Agenda

Welcome / Introductions

Kasten Award

Horizon Award

Community Partnership Award

Vote
Council Board Members
President-Elect

Installation of President & President-Elect

The Year in Review

Next Meeting
Friday, May 15, 2009 at 7:30 AM
Kasten Community Development Center
937 Broadway, Suite 102
Cape Girardeau, Missouri
The KASTEN AWARD is the highest honor given to any council member. It is named for former Missouri State Representative Mary Kasten who founded the Community Caring Council. This award is given to an individual who exemplifies the strength and commitment to the community as stated in the Caring Council's goals and ideals, and whose work is recognized as a "building block" of support for the council through active membership or extensive work on council sponsored activities.

Past Recipients Include:
1993 Barb Stribling
1994 Jim Davis
1995 Lori Hayden
1996 Shelba Branscum
1997 Charlotte Craig
1998 Tonya Fambro
1999 Paul Schniedermeyer
2000 Frances Gould
2001 Mary Gosche
2002 Jo Boyer
2003 Kevin Sexton
2004 Shirley Ramsey
2005 Ellie Knight, Aging Committee
2006 Tom Davisson, Kay Azuma
2007 Jeff Brune, Cape Transit Authority
2008 Denise Lincoln
Horizon Award

The HORIZON AWARD is given each year to an individual or a group who has given extraordinary service to the council in a specific area, whether it be committee work, a special project or as a volunteer to support a council committee, event or activity.

Past Recipients Include:

1993  Jerry Wilmath
1994  Ted Fedler
1995  None Awarded
1996  Jim Watkins
1997  Beth Schmucker
1998  Jim Maginel
1999  Leah Shrum
2000  Denis Rigdon
2001  Kevin Sexton
2002  Joyce Holekamp
2003  Nancy Jernigan
2004  Kay Azuma
2005  Stacy Taylor
2006  Roy Jones, Natalie Sandoval
2007  THRIVE Youth Development Committee
2008  Department of Social Work, College of Health & Human Services, Southeast Missouri State University
The Council

Board of Directors

FOUNDER
Mary C. Kasten

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Tom Davison

COUNCIL PRESIDENT
Shannon Kitchen, Alzheimer's Association

BOARD MEMBERS

Chair: Paul Nenninger, Retired
Vice Chair: Michael Parker, Southeast Missouri State University
Treasurer: Nancy Jernigan, United Way of Southeast Missouri
Secretary: Janice Jones, Success by 6
Steve Unterreiner, Retired
Lynne Cairns, Missouri Children's Division
Ruth Dockins, SEMO Area Agency on Aging
Cheryl Klueppel, American Red Cross
Sister Theresa Davey, St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
Jeff Brune, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network
Luke Landgraf, Thorngate Ltd.
Gladys Mosley, Neighborhood Representative
Donna Taake, 4-H, University of Missouri Extension
Frances Gould, Missouri Children's Division

Mission & Purpose

The mission of the Community Caring Council is to support communities in developing and providing a continuum of resources to help empower individuals and families meet life's challenges.

The purpose of the organization is to promote coordination and collaboration between all community groups in order to empower individuals and families to become more self-reliant, responsible and resourceful.

Monthly Meetings

(Networking / Featured Speaker)
3rd Friday of every month
7:30-8:30 AM
Kasten Community Development Center
937 Broadway, Suite 102 (Lower Level)
Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63701
Funding Sources

Cape Girardeau County Senior Citizens’ Services Fund Board
  • Senior Unmet Needs
  • Senior Needs Assessment

Cape Girardeau Unitarian Universalist Fellows – Senior Safety Buckets

Children’s Trust Fund – Missouri Mentoring Partnership

HUD – Permanent Supportive Housing Program

Local Fundraising/Donations

Missouri Department of Mental Health – Strategic Prevention Framework

Missouri Department of Social Services
  • Community Partnership
  • Missouri Mentoring Partnership

Missouri Family Support Division – HB 1519 (Educare)

Missouri Foundation for Health – Health in Non-Traditional Settings (HINTS)

Missouri Housing Trust Fund
  • Rental Deposit Assistance
  • Senior Home Repair

Rushing Marine Services, LLC – Senior Safety Buckets

The P&G Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation – Missouri Mentoring Partnership

United Way of Southeast Missouri
  • Successful Parenting
  • Early Childhood Assistance
  • THRIVE Initiative
  • Transportation

Zonta Club – Missouri Mentoring Partnership
Community Partnerships are good stewards of state dollars

Partnerships Impact Locally
Partnerships Stretch State Dollars

**PARTNERSHIP ALLOCATION OVERALL LEVERAGED FUNDS**

- FY00:
  - Overall: $43,631,310
  - Leveraged Funds: $18,816,412
  - Partnership Allocation: $18,816,412

- FY09:
  - Overall: $27,243,474
  - Leveraged Funds: $19,759,675
  - Partnership Allocation: $7,483,799

Total Community Partnerships Funding = **$27,243,474**

FY2008-2009 Sources of Funding for the Cape Girardeau Community Partnership

- LOCAL INVESTMENT: $251,039
- IN-KIND DONATIONS: $162,806
- OTHER STATE & FEDERAL FUNDING: $286,609
- CARING COMMUNITIES FLEXIBLE FUNDING: $10,838
- PARTICIPANT FEES: $98,313
FY08-09 In-Kind Donations
TOTAL $162,806

- BUSINESS - FOR PROFIT: $56,604
- BUSINESS - NOT FOR PROFIT: $3,750
- CHURCHES/FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS: $3,775
- FOUNDATION/PHILANTHROPIC: $21,442
- FEDERAL GOVERNMENT: $3,572
- LOCAL GOVERNMENT: $7,979
- STATE GOVERNMENT: $3,775
- INDIVIDUAL: $1,375
- LOCAL CBO/CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS: $856
- SCHOOL DISTRICTS/EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS: $28,051
- TOTAL: $162,806
From the Director

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FY2009

To All Community Partners,

In this coming year we will face many new challenges in our professional lives, and also to a degree in our personal lives in the community. We have to continue to focus on how we can help people improve themselves and in turn make our community stronger and healthier.

We will certainly see dramatic increases in families looking for assistance with their basic needs – food, shelter, utilities, health care – and we must be creative. We need to concentrate on finding additional, non-traditional sources of assistance, maybe touching a part of our community that has yet to be approached for such resources.

As an organization we need to look very closely at what we are doing in our daily operations, keeping a serious eye on fiscal responsibility, and looking for more ways to conserve. We may be forced to decide that it is not possible to sustain everything that we are currently doing. And we will be asking funders for additional resources to maintain our current activities. All of these things will be tremendous challenges.

We live in a great community full of caring, giving people who truly want to help their neighbors. We just need to make sure that all of the pieces of the puzzles are getting assembled correctly, so that nothing is lost and the energy is maintained.

We will continue our efforts to educate and involve the community about the culture of poverty and what we can all do to address the issues and make some concrete plans for the future. I am confident that we can begin to see things change for the better.

Tom Davisson,
Executive Director
Community Coordinators

Statement of Purpose
The purpose of this position is to manage and facilitate the implementation of the Priority Issue Councils and Committees in order to address the goals and objectives of the Community Plan.

Additionally, the implementation and/or oversight for several Council programs and grants is the Community Coordinators' responsibility.

Program Activities
Maintained and sustained Priority Issue Committees under the Community Plan. Assisted with strategy implementation as needed.

Tracked and reported progress of Community Plan goals, objectives and strategies.

Managed the use of the Kasten Community Development Center.

Represented Community Caring Council on several community committees, advisory boards, etc.

Led planning and implementation of Community Caring Council's Annual Conference.

Supervised one VISTA volunteer for Missouri Reentry Process and Social Work interns for macro-practice experience.

Coordinated activities and fiscal tasks for Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition.

Produced 3 monthly calendars - Family Fun and Learning Activities, Successful Parenting and Senior Activities Calendar.

Oversaw and implemented HINTS Health Events and Building Strong Families parent curriculum.

Completed and submitted relevant grant requests.

Program Outcomes
Ten Priority Issue Committees remained active committees addressing priority issues through the implementation of Community Plan strategies, annual evaluation of progress and ongoing revisions of the community plans. See individual reports for each priority issue for more information.

