

Families and Social Services Task Force Meeting Notes

Task Force Meeting: October 14, 2008
Greenville Forward

Attendance: Lori Bailey, Bruce Forbes, Beth Templeton, Kelly Troyer, Brock Koonce

Opening by Bruce Forbes

- Ⓞ Still trying to determine what this task force is going to accomplish
- Ⓞ Vision originally emphasized homelessness, education, health, stable incomes, transportation and access to services
 - Ⓞ Many different groups are emphasizing these focuses already
 - Ⓞ Transportation proves to be the big void
- Ⓞ Status of 2-1-1 program
 - Ⓞ Still not sure what it is and if it is going to come to fruition
- Ⓞ This task force has taken on a huge task but still has no set plan
- Ⓞ Forbes thought they should focus on one problem and either take on an advocacy role or create some sort of action plan
- Ⓞ Suggestion made of a Poverty Center in Greenville (presented by Beth Templeton?)
 - Ⓞ 6 objectives
 - Ⓞ Possibly pursue the construction of an actual building
 - Ⓞ Will be a place to bring together the different groups working on different aspects of poverty
 - Ⓞ Could eventually have a research arm
 - Ⓞ Would first address persistence poverty in Greenville
- Ⓞ Step up Savannah
 - Ⓞ Has Poverty Center but structured like task forces of Vision 2025
- Ⓞ Poverty Centers are often connected to universities
- Ⓞ Strom Thurmond Institute more like policy analysis
- Ⓞ Furman will have interns they will be wanting to place for their Poverty Studies Concentration
- Ⓞ This would not start with the tangible piece that people want
 - Ⓞ But, ground preparation is key before doing the tangible things
 - Ⓞ Also want to make sure the tangibles are going to work
- Ⓞ Poverty Center task force will continue to meet to see if it will be possible

- Ⓞ Beth talked about her editorial and the responses she received
 - Ⓞ 50% of the US income averages less than \$15,000 a year
- Ⓞ South Carolina has a majority of free introduced lunch
- Ⓞ Greenville Forward Task Force of Family and Social Services to join efforts to create a Poverty Center
 - Ⓞ Who is still engaged in the plans for the Poverty Center?
- Ⓞ Greenville Forward releasing health assessment with indicators that will directly affect the goals of this task force
- Ⓞ Much of the groundwork for this project will be series of conversations before a building is ever built
- Ⓞ Grant request will be even more powerful if the people behind the project are already in place and have been meeting for two years
- Ⓞ Where do we go from here?
 - Ⓞ Poverty Center meeting Oct. 23 at 2:30
- Ⓞ It would be ok for this group to meet on the quarterly basis; serve as an advocacy group?
- Ⓞ Two meetings ago, decided that everyone in this task force is a provider
 - Ⓞ Good to act as advocacy group to direct to other service providers when necessary
- Ⓞ Brock: Poverty Center is a perfect project for this group
 - Ⓞ Possibly drop back to quarterly meetings for the task force
 - Ⓞ Helps to lessen the time commitment
 - Ⓞ Form subcommittees with different goals
- Ⓞ Poverty Center may still not be “the one thing” that this group will focus on
- Ⓞ Task Force could provide the seal of approval from providers when looking at certain projects
- Ⓞ Arts Task Force meets quarterly and the meetings have become much more centered on collaboration and conversation as a result
- Ⓞ In five years, none of the groups will be meeting on a monthly basis
- Ⓞ This does not mean that less things will get done but the longer interims will lead to more sharing when the meetings do occur
- Ⓞ Use of e-mail will prevent disconnection
- Ⓞ Good to approach as a collective
- Ⓞ Any preference as which months would be good to meet?
 - Ⓞ First quarterly meeting in November, then February
 - Ⓞ Tuesdays are hard for Beth Templeton
 - Ⓞ Decided on the third Tuesday of the week—November 18

Next Meeting
November 18th, 2008
12:00 – 1:00
Greenville Forward Office