Wage Community

Is it a dream to have "walk-ability" as part of Greenville community? "Bike-ability".
Greenville is not concentrated (creative transportation).

Assets of Greenville in Families and Social Services

- Welcoming to others that come here in need. We never turn anyone away.
- Recreation
- Human service agencies cooperating together. (Non-profit alliance through Chamber creates a level of trust. Feel non threatened)
Many groups in community willing to have conversations with each other to make stronger community
- Hunger has good network & and those that are hungry have food that is available.
- Healthcare Coordinated
- Strong sense of family. Concept of Family is very important, but we need to broaden the definition.
- More international than in the past.
- Deep community pride by "In" group. "out" group is frustrated. How do we change?
People with resources have to take the time to reach out to those without resources.

Challenges for Greenville

- Drugs/Alcohol Addiction
80% of those incarcerated have drug/alcohol addiction
- Currently poor mental health coordination
- Transportation (can't get to jobs, etc.)
- Keeps pockets of poverty
- "hide" our poor
- Access to Healthcare – having the resources to get good healthcare.
- Not enough transitional housing
- Affordable housing
- Financial resources
- Outside images of Greenville is "buckle of bible belt". Could influence outsiders not to come to community.
- Tolerance
- Not enough strong wage jobs
- Creating political wheel so public resources will be used to benefit society

Do you think it's a good Vision? What else should be done?

Education should be quantifiable. Drop out rates should have definite numbers. Will drop from ___% to ___%.

We need to get a hold on what the REAL current drop out rate is. Get a handle on what Graduation Rate means.

Continue to identify benchmarks.

Expand access to services to availability

Next Steps

- Take vision and do more dreaming
- Establish benchmarks
- Establish tactics for implementation
- Assign responsibility

Who else comes?

- Hispanic Representation (Sarah)
- Alfred Middleton
- Kelly Walker
- Vardry Flemming (neighborhood association, West End)
- Healthcare Representation

Next Meeting, April 25th at Miracle Hill