Kasten Community Development Center provided 2 meeting rooms which are available free of charge to the community for meetings and trainings. During the past year year, the Center was used for 238 meetings, an increase of 13% from the previous year. Of the total usage, 150 (63%) were for Council meetings and events and 88 (37%) were for community events/meetings.

Participated as a member of Campus and Community Coalition for Change, Cape County Transit Advisory Board, Domestic Violence Community Response Task Force, Family Transition Team, Gibson Community Steering Committee, Jackson Chamber of Commerce/Non-Profit Alliance, Local Food Group, Missouri Children's Division Family Support Teams, Teen Pregnancy Responsibility Network, United Way of Southeast Missouri (Success by 6, Education Solutions Team and Community Impact Committee), and WIB Youth Advisory Board.

The 20th Annual CCC Conference, "Restoring Hope - Bridges Out of Poverty", was held on March 20, 2009. Over 200 participants attended and evaluations were very favorable.

One Vista member continues to address the needs and issues of returning ex-offenders. See the Missouri Reentry Process Report for more information.

Collaborating Partners
250 representatives from 185 community organizations and agencies serve as members of our Priority Issue Councils and Committees (some duplication across committee rosters).

Barriers
Connecting with those in our community who are unaware of our resources

Identifying clients in need to serve on our Priority Issue Councils

Noteworthy
The Community Plan Progress!
The number of collaborating partners that participate in our various committees!

Almost 24,000 contacts were documented from March - November 2008 through direct contact and our printed resources!

The outstanding reputation that CCC has in the community for addressing the needs of clients in such a way to empower clients to become self-reliant, responsible and resourceful

The resources that we have developed to improve access to available services:
- Resource Cards – Community Resources (also in Spanish), Housing, Mental Health and Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Primary Care, and Senior cards
- Monthly Calendars – Family Fun and Learning Activities, Successful Parenting and Senior Activities
COMMUNITY PLAN
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COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
Cape County Transit continues to be the main provider of public transportation in Cape Girardeau County – 108,538 riders during Jan-Dec 2008 in 32 vehicles.

Fixed Route Bus System has 3 buses, each running the same route through the city (route expanded in 2008).
- One-way rates: $1.50 for general public; $.75 for seniors, disabled, and students
- Monthly rates: $35 for general public, $17.50 for seniors, disabled, and students

Fixed Route Bus System operates from 6a-7p Mon-Fri and 9a-7p Sat. There is a bus available at each bus stop every 30 minutes during hours of operation.

Public transportation is available 24/7. Curb to curb demand response is always available. One-way rates vary from $5.00 – 15.00 depending on mileage.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
SEMO State University provides campus transportation to River Campus. General public is not excluded.

Complimentary Para-Transit Service Plan provides transportation services to eligible persons who live within ¼ mile of the bus route and are unable to access the fixed route due to a disability or health-related condition.

Cape County Transit has been an official Greyhound Depot since Oct 2008. The bus stops 4 times daily (Sun - Sat) heading to St. Louis or Memphis. Tickets can be purchased at the business office from 8am – 4:30pm Mon-Fri.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
SEMO Alliance of Disability Independence continues its transportation services for their clients and has removed all transportation fees. Donations are accepted.

Gold Leaf Transportation provided transportation services for residents of Cape Girardeau County and surrounding areas during most of 2008 and through Feb 2009.

BARRIERS
Increased fuel costs

Hesitancy and/or lack of awareness among general public to use public transportation
COMMUNITY PLAN
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PRIORITY ISSUE COUNCIL
Medical Care: Mental Health

COMMUNITY PLAN CHAIR
Paul Schniedermeyer

MEETINGS HELD 10
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE 13

COLLABORATING PARTNERS
Bootheel Counseling Center
Cape Girardeau Public Schools
Community Counseling Center
Cross Trails Medical Center
Gibson Recovery Center
Jackson Public Schools
MO Children's Division
MO Division of Youth Services
MO Family Support Division
MO Department of Mental Health
New Vision Counseling
Safe House for Women
SEMO Alliance for Disability Independence
SEMO Area Agency on Aging
Sikeston Regional Office
Southeast Missouri Hospital
Southeast Missouri State University
Southeast Missourian Jr.
Tender Hearts

FUNDING SOURCES
Community Caring Council

NOTEWORTHY
Thanks to the Department of Social Work for their expertise and willingness to help the Coalition with survey analysis and planning for our second Coalition Retreat (Drs. Michael Parker, Dhira Crunkilton and Jack Stokes).

Three new members joined our Coalition after attending the Coalition Retreat.

COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
2000 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Resource Cards were distributed and are available online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org

A meeting with mental health providers in Sep 2008 yielded insight on adolescent psychiatric hospitalizations. Surveys were distributed for a sampling of actual case studies of hospitalized youth (31 in attendance).

81 case surveys of youth who were hospitalized for psychiatric reasons were received. Survey analysis is in process.

A second Coalition Retreat was held in Feb 2009 to review progress and determine new direction (33 in attendance).

Three subcommittees have been active:
1. All levels of care – focus on survey of youth hospitalized for psychiatric reasons
2. Education/public awareness – one community event: Back to School Fair Jul 2008, plans for future media coverage, possibly will focus on bullying
3. Mental health issues for seniors and RX availability – identification of providers of these services.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
Partnered with SEMO State University, Department of Social Work for a conference on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder in Sep 2008.

Hosted a meeting for MO Foundation for Health in Jul 2008 to brainstorm health priorities (including Mental Health) for our community.

A fourth subcommittee for the Coalition was added at the Retreat. The focus will be to promote mental health as a legitimate adjunct to primary medical care (using the model of Cross Trails Medical Center).

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Cross Trails Medical Center has added Mental Health Services for their patients.


Safe House for Women offered weekly presentations/support groups on (1) victims of domestic violence, (2) rape victims, (3) intimate partner sex violence and (4) adult survivors of child abuse.

Community Counseling Center added a Family Reunification Program in 33 southeast Missouri counties to assist in the transition of children from foster care back to their biological families.

BARRIERS
Lack of community awareness of mental health issues

Reaching those who need services, but are unaware of available resources
COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
Training for oral health screenings and fluoride varnish applications was provided online at www.mohealthysmiles.org to 10 dental professionals and volunteers.

“If You Are Pregnant” brochures were updated and reprinted – 150 copies placed in 3 locations to promote good oral health care during pregnancy. Three clients called in response to the information and were assisted in seeking treatment.

Oral Health Education: Cape Area Family Resource Center Tiny Toes and Educare (15 parents)

Dental Screenings in Cape County: 23 schools – 3020 youth and 15 preschools – 257 youth
- 388 youth needed early dental treatment, 130 youth needed urgent treatment

Fluoride Varnish Applications – 2229 school-aged youth and 310 preschool-aged youth

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
Five Oral Health Displays: Senior Information Day, EMAA Back to School Fair, Grand Family Conference, MO Mentoring Partnership Health Fair, Riverside Regional Library

One youth was assisted with securing a dental appointment and was provided financial assistance.

Two adults were assisted with dentures/partials through grants awarded by Midwest Special Needs Trust.

Part time position for Oral Health Coordinator was supported by Community Caring Council. All dental supplies were provided by MO Oral Health Program.

A Bull Drop fundraiser is being planned for Apr 2009. Proceeds will go to dental treatment of youth in Cape and Bollinger Counties and Scott City.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Cross Trails Medical Center opened a Dental Clinic in Marble Hill in Jan 2009.

BARRIERS
Funding for treatment of youth with urgent needs

Tracking of youth needing urgent treatment – did they receive treatment?
COMMUNITY PLAN
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COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED

"Finding Your Medical Home" – 1500 cards were distributed and available online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org.

"Health Resource Cards" – 1500 were distributed and available online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org.

"Cover the Uninsured Week" was observed on May 27, 2008 by a presence at Salvation Army’s Meals with Friends, promoting the advantages of a medical home and sharing information on HINTS health events at Family Resource Center. Surveys on health presentation choices were collected.

