

BASIC NEEDS COALITION OF CENTRAL TEXAS

www.basicneeds-ctx.org
Monthly Meeting Minutes
June 26, 2008

Time: 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Location: United Way Capital Area
Convener: Ellen Balthazar
Secretary of the Meeting: Kimberly Aguillard

ATTENDEES:

Eva de Luna Castro	CPPP	Andrew Bucknall	ATCMHMR
Ellen Balthazar	Any Baby Can	Susan Eason	Arc of the Capital Area
Dan Pruett	Meals on Wheels & More	Julia Spann	Safeplace
D'Ann Johnson	Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid	Jan Collinson	211-Texas, United Way
Suzanne Stewart	Good Shepherd	Rick Rivera	Family Connections
Glenda Shayne	Capital Area Food Bank	Mary Dodd	CAN
Amanda Patterson	Gateway Church	Raina Whitfield	Best Single Source
Katie Falgoust	Goodwill	Mark Sliter-Hays	Catholic Charities
Emily Cox	Foundation for the Homeless	Kimberly Aguillard	Basic Needs Coalition
Coni Stogner	Safe Place	Amy Price	211-Texas, United Way
Kathy Stark	Austin Tenants Council	Steve Bridges	Worksource
Leah Graham	Wright House Wellness Center		

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Ellen Balthazar called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

- The minutes of the May meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.
- Ellen distributed committee sign-up sheets and reminded each agency to participate on at least one committee.

II. PRESENTATION:

Eva de Luna Castro from the Center for Public Policy Priorities presented the Texas Budget Primer and answered questions.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Advocacy/Public Awareness –Ellen Balthazar

- All members are invited to participate on the Advocacy Committee.
- The next Advocacy meeting is July 9, 1:30 at Palm Square.

Food Security –Dan Pruett and Glenda Shayne

- The Food Security Committee is working on improving access in the Southeast quadrant.
 - Dolores Catholic Church has agreed to expand space and services.
 - Parishoners will do the necessary labor. Materials will cost about \$1200.
 - The grant-writer from Meals on Wheels is working on a narrative to take to the county to request \$30,000 to help purchase additional food and cover staffing.
- The committee is also working on defining food security in Travis County and identifying community indicators.
- Food Security Committee meetings are open to anyone who is interested. They take place the third Thursday of the month, from 10:00-11:30 at Palm Square.

Housing Stability –Ellen Balthazar

- A long-standing goal of the Housing Stability Committee has been to expedite searches for case managers looking for affordable housing. Texas Low-Income Housing presented information about their service.
 - The database is currently down but they hope to have it up by December.
Rapid Rehousing update: a proposal was submitted on behalf of a collaboration of nine BNC and Passages agencies. Caritas helped with the grant-writing and will serve as the fiscal agency.
 - The collaboration was awarded the grant. Negotiations are ongoing; more details will be available soon.
 - Jo Kathryn Quinn can answer questions.
- The next Housing Stability meeting is July 9 at 3:00 at Palm Square. New members to the committee are always welcome.

Best Single Source Funded Partners—Ellen Balthazar

- The funded partners have finalized the process for adding additional agencies.
- The BNC membership received an email outlining the application requirements and procedure.
- Agencies have three more weeks to complete their applications. A decision may be made by the end of August.

Membership/Governance –Susan Eason and Julia Spann

- Susan welcomed Suzanne Stewart, the new representative from the Good Shepherd.
- Julia announced the slate of officers for the 2008-2009 year. Cynthia Colbert was nominated for BNC Chair, and Katie Navine was nominated for Vice-Chair. Both were unanimously elected by acclamation.
- The chair and vice-chair will appoint the committee chairs. Members are required to serve on at least one committee. Susan reminded organizations to sign up for what interests them.

Transportation Taskforce—Andrew Bucknall

- Andrew reported that the taskforce met on June 18th. There were 11 people present.
- New grants are available through Cap Metro, specifically for Social Service bus routes. RTCC is holding grant-writing workshops.
- Fair increases were another topic of much discussion. The vote on fair adjustments is Monday, June 30.
- The taskforce also discussed what the CAN Issue Area Group dealing with transportation is working on currently.

Chair Report—Ellen Balthazar

- Ellen announced that Raina Whitfield has accepted a new position. She thanked Raina for her good work with the Best Single Source program and wished her the best.
- There will be no meeting of the BNC in July. The next meeting is the annual meeting, August 28.
- Ellen reminded everyone that the Annual Meeting is a special occasion and she encouraged them to spread the word and invite guests.

IV. AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Agency announcements were made and emailed to all BNC members shortly after the meeting.

V. NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 28, 2008, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m., United Way Capital Area

VI. ADJOURN