



Members Attending:

Michael Steinert, Co-Chair
Debbie Fillmore-Keen, Co-Chair
Angie Gofredo
Susanne Luebke
Laverne Knezek
Jan Finch
Pat Cheong
Sudeepa Bhattachanya
David Woody
Kirstin Painter
Maria Scannapieco

• ***Introductions...new members...prospective members***

- **David Woody:** Catholic Charities
- **Maria Scannapieco:** UT Arlington - Center for Child Welfare
- **Kirstin Painter:** UT Arlington - Center for Child Welfare

Maria, and Kirstin and shared information about the Center for Child Welfare and it's involvement in research and evaluation, professional development, certification, and recruiting related to child protective services and workers,

David discussed his role over clinical and financial assistance services at Catholic Charities as well as his efforts to outreach community parishes with respect to mental health resources they can access.

- **Approval of minutes 1/11/06**

Minutes from 2/8/06 were reviewed and approved

- **Old business**
Diversification of membership

We have successfully added 5-7 (depending on which day you count) members to the grants committee in the past 6 months (including Parenting Center, Tarrant Council, UTA, and Catholic Charities. Members identified the need to outreach the Mental Health association and JPS' Partners for Health' program. Michael Steinert will follow up on both.

- ***Current grant applications, requests for support letters, awards, upcoming Grant Opportunities***

Patsy Thomas shared information about a forthcoming HOGG foundation grant related to culturally specific, research-based treatments for populations of color. MHC, Community Solutions, FWISD, Lena Pope, and Catholic Charities are discussing a collaborative application targeting African American children and families.

Patsy also updated the group on the visit to Washington, D.C. last week by a contingent from the MHC. They met with Jim O'Neal in the Dept. of Health and Human Services to discuss funding opportunities that might match Tarrant County's needs.

The Mental Health Connection was successful in securing \$20,000 via a mental health block grant. This will be used to support the promotion and education related to the Michael Nye photographic exhibit scheduled for 9/23/06 through 12/3/06 at the Fort Worth Museum of Science & Natural History.

Jan Finch reported that the Parenting Center was successful in its bid for 2 TDFPS grants.... *Selecting Success* will focus on services to children at-risk for abuse and neglect.... other monies

will support expansion of their *Healthy Families* program. Jan also mentioned current funding opportunities related to family preservation and fatherhood.

Angie Gofredo reported that Lena Pope received a TDFPS grant as well targeting youth at risk for juvenile justice involvement

Michael related FWISD efforts to expand and integrate school-based health care (SBHC) via additional sites in partnership with JPS Health Network as well as involvement in state and national legislative efforts to secure line item funding for SBHC.

Debbie Fillmore-Keen mentioned that the County's unsuccessful bid for prisoner re-entry funding has led to some positive additional attention and resources coming our way to assist with strategic planning

- ***Announcements***

- ***April MHC Meeting....Grants Committee Announcement***

We discussed what the content of our announcement/reminder/PR spot should be for the April MHC meeting. We agreed we should:

- Reiterate the diversity and activity level of the committee
- Point out the resource that agencies can access (planning, writing, advocacy, problem solving, D.C. public relations assistance)
- Highlight an example of how collaboration through the grants committee and MHC helped facilitate an opportunity (SBHC)

- Next Meeting

Wednesday, April 12th, 2006

9:15am

3rd Floor Conference Room - MHMR

MHMR North tower (room to be announced)