Health Events for adults and youth were held at Family Resource Center through MO Foundation for Health HINTS grant:
- Apr – Nutrition, MRSA: 21 adults and 28 youth
- May – Skin Cancer/West Nile Virus: 6 adults
- Jun – Blood Pressure Screenings: 31 adults
- Jul – Bicycle Safety, Bug and Sun Safety, Healthy Snacks, Stroke Risk, Stranger Danger: 57 adults and 125 youth
- Aug – Cholesterol/Glucose Testing: 34 adults
- Sep – Spinal and Nerve Function, ACT FAST!: 14 adults and 15 youth
- Oct – Breast Cancer Awareness, Halloween Safety: 17 adults and 17 youth
- Nov – Vision Screening: 20 adults and 16 youth
- Dec – Healthy Snacks for Kids, Depression Screenings: 8 adults and 14 youth
- Jan – Get in Shape with Wii: 8 adults and 21 youth
- Feb – Heart Healthy Foods on a Budget: 17 adults and 15 youth
- Mar – Colon Cancer Presentation: 10 adults

127 flu shots were provided to Cape County residents at outreach clinics sponsored by Cape County Public Health Center in fall 2008.

Participated in Salvation Army’s Back to School Fair in Jul 2008 – 4 informational sites were available in family waiting area.

Participated in EMAA’s Back to School Fair in Aug 2008 – resource cards and HINTS schedules were shared.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS

Served as local host for MO Foundation for Health regional community meeting in Jul 2008.

Served as an Advisory Board for Cape County Public Health Center’s obesity grant in Feb 2009.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Southeast Missouri Hospital – Generations has changed their name to the Wellness Connection and moved their location to West Park Mall to be more visible to the public.

BARRIERS

Reaching out to those who do not have a medical home

The decline in health insurance coverage and the increase in health care costs

Submitted by: Kay Azuma

4/1/09
COMMUNITY PLAN
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COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
2000 copies of Alcohol & Drug Abuse/Mental Health Resource Card distributed and available online at www.communitycarincouncil.org

Student Advisory Groups (with 40 Developmental Asset focus) meet at Jackson Middle, Jr. High and High Schools and Cape Central Jr. High School. These groups provided input on peer behaviors.

240 youth at 3 events enjoyed Dance Dance Revolution at alcohol-free parties.

Successful implementation of Years 2/3 of the Strategic Prevention Framework/State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) through MO Dept. of Mental Health addressed alcohol consumption of 12-25 year olds in Cape County, Perry County and Scott City.

Coalition launched a media campaign in Sep 2008 that included a booth at the SEMO District Fair, radio, television, billboards, shopping bags with logo, and a website www.mychildourfuture.org

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
Coalition received its 501(c)(3) status in Jun 2008. Board of Directors was established.

Coalition endorsement of THRIVE Initiative and partial financial support through the SPF SIG grant allowed Asset Coordinator and five Jackson youth to attend Healthy Communities Healthy Youth Conference in Minneapolis in Nov 2008.

Coalition developed and printed a “Back to School” brochure and sponsored a booth at Salvation Army’s Back to School Fair in Jul 2008.

Two youth groups (Youth United Way and THRIVE) attended the Speak Hard Event in Jefferson City in Mar 2009.

The Adult Priority Issue Council met in Jun 2008 and agreed that annual meetings are sufficient, as all of the current community plan strategies pertain to youth and to those adults that have an impact on youth.

Coalition will also sponsor a booth at Messy Morning in Apr 2009 to increase awareness of the coalition.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
A Substance Abuse Resource Card was developed and printed for Perry County (using Cape County card as a model).

Four Rhodes stores in Perryville, two in Jackson and one in Scott City had perfect compliance checks in Mar 2009 – no sales to minors.

BARRIERS
Future funding

Submitted by: Kay Azuma
COMMUNITY PLAN
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PRIORITY ISSUE COUNCIL
Family Issues: Housing

COMMUNITY PLAN CHAIR
Roy Jones

MEETINGS HELD 10

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE 16

COLLABORATING PARTNERS
- 4-Sight Counseling
- American Red Cross
- Best Mortgage
- Cape Girardeau Public Health Center
- City of Cape Girardeau
- Community Counseling Center
- East MO Action Agency
- Gibson Recovery Center
- Habitat for Humanity
- Love INC
- Lutheran Family & Children's Services
- Mending Hearts
- MO Department of Mental Health
- New Frontier Mortgage
- Project Hope
- RCH Management, INC
- Safe House for Women
- Salvation Army
- SEMO Alliance for Disability Independence
- SEMO Area Agency on Aging
- SEMO State University
- United Way of SEMO
- USDA Rural Development
- Vision House

FUNDING SOURCES
- Community Caring Council, US Housing and Urban Development, MO Housing Trust Fund

NOTEWORTHY
- HUD Supportive Housing Grant was renewed to serve 27 households. MO Housing Trust Fund grant for rental deposit assistance was renewed for 2009.

COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
- HUD Supportive Housing Grant continued to serve approximately 27 clients during the past 12 months.

- Housing Resource Cards: 800 distributed and available online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org.

- MO Housing Trust Fund grant served over 160 families (370 individuals) with Rental Deposit Assistance. Allocation for 2009 is $49,500.

- Homeless Awareness Week was observed with a display at Cape West Cine.

- Intensive planning for a new pilot program known as RAISE MO – Room at the Inn Southeast Missouri – has been in process since March 2008. The program will offer transitional housing for homeless women and children.

- Habitat has increased and met its goal of constructing three to five houses per year in the Cape area. In their outreach efforts, houses have been completed in Advance and Sikeston, and a house is in progress in Perryville. A Habitat house was constructed on the SEMO University campus this spring, and recently transported to its permanent location on North Main Street in Cape.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
- Habitat's RESTORE business for used construction and housing materials is in its second year of operation.

- Four subcommittees continue to meet: Occupancy Code/Substandard Housing, Housing Assessment, Foreclosures, and Transitional Housing.

- Advocacy efforts continue to support the increase of the real estate transaction fee from $3 to $6 to increase MO Housing Trust Fund's annual budget.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- 4-Sight Counseling is now a HUD Approved Housing Counseling Agency and has received HUD funding to provide services.

- Groundwork is being laid for the development of a local Landlord Association.

- River Corridor Task Force (community group concerned with River Corridor area in Cape from Red Star through south Cape) is planning to address the need for improving the condition of homes in their targeted area.

- Neighborhood Stabilization Program – grant awarded to City of Cape and 4-Sight Counseling for the purchase, rehab and resale of five houses in the Red Star area of town.

- 4-Sight Counseling has assisted homeowners with Foreclosure Prevention through funding from MO Housing Development Commission.

- The old Schultz School is being rehabbed for Senior Housing by RCH Development, INC. Site will include 21 one-bedroom apartments and 24 two-bedroom apartments.

BARRIERS
- Lack of emergency housing for the homeless and lack of transitional housing in the Cape area

- Recent increase in number of homeowners facing foreclosure issues

Submitted by: Kay Azuma

4/1/09
COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
Senior Calendar printed monthly, 200 copies distributed at 11 locations and available online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org

1000 copies of Senior Resource Card distributed throughout Cape Girardeau County, and available online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org.

Monthly Aging Committee meeting were held for networking and presentations: MO Senior Report, Legislative Issues, Medicare Prescription Plans, Early Memory Loss, Driving Programs for Seniors, Cross Trials Medical Center, Community Plan Update

Durable medical equipment (shower chairs, shower benches, safety bars) valued at $1700 provided to 27 individuals.

Several educational and social opportunities were provided for Seniors:
- Senior Information Day – Jul 2008 – 89 participants, over 20 agencies provided information
- Grand Family Conference – Oct 2008 – 86 participants, 20 agencies provided information
- Christmas Tour of Lights – Dec 2008 – 218 in attendance

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
Aging Committee’s Annual Retreat was held in Aug 2008 with 19 in attendance. Outcomes were reviewed and meeting presentations planned.

A new task was assigned to the Aging Issues Task Force – the need for adult daycare/respite services.

As data was being collected to establish need for adult daycare/respite, it was determined that a Senior Needs Assessment would provide this data.

Grant was submitted and approved by Cape County Senior Citizens’ Services Fund Board ($6500) to conduct a Senior Needs Assessment.

Community Caring Council received a grant ($1500) from Cape County Senior Citizens’ Services Fund to provide financial assistance for unmet needs for those 60 years and over residing in Cape Girardeau County.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
SALT (Seniors and Lawmen Together) group meets regularly and implements several annual events, including Senior Tour of Lights in Dec 2008.

Area Senior Centers provide meals and socialization for the elderly population.

Additional Senior Housing is under construction at the old Schultz School in Cape Girardeau.

Cape Area Family Resource Center provides meeting space for weekly gatherings of 12-15 senior ladies.

BARRIERS
Complexity of Medicare presents challenges to the elderly.
COMMUNITY PLAN
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COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
Family Fun and Learning Activities calendar – 800 copies printed and distributed to 35 Parenting Corners monthly; also emailed to 82 individuals monthly and posted on SEMO Case Managers List Serv for 46 members.

Successful Parenting training calendars – 100 copies printed and distributed to 35 Parenting Corners monthly; also emailed to 82 individuals monthly and posted on SEMO Case Managers List Serv for 46 members.

Community Resources Card - updated in Mar 2009; includes an English version and a Spanish version.

Monthly Calendars and all resource cards are available online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org

Building Strong Families – two 5-week one sessions implemented: 42 adults and 43 youth (youth curriculum offered); one 4-week session implemented: 15 adults and 12 youth (ages 0-5, no youth curriculum)

Family Wellness – two 6-week sessions implemented: 17 adults participated.

Facilitator training for the adult and youth Building Strong Families curriculum was completed by eight adults.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
Building Strong Families trained facilitators have been implementing parent and youth sessions throughout the year at no additional cost to the program.

Family Connect newsletter was developed and published for the first time in Dec 2008. A second issue will be mailed in Apr 2009. Quarterly publications are planned for the future.

A Parent Support Group was established by Lutheran Family and Children’s Services and met for the first time in Mar 2009. Monthly meetings are planned for the future.

Plans are underway to improve our Parenting Corners to be more appealing and more relevant in content.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
United Way of Southeast Missouri – Born Learning monthly events for parents/caregivers and youth, ages 0-6

Cape Area Family Resource Center – Tiny Toes Snack and Learn weekly events for parents/caregivers and youth, ages 0-6

Barnes and Noble – many family-centered events at their store, often in collaboration with local agencies

Parents as Teachers and Educare services for families of children (0-5) throughout Cape Girardeau County

BARRIERS
Lack of consistent of attendance among some participants during the 4-5 week sessions

Reaching the “hard-to-reach” population
COMMUNITY PLAN
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COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
Quarterly Case Managers’ Meetings were implemented:
• May 8 – Utility Assistance, Credit Reports and Finances – 19 attended
• Aug 7 – Financial Stability Services and Educational Opportunities – 13 attended
• Nov 7 – A Response to the Failing Economy – 43 attended
• Feb 18 – Food Resources – 28 attended

List Serv – SEMO Case Managers continued with 46 members (18% increase) and 229 messages posted (19% increase).

Weatherization kits are still available through United Way of Southeast Missouri.

A VITA site was obtained by United Way of Southeast Missouri at Salvation Army for 2008 tax preparation.

Earned Income Tax Credit among taxpayers was promoted as a means of increasing household income.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
New focus on Financial Stability by United Way has resulted in the name of committee changing to “Financial Stability Partnership”.

Junior Achievement classes on financial literacy were offered in Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Perry, Scott, and Wayne counties, reaching over 6000 youth with 140 volunteers during 2008-09 school year.

Love INC offered budgeting classes to 10 individuals and 1:1 mentoring was available.

Montgomery Bank observed “Teach Children to Save Day” by reaching over 300 K-12 students in Cape Public Schools.

Collaborative program (EMAA, CCC, UW, Sal Army, St. Vincent’s) was established to help households with utility bills less than $750. Participants must attend a training session, receive weatherization materials and an energy evaluation, and accept case management in order to receive $100 toward their utility bill.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
United Way has a Money Matters section on their website http://www.unitedwayofsemo.org/moneymatters.aspx

Free tax preparation was available at EMAA, Salvation Army and Senior Centers in Cape Girardeau and Jackson.

For information on area food banks and their guidelines, call First Call for Help or go to www.firstcallforhelpsemo.org and query “food resources”.

BARRIERS
Identification of individuals/families wanting to work toward financial stability
Promotion and funding of Individual Development Accounts
Easy availability of pay day loans

Submitted by: Kay Azuma
COMMUNITY PLAN
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COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
Four asset training sessions and six group presentations were held that reached 260 people.

THRIVE has developed student advisory groups at Cape Central Jr. High (12 students), Jackson High (11 students), Jackson Jr. High (12 students) and Jackson Middle School (16 students). Groups meet at least once monthly.

Five adults (Asset Coordinator, three Jackson School staff and one Cape School staff) and five Jackson Jr. High students attended Healthy Communities Healthy Youth Conference in Nov 2008 in Minneapolis, MN.

Two THRIVE Newsletters were published and mailed to approximately 400 asset builders. The THRIVE website was launched in Mar 2009 – www.capecountythrive.org. Monthly articles have been appearing in the SE Missourian Jr. since Dec 2008.

The 2nd Annual THRIVE Celebration was held at Osage Center in Aug 2008. Over 250 family members attended. Our 2nd Annual Asset Awards recognized Jackson Jr. High School, a group of mentors from Grace United Methodist Church, two youth leaders and one youth as asset builders.

Search Institute’s Change of Heart training was held at two locations in Aug 2008:
  • Cape Jr. High School – 35 students and 6 staff participated
  • Jackson Jr. High School – 45 students and 12 staff participated

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
Jackson’s Student Advisory Group members are already planning to attend the Healthy Communities Healthy Youth Conference in Nov 2010. A BINGO fundraiser was held in Mar 2009 and a Garage Sale will be held in May 2009.

A Community Engagement Survey was developed with input from students and administered to 355 students at Cape Central Jr. High and 369 students at Jackson Jr. High School in May 2008.

Marketing Committee has developed an Asset Champion program – 30 letters were sent, three businesses have joined the program. Public Service Announcements will soon be available on a Cape County Transit bus.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Scott City Schools have asked Asset Coordinator to help them address a bullying problem on their campus.

Cape Public Schools is planning to offer Change of Heart training to the Jr. High and Middle School students during MAP testing week.

The City of Cape provides the use of Osage Community Centre for the annual Asset Celebration.

BARRIERS
Additional funding sources are needed in order for the THRIVE Initiative to continue growing.
Statement of Purpose
The purpose of the Asset Coordinator is to educate the community on the 40 Developmental Asset framework and to coordinate the activities of the student advisory committees in our local schools.

Program Activities
Provided asset information and educational opportunities for various sectors in the community.
Facilitated Change of Heart sessions and facilitator training with Vision Training and Marilyn Peplau for C JHS and Jackson R2 schools.
Facilitated student advisory committee meetings at Central Junior High, Jackson Middle School, Jackson Junior High, and Jackson High School.
Facilitated JJHS and JHS THRIVE students and sponsors attending the Healthy Communities Healthy Youth Conference in MN.
Facilitated JJHS and JHS THRIVE students and sponsors attending the Speak Hard Conference in Jefferson City.
Provided on-going support for asset builders in various sectors.
Coordinated the Annual Asset Celebration.

Program Outcomes
Asset Coordinator and initiative members have provided four free asset training sessions and asset presentations for six groups. It is estimated that 260 people received asset information during these events.
Worked with Vision Training and national trainer Marilyn Peplau to provide Change of Heart sessions to approximately 90 people and facilitator training to 15 adults.
Worked with members of student advisory committees and school sponsors at CJHS (12 students), Jackson Middle Schools (16 students), Jackson Junior High (12 students), and Jackson High School (11 students) to infuse assets into the school environments and improve the school climates.
Attended the Healthy Communities Healthy Youth with five youth and three adults from Jackson R-2 schools and one adult from CJHS.
Attended the Speak Hard Conference in Jefferson City with seven youth and two adults from Jackson R-2 schools.
In addition to providing asset information via newsletters, THRIVE has a new website and will soon have public service announcements running on the transit buses to provide on-going asset information to the community.

THrive has become a regular feature in the Southeast Missouri Jr. which reaches more than 2000 students in Cape Girardeau County.
The 2nd Annual Asset Celebration was held on August 8, 2008. Approximately 250 attended the event.

Collaborating Partners
Big Brothers Big Sisters, Cape Area Family Resource Center, Cape Chamber of Commerce, Cape County 4-H, Cape Police Department, Cape Public Library, Cape Schools, Child Care Resource & Referral, Court Appointed Special Advocates, Jackson Schools, Lutheran Family & Children’s Services, Girl Scouts of Missouri Heartland, Missouri Mentoring Partnership, Old Town Cape, Safe House for Women, Southeast Missouri Hospital – Building Blocks & Wellness Connection, SE Regional Support Center, Sylvan Learning Center, United Way of Southeast Missouri

Barriers
Sustained funding for future growth.

Noteworthy
The 3rd Annual Asset Celebration is scheduled for May 29, 2009 at 5:00 pm at the Osage Centre. This year’s theme is “Let Your Sparks Fly” and will focus on creative activities, which is asset #17.
Oral Health Program

Statement of Purpose
This is a pilot program for the implementation of dental screenings and fluoride varnish applications to aid in the prevention of caries for preschool and school-aged children in collaboration with the Missouri Oral Health Program through the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Dorothy Gholson, Oral Health Coordinator, provides coordination of these services for Cape Girardeau County youth (preschool through high school) and offers limited financial assistance for urgent dental needs.

Program Activities
Online training for dental screenings and fluoride varnish applications was available.

Ten dentists, nine hygienists, and 22 assistants volunteered their time to implement dental screenings and fluoride varnish applications throughout Cape Girardeau County. All materials were provided at no charge through the Missouri Oral Health Program.

Upon request, oral health displays, educational presentations on dental health, and brochures on dental varnish are provided.

The brochure "If You Are Pregnant" was updated and reprinted.

Program Outcomes
Ten individuals (dental professionals and volunteers) were trained online to assist with dental screenings.

19 dental professionals and 22 staff members provided the following dental screenings and fluoride varnish applications:

- 23 schools: 3020 students screened; 2229 students received fluoride varnish
- 15 preschools: 257 children (2-5 year olds) screened; 310 children received fluoride varnish
  (Some children have received two fluoride varnish applications.)

Of those youth screened:
- 388 youth needed early dental treatment
- 130 youth needed immediate (urgent) dental treatment

Noteworthy
A fundraiser to benefit oral health treatment services for youth in Cape Girardeau County, Bollinger County and Scott City will be held on April 19, 2009.

Cindy Heischmidt is our new Oral Health Program Consultant for Southeast Missouri from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. She serves as our liaison with the state office.

The cooperation and collaboration from local dental providers has been very impressive.

Schools: Cape Girardeau, Jackson, Oak Ridge, Nell Holcomb, Delta, Eagle Ridge Christian School, Cape Christian, Scott City, St. Paul Lutheran

Daycares/Preschools: A Small World (Cape & Jackson), A Step At A Time, Angels Aware, Big Stuff, Cape Girardeau Montessori School, Christian School for the Young Years, Curious Kids, Head Start, Just Kids (Cape & Jackson), Kids Corner, KidZone, Upsy Daisy

Barriers
Early dental care and treatment is often not a family priority. Parents having had bad dental experiences pass their negative attitudes to their children.

Seeking permission from parents and maintaining screening records have been a challenge.

It is time-consuming for the school nurses and daycare directors to follow-up with parents to see if dental treatment has been accomplished.

Collaborating Partners
Missouri Oral Health Program, Dr. Jan Ruopp, Dr. Pat Ruopp & staff, Dr. Terry Spence & staff, Dr. Danna Cotner & staff, Dr. Nathan McGuire & staff, Dr. Garrett Sparks & staff, Dr. Patty Merkley & Cross Trails Medical Center staff, Dr. John Sauer & staff.
Community Case Management

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FY2009
By Jaime Ludwig

Statement of Purpose
The purpose of the Community Case Manager is to create a collaborative relationship through assessment and evaluation that will help meet the clients' needs. The Community Case Manager will also help the client exercise his or her choices by establishing goals and solutions while providing a sense of empowerment through identifying strengths.

Program Activities
Received referrals from First Call for Help, other service providers and self-referrals.
Completed assessment on each individual/family to identify strengths, resources being utilized and needs.
Provided long-term case management if necessary.
Assisted clients applying for MO Housing Trust Fund Depot Assistance.
Chair/d Family Transition Team.
Provided case management for L.I.F.E. Initiative Families.

Program Outcomes
249 referrals/phone calls/walk-ins assisted from April 2008 to April 2009.
All referrals were assessed and plan of action developed or referral made to appropriate agency.
Long-term case management was provided to 10 individuals and families.

Collaborating Partners
First Call for Help, United Way of Southeast Missouri, Other Service Providers

Barriers
Limited resources for individuals and families

Noteworthy
A 52 year-old man was referred to the CCM by Family Support Division when they learned of him staying in a vacant home in Jackson without water or electricity. The CCM began to meet with him weekly to understand his situation and history better. The CCM learned that the individual had been chronically homeless for several years staying in and out of shelters. She also learned that he had been struggling with alcohol abuse for over 30 years. After several months of intense case management, the CCM was able to refer him to Gibson Recovery Center. When the treatment was complete the CCM was able to refer him to the Supportive Housing Program through the CCC. Client has remained stable in the housing program and sober for six months.
Community Housing Assistance

Statement of Purpose
The Council's Housing Assistance Program strives to help residents of Cape Girardeau County and Scott City to have housing that is decent, safe, fair, energy efficient, affordable and accessible.

Program Activities
There is a monthly meeting of the Housing Needs Committee that shares housing information and supports efforts to improve housing. Discussions always include updates from HUD and Missouri Housing Trust Fund (MHTF) grants. Currently, subcommittees have been formed to make recommendations concerning housing assessment in Cape County, foreclosures, a Cape City occupancy code and transitional housing.

In April of 2009 the transitional housing subcommittee began implementing a pilot program utilizing over 15 local churches to provide nightly shelter to women and children. The program is titled Room At the Inn Southeast Missouri (R.A.I.S.E. MO). The subcommittee continues its efforts in developing various day activities for the women that will utilize community programs and agencies to help women achieve goals that surround attaining a permanent home.

The HUD grant involves a housing case manager and a coordinator. The current grant serves 27 individuals who have been identified as homeless and disabled by HUD standards. Their family members are also housed.

The MHTF grant provides $49,500 to assist with deposits and senior housing repairs for those who qualify.

Program Outcomes
An annual goal setting for housing is evaluated for outcomes periodically throughout the year. Both HUD and MHDC review our grants to determine if we are fulfilling the commitments made in our grant applications.

Our MHTF grant served over 160 family units consisting of more than 370 individuals. Nearly all of these were served in the first six months of the grant year.

The HUD grant provided housing and case management for a maximum of 27 family units or individuals. Over the course of the fourth operating year our agency serviced participants from all of the special needs categories. Our program has become better at helping our participants gain residential stability, 85% of those who were in the program during the fourth operating year remained in the program at the end of the year. Of participants that did not leave, 70% have been with the program for over 25 months and 90% of participants have been in the program for at least 12 months.

Collaborating Partners
The MHTF grant has provided deposit assistance for HUD clients. The agencies serving the various disabilities of HUD clients have provided additional case management as well as recommendations for future clients when space is available. The Housing Case Manager continues to build a network of strong working relationships with various agencies to help clients sustain and enhance their well being.

The Housing Needs Committee is composed of over 40 individuals from various community agencies that support our grants and provide ideas to improve efforts to fulfill our purpose.

Churches in the area continue to provide labor to build ramps and do handyman home repairs for the elderly in our area. The MHTF has provided funds to cover the material costs and a few professional expenses.

The church community has also been a vital partner in aiding with the implementation of the R.A.I.S.E. pilot project.

Barriers
The resistance of the community to an emergency shelter and transitional housing combined with HUD's focus on permanent housing has resulted in little progress in this area over the eight years the Housing Needs Committee has been active. The HUD rule on no additional funding for Supportive Housing Program grants has limited our ability to serve homeless disabled clients. In a market where rents are rising, we have had to reduce our client number from 30 to 27.

The MHTF received $2,000,000 less this past year. As a result our grant for 2009 was reduced from $50,000 to $49,500. This year there will be less money in the fund than last year. Our agency has advocated for increased funding in a variety of ways that require the support of the state legislature and governor.

Noteworthy
Four subcommittees of the Housing committee are making progress in areas that have been concerns at various times during the seven years of the committee's existence. With programs like R.A.I.S.E the committee hopes to continue its progressive approach to addressing the housing needs of the community.

HUD has awarded a Supportive Housing grant for 16 families or individuals for 2008-2011 that will help meet the needs of homeless adults.
Missouri Mentoring Partnership

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FY2009
By Charles DiScifano

Statement of Purpose
Missouri Mentoring Partnership assists in preparing youth for personal success in employment, education, healthy lifestyles and self-sufficiency through mentored support.

Program Activities
MMP provides initial parenting skills education that covers pregnancy through the toddler years and includes information on maintaining healthy lifestyles and managing a home. Monthly group events are held in Cape Girardeau and Marble Hill. Additional small group activities are offered each month. Youth Specialists conduct quarterly Individual Service Plans with each participant. During this time participants set goals and develop strategies for achieving these goals.

A new employment program offers job skills training for participating moms and dads, assistance finding employment and employment mentoring.

Program Outcomes
As of April 1, 2009:
35 registered moms have received services.
20 of them have had a mentor; 2 additional moms recently completed parenting classes, but have not yet attended their first program activity; 4 additional moms have attended program activities as guests.
71% of currently participating moms are matched with a mentor.
14 dads have participated in parenting programs.
6 dads who meet the age requirements have completed parenting classes; 1 dad who does not meet the age requirements has completed parenting classes with the mom.
Two male mentors have participated in group mentoring activities.
Three parents experienced repeat pregnancies, for a repeat pregnancy rate of less than 9% (state and national averages are more than 20%).
Three participants completed MMP employment skills training. Two of these participants have now been employed for more than two months.
95% of current participants are either enrolled in school, working or participating in an approved program for stay-at-home parents. 76% of participants are meeting two of these goals and 24% are working on all three life goals.

Collaborating Partners
Referrals have been received through DSS, WIC, Building Blocks, Cape Public Schools, Lutheran Family and Children's Services, and past and present mentors and participants.
Zonta has donated program funds, volunteers and Christmas gifts for participants' children. Women Achieving Excellence (WAVE) and The P&G Fund of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation have provided financial support.
The Dad's Group is funded by the Children's Trust Fund.
The Marble Hill United Methodist Church, Bollinger County Library, Evangelical United Church of Christ and Red Star Baptist Church have provided accommodations for monthly meetings and special events. Huntington Funeral Chapel provides office and meeting space.
Since July 1, 2008, 14 mentors have logged 610.5 volunteer hours with 17 participants.
Multiple other community members and organizations have provided inkind support.

Barriers
Access to affordable, reliable child care is a barrier to parents seeking to achieve educational and employment goals. Through the help of Child Care Resource and Referral and private contacts, the MMP continues to work with daycare providers to address this issue.
Inadequate transportation hinders parents abilities to travel to daycare, school, work and doctor visits. Cape County Transit does offer some options, but parents who live in rural parts of Cape Girardeau and Bollinger Counties still struggle to find rides.
Housing is a concern, as parents struggle to find an affordable, safe place to live that provides adequate room for their families and is close to school or work.
The MMP strives to raise public perception of the role of the dad in order to increase positive interactions between dads and their children.

Noteworthy
"The Next Step" to employment success job training program has opened up a new opportunity for the young parents who are seeking financial stability.
The Young Parent Program celebrates ten years of providing support to young moms and dads.
Relationships among couples that attend meetings together appear to be more stable and supportive. Within the past year, three program couples have gotten married.
Statement of Purpose
Cape Girardeau Educare programs are an early childhood initiative of the Missouri Department of Social Services. Educare's focus is school readiness and this is achieved through programming for child care providers and parents. Cape Educare has the following six grants: Educare, Stay At Home Parents (3 grants), Start Up & Expansion, and Accreditation Facilitation. The counties served are Cape, Scott, Perry, Bollinger, Stoddard and Mississippi.

Program Activities
Educare offers a variety of training and technical assistance to child care providers in our service area. This includes Start Up & Expansion assistance for those wishing to care for infants and toddlers in a home or center setting. Accreditation Facilitation provides technical assistance and materials to help meet the requirements of accreditation or reaccreditation. The staff education component of accreditation can be met by completing the Child Development Associate (CDA) class offered each year at Educare. CDA renewal classes are also offered throughout the year. Educare provides training and technical assistance to providers receiving subsidized childcare through Division of Social Services. This would include unlicensed registered vendors, licensed providers and licensed exempt programs. Monthly training seminars are offered throughout the year in the counties served. Educare also offers once a year Emotional Beginnings Curriculum class. This curriculum focuses on working with infants and toddlers.

Educare has both the noncompetitive Stay At Home Parent grant (Cape), and two competitive Stay At Home Parent grants (Bollinger/Perry, Scott/Mississippi). These grants are called the P.E.P. programs and serve families with children birth up to age three. In P.E.P., families receive home visits, group meetings and toy incentives. Families network with each other, and referrals are made as needed to other agencies. Families must meet income guidelines to participate in P.E.P.

In collaboration with Cape Public Schools, Parents As Teachers (P.A.T.) is offered for families residing in the Cape school district. Educare also has a Resource Room that contains books, videos, toys, and other materials for child care providers and parents to check out.

Program Outcomes
The following are outcomes for FY09 (the first two quarters):
Six providers have received services from Start Up & Expansion, with four of these providers expanding the number of subsidized slots available for infants and toddlers.
Four providers have received services from Accreditation Facilitation, with one home care provider achieving Missouri Accreditation.
There are 27 child care providers in Educare's CDA class, 32 providers attending Emotional Beginnings Curriculum class (CEUs being offered also).
Educare has served 160 early childhood programs, and offered 18 early childhood training seminars.
Educare staff have conducted 27 P.A.T. visits.
54 parents and providers have utilized the Resource Room.
136 families have participated in the P.E.P./Stay At Home Parent programs.

Collaborating Partners
Cape Educare is a partnership of Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau Public Schools, and the Community Caring Council.

Barriers
Due to budget limitations under the Stay At Home Parent grant (noncompetitive), the # of families served in Cape County has been reduced from 50 to 30 a month.

Noteworthy
As a result of collaboration between Cape Educare and local Missouri Preschool Projects, Creative Curriculum and Learning Games Training is being offered the week of April 20-24 for 50 child care providers/parent educators at the Cape Board of Education office. This training is at no cost for our area providers & educators.
Family Transition Team

Statement of Purpose
The Family Transition Team is an interagency staffing team that communicates through e-mail and meetings to process cases of individuals and families in need of financial assistance.

Program Activities
Staffing of referrals for unmet needs of individuals and families
Annual Garage Sale
Solicitation of donations to maintain adequate supplies in the Community Closet
Continuation of resource education
Ongoing search for funding to assist populations that have unmet needs

Program Outcomes
Raised $1000 at Garage Sale Fundraiser in May 2008
Solicited over $5000 in donations in 12 months to provide 336 individuals and families with household items from the Community Closet
Family Transition Team members attended Case Management workshops and other meetings to stay aware of resources.
Grants were submitted for transportation assistance, childcare assistance and general funding to assist the senior population in Cape Girardeau County.
113 referrals were received and processed from April 2008 to April 2009.

Collaborating Partners
Cape Girardeau Public Schools, Parents as Teachers, Cross Trails Medical Center, Educare, First Call for Help, Jim Watkins, Lutheran Family and Children’s Services, Missouri Children’s Division, Missouri Mentoring Partnership, Safe House for Women, Sikeston Regional Office, Southeast Missouri Hospital Building Blocks, Southeast Missouri State University, United Way of Southeast Missouri, Success By 6

Barriers
Limited resources for individuals and families

Noteworthy
A referral was received from the Sikeston Regional Office regarding a family that included a 3 year-old hearing impaired child. The parents of the child were concerned with her safety and her inability to hear sounds notifying her that there is possible danger or to simply bring something to her attention. The parents were wanting to purchase a system that would shake the bed to alert if there was a fire and for lights to blink if there was someone at the door or if the fire alarm was triggered. The system was priced at $300. After processing the situation with the team, the referral was made and they approved the purchase of a fire alarm with flashing lights to provide to the family. The family was able to contribute $50 of their own money towards the purchase.
Missouri Reentry Program

Statement of Purpose
The Missouri Reentry Process provides guidance to offenders in breaking down barriers through the coordination of community reentry efforts.

Program Activities
Maintained Local Steering Team to guide the direction of the Missouri Reentry Process in Cape Girardeau County through quarterly meetings and three subcommittees: Life Skills, Employment and Mentoring.
Planned and implemented Life Skills Focus Group sessions for ex-offenders.
Assisted offenders with unmet needs by sharing available resources.
A $25,000 grant request was submitted to Missouri Department of Corrections for a “Reentry Opportunity Center” to be located at Community Caring Council office.
An Offender Assistance Program was established and implemented.

Program Outcomes
Local Steering Team with 34 members met quarterly. Co-chairs attended Regional SMART meetings in SE Missouri. Subcommittees also met quarterly.
Life Skills Focus Groups provided 37 sessions and served 91 clients.
Resource information and Focus Group materials were provided to ex-offenders. Referrals were made to the Offender Assistance Program and other agencies for requested needs of clients.
Through the Offender Assistance Program, 27 clients have been helped (12 referrals for financial needs, 12 bus passes, two gas coupons, and one survival backpack).
140 referrals were received from Probation and Parole (state and federal) and other agencies. Personal contact with each individual was attempted through phone calls, office visits and mailed letters. A total of 934 client contacts were documented.
Of the 140 referrals, at the present time: 59 (42%) clients are employed; 15 (11%) have been reincarcerated; 3 (2%) are disabled; 5 (4%) have moved out of the area; and 58 (41%) are not currently participating.
Employer list currently contains 67 employers who are willing to hire ex-offenders.
A RAFFLE was held in early 2008. Over 30 prizes were donated by area businesses. Ticket sales totaled $612. All proceeds went to the development of the Offender Assistance Program.

A $500 grant from EMAA was used for emergency backpacks and bus passes for clients in need. An additional $776 from donations have also been applied to the program.

Collaborating Partners
Adult Basic Learning Center, AO Lakes Country, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Cape Career and Technology Center, Cape County Public Health Center, Cape Chamber of Commerce, Cape Police Department, Cape Public Library, Cape County Transit Authority, City of Cape Girardeau, Division of Workforce Development, East Missouri Action Agency, Experience Works, Family Counseling Center, Love INC, MERS Good Will, Mississippi County Health Department, Missouri Career Center, Missouri Department of Labor, Missouri Family Support Division, Missouri Probation and Parole, Parents Fair Share, Project Hope, Salvation Army, SE Correctional Center, SEMO State University, US Probation and Parole, Vocational Rehabilitation, Workforce Investment Board

Barriers
Lack of community awareness about the challenges ex-offenders face as they reenter society
Hesitancy of the legal system to fully enforce participation of ex-offenders in Life Skills Focus Groups
Hesitancy of employers to hire ex-offenders
Lack of ex-offenders’ desire to change and willingness to accept help

Noteworthy
VISTA Reentry Specialist, Randy Huffman, is attending East Missouri Action Agency’s 12-week Step Up to Leadership class.
Life Skills Focus Groups are being hosted by Division of Workforce Development and participants are given the opportunity to use the Career Center.
Computer Literacy classes were added to the Life Skills Focus Group schedule, hosted by Salvation Army and presented by Cape Public Library.
A class on Educational Opportunities was also added to offer education/training options to participants.
First Friday Coffee presentation on March 6 to 200 area employers explained the benefits of hiring ex-offenders.
Successful Parenting

Statement of Purpose
The purpose of this program is to provide ongoing community education for parents, grandparents and caregivers who play active roles in raising children. This program is part of the Family Issues Community Plan under the guidance of the Parent and Community Education Committee and funded by United Way of SEMO.

Program Activities
Building Strong Families Curriculum:
Educare, Apr/May 2008
Cape Area Family Resource Center, Sep/Oct 2008 & Mar 2009

Family Wellness Curriculum:

Family Support Group:
Lutheran Family and Children’s Services offered the first meeting in Mar 2009.

Family Connect Newsletter published for the first time in Dec 2008, to be produced quarterly.

Facilitator training for the adult and youth Building Strong Families curriculum was provided in Feb 2009 by staff from University of Missouri.

Program Outcomes
BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES
Educare
• 4 sessions: 15 parents and 12 youth (ages 0-5)

Cape Area Family Resource Center
• 5 sessions in Oct: 22 parents and 24 youth; Youth Curriculum offered; 3 adults had perfect attendance.
• 5 sessions in Mar: 20 parents and 19 youth; Youth Curriculum offered; 5 families had perfect attendance.

FAMILY WELLNESS
• Jun/Jul 2008 - 5 sessions, 10 parents
• Jan/Feb 2009

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP
• Mar 2009 - 4 parents

FAMILY CONNECT NEWSLETTER
Dec issue was mailed to 30 parents, placed on SEMO Casemangers List Serv and emailed to 50 agency representatives.

FACILITATOR TRAINING
Eight committee/community members were trained to implement the adult and youth Building Strong Families curriculum. The training was provided by a United Way grant; each participant is asked to provide eight hours of future implementation of the curriculum.

Collaborating Partners
Cape Area Family Resource Center, East Missouri Action Agency, Educare, Jackson Public Schools, Lutheran Family and Children’s Services, Missouri Mentoring Partnership, Safe House for Women, United Way of SEMO and University of MO Extension (Cape Girardeau and Perry Counties).

Barriers
Lack of consistent attendance among some participants during the 4-6 week sessions

Noteworthy
Thanks to United Way of Southeast Missouri funding, there are eight new BSF trained implementors who will be providing 64 hours of presentations to adults and youth.

Lutheran Family and Children's Services started a Parent Support Group in Mar 2009. The group is open to all at no cost. They hope to meet monthly.
Southeast Missouri Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition

Statement of Purpose
The mission of this coalition is to join together in a common effort to build a healthy and safe community, reducing the risks of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs while promoting the healthy attitudes and behaviors of youth in Southeast Missouri.

Program Activities
A media campaign was developed and launched in September 2008.
2000 Alcohol & Drug Abuse/Mental Health Resource Cards were distributed.
High School Youth Advisory groups continue to meet to provide input regarding peer behaviors.
240 youth at 3 events enjoyed Dance Dance Revolution at alcohol-free parties (Youth United Way funding).
Successful implementation of Year 2 of the Strategic Prevention Framework/State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) through MO Dept. of Mental Health addressed alcohol consumption of 12-25 year olds in Cape County, Perry County and Scott City.
Coalition submitted a Drug-Free Communities grant application.
Coalition submitted a Youth United Way Grant application.

Program Outcomes
Continued support of Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys and Girls Club, Perry County Community Task Force Life Skills, and THRIVE Initiative through SPF SIG funding
Continued support of Alcohol Compliance Checks in Cape Girardeau city, Cape Girardeau County, Jackson, Perry County and Scott City through SPF SIG funding
SPF SIG funding for Oct 1, 2008 - Sep 30, 2009 is $133,276.
The Coalition Board of Directors was established and began meeting.
Coalition’s 501(c)(3) application was approved in June 2008.
Coalition endorsement of THRIVE Initiative and financial support through the SPF SIG grant allowed 7 youth and 3 adults to attend national Healthy Communities Healthy Youth Conference in Nov 2008.
The Coalition also supported the attendance of 15 youth and 4 adults at the Speak Hard youth advocacy event in Jefferson City, MO, in Mar 2009.

Collaborating Partners
Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Club, Cape County Health Department, Cape Police Department, Drug Court,

Cape Schools, Family Counseling Center, Gibson Recovery Center, Girl Scouts of MO Heartland, Jackson Schools, KFVS-TV, Mid America Teen Challenge, MO Division of Youth Services, New Vision Counseling, Perry County Community Task Force, Rhodes 101, Safe Communities, SE Regional Support Center, SEMO State University, THRIVE, United Way of SEMO, Youth United Way

Barriers
Delay in IRS acceptance of required form 990, which was eventually resolved
Conversations with Scott City to fund youth prevention programs have not been successful to date.

Noteworthy
The media campaign included five consecutive days of featured news stories on KFVS-TV.
Aging Committee

Statement of Purpose
Guided by the mission of the Community Caring Council of Cape Girardeau County, this committee shall inter-link agencies and professionals to better serve older adults within the county.

Program Activities
Monthly meetings were held the second Wednesday of each month (Aug - May) and provided members the opportunity to share information, network and learn about existing programs and services. Case reviews were held if requested by attending members.

An annual retreat was held in August to review outcomes and plan for the coming year.

The Senior Resource card was available for distribution and available online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org
A Senior Calendar is published monthly and is available throughout Cape County as well as online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org

The Senior Safety Committee implemented a "Durable Medical Equipment Program" to provide selected medical equipment to disabled and senior individuals in need.

The Aging Issues Task Force has been discussing the need for adult daycare/ respite services in Cape Girardeau County.

Program Outcomes
Topics presented at meetings included Community Plan Update, Cape County Transit, MO Senior Report, Legislative Issues, Medicare RX Plans, Early Memory Loss, Driving Programs and Cross Trails Medical Center. Average monthly attendance = 18.

Annual retreat was hosted by Saint Francis Medical Center in Aug 2008 with 19 in attendance.

1000 Senior Resource Cards were distributed.

200 copies of Senior Calendar were delivered monthly to 11 locations.

Senior Safety Committee - Durable medical equipment (valued at $1700) was provided to 27 individuals at no charge.

Seniors At Home program through Visiting Nurses Association was continued.

Collaborating Partners
AARP, Alzheimer's Association, American Red Cross, APPLE, Arbors, Area Agency on Aging, Cape Area Family Resource Center, Cape Girardeau County, Cape County Health Department, Cape Girardeau Police Department,

Capetown Independent Living, Chaffee Nursing Center, Genesis Home Care, Hartle Management, Jackson Ministerial Alliance, Lutheran Family and Children's Services, MO Department of Health & Senior Services, Regional Arthritis Center at Saint Francis Medical Center, RSVP/VIC, Rural Development, SEMO Alliance for Disability Independence, SEMO State University, SE MO Hospital - Wellness Connection, The Lutheran Home, United Way of SEMO, USDA Rural Development, Visiting Nurse Association.

Barriers
Reaching those seniors who have no support systems

Noteworthy
The Aging Committee is a very dedicated group of individuals and agencies!
Community leaders at First Friday Coffee talk benefits of hiring ex-offenders

Friday, March 6, 2009
By Brian Blackwell – Southeast Missourian

Schnucks manager Dennis Marchi understands the contribution ex-offenders can make to a business.

Since the grocery store in Cape Girardeau began hiring ex-offenders in the 1980s Marchi has seen the positive effect the Missouri Reentry program has on the employees.

“There are always some washouts but most of our ex-offenders have been viable citizens,” Marchi told business leaders at the Cape Girardeau Chamber of Commerce First Friday Coffee at the Show Me Center. “In most cases they go on to earn degrees, have families, obtain good jobs and become taxpayers.

“Everyone makes mistakes,” Marchi said. “They have great work ethic and have proven they can fit in. Most employees in the store wouldn’t know who they are.”

For their efforts, Schnucks was presented the 2009 Missouri Reentry Program Business Partner of the Year at the monthly event, which was sponsored by the Bank of Missouri and the UPS Store.

The Missouri Reentry Program provides assistance for ex-offenders who are trying to break down barriers in re-entering society. Between 25 and 30 community partners help administer programs to the ex-offenders.

Randy Huffman, VISTA Reentry specialist, said the program is open to any offender who is on probation or that has come out of prison on parole and needs assistance with reentering society. About 300 ex-offenders have participated in the program since it began in June 2006.

“It's a risk worth taking,” Huffman said. “Not only do employers get a financial benefit but they get an employee who is required to stay and work with that company. Just like any other employee longevity with a job is important.”

Employers who participate in the program enjoy such benefits as a $2,400 Work Opportunity Tax Credit for each ex-offender they hire, paid-for drug testing, resources of a probation officer and a federal bonding program that is a business insurance policy that protects the employer from monetary or property loss because of the employee's dishonesty.

Huffman said most employees hired work in the restaurant, grocery or fast food industry.

"With the economy we’re looking at companies that tend to not be affected," Huffman said. “They've been a tremendous help for our clients.”

During his presentation Cape Girardeau Mayor Jay Knudtson urged the business leaders to become an active part in the process.

“I understand people deserve a second chance,” Knudtson said. “We need to find a way to involve them. This program is how it can happen.”

For more information on the reentry program contact the Community Caring Council at 651-3747, extension 117, or visit communitycaringcouncil.org.

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Local project aims at offering overnight shelter to homeless
Sunday, March 1, 2009
By Rudi Keller ~ Southeast Missourian

While the Rev. Larry Rice has recently expressed interest in using the Broadway federal building as a homeless shelter, Cape Girardeau social service agencies have established a cooperative program with churches to address homelessness.

For months, housing coordinator Roy Jones of the Community Caring Council has been working on a project to enlist churches as temporary overnight shelters staffed by volunteers. To be known as “Room at the Inn in Southeast Missouri,” the program is aimed at homeless women and children, Jones said.

“We will use as a meeting place the Salvation Army and provide meals and bedding for women and children overnight,” he said.

The program is patterned on similar efforts in St. Louis and Nashville, Tenn., Jones said. The final details are still being worked out, but Jones said he expects a pilot program to test the plan will be ready soon.

Maj. Ben Stillwell of the Salvation Army said the extent of homelessness is hard to gauge. The ease of travel to and from Cape Girardeau on Interstate 55 and via the Bill Emerson Memorial Bridge to Illinois makes it difficult to keep an accurate count, he said.

But Jones doesn’t doubt homelessness is real and growing. According to the Missouri Housing Development Commission, 48 people were homeless in Cape Girardeau County in 2008. Foreclosures and evictions due to job losses will only grow in coming months, Stillwell predicted.

The Salvation Army, which operates homeless shelters in many cities, does not have the resources locally to establish a shelter, Stillwell said. Objections to a homeless shelter based on worries that it will create, rather than solve, a problem are misplaced, Stillwell said.

“The fear is that if you build it they will come,” he said. “My fear is that they are already here.”

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Students to help others adjust to junior high
Wednesday, August 13, 2008
By Lindy Bavolek – Southeast Missourian

Junior high is tough. It’s where bullying starts “hot and heavy,” where cliques begin to form and where adolescents are most impressionable, assistant principal Alan Bruns says.

“We all felt school was a place some students didn’t want to be. You can’t learn if you’re not comfortable being in school,” said Stacy Taylor, asset coordinator for THRIVE, an initiative of the Community Caring Council.

To make changes, community leaders and teachers are focusing on “opinion leaders,” or students who others imitate, and are teaching the leaders to make school a more friendly place.

Forty Central Junior High School opinion leaders attended a training session Tuesday designed to help them recognize their prejudices and encourage them to reach out to others. They, in turn, will be expected to carry the message to the rest of the school.

Most of the day was spent in team-building or group activities. In one of the morning activities, groups of students were given a picture and asked to develop a story about that person.

Lying on the floor, one group studied the picture, deciding the young man probably has a bug and leaf collection, dropped out of high school, enjoys comics and struggles with self-confidence. They later watched a video, where the 17-year-old was identified as being legally blind but enjoys being different.

“What surprised me is I realized that I judge people even when I don’t know them,” said Abby Boyer, who will be entering seventh grade.

The afternoon focused on ways students can help others. “I can talk to new people that are coming in and help people to their classes,” said eighth-grader Taylor Bain. Bailey Kralemann, 12, said she will go out of her way to say hello or include others.

The session focused on 40 developmental assets in categories such as empowerment, positive identity and constructive use of time. A national consultant was brought in to lead the session, called “Change of Heart.” The district, Community Caring Council, United Way of Southeast Missouri, Girl Scouts of Otahki Council and Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition sponsored the event.

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