



Community Action Network Community Council 03/22/10 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Sylvia Blanco, Michelle Casanova, Rebecca Cobos, Kevin Coleman, Terry Cowan, Nancy Gilliam, Linda Kokemor, Penny Lichenstein, Gloria Mejia, Stefan Molina, Lesley Ramsey, Jim Reed, Kelsey Stutzman, Helen Watkins, and Marquis Williams

CAN Staff: Chantel Bottoms, Mary Dodd, and Vanessa Sarria

Unable to Attend: James Cornish, Jason Earle, Anne H. Harutunian, Kirsha Haverlah, Jacinda Johnson, Shawn Lemieux, Mary Moran, Esther Reyes, Ruby Roa, Clint Smith, Willie Williams, Amy Wong Mok

Call to Order, Introductions, and Announcements: Marquis Williams, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from February 18, 2010: Minutes were reviewed and approved as presented.

Discussion of Recommendations for the CAN Board of Directors

- What solutions *require* a cross-jurisdictional, collaborative approach?
- Community Council leaders outlined that recommendations sent to the CAN Board of Directors should be: 1) pointed and concise, 2) cross-cutting and require collaborative action among CAN partners, 3) either short-term or long-term in scope, 4) actionable without relying on the State legislature, and 5) related to policy and procedural changes in most cases rather than funding. After discussion, motions were passed to make two recommendations to the CAN Board of Directors.
- **Recommendation One:** Find or create a dropout study with an emphasis on barriers to continuing school or reasons for dropping out. Consideration should be given to whether any of the following supports would assist: 1) offering a trade track in secondary education, 2) providing conferences that showcase resources in the community, 3) offering a work and school alternative, 4) reentry services for juvenile detainees, and 5) single mother resources.
- **Recommendation Two:** Raise awareness of basic needs assistance in our community and maximize the number of people receiving this information by crafting the Community Resources 101 initiative so that it includes multi-lingual outreach and outreach to single parent households. Two-thirds of children that are low-income live with a single parent so consideration must be given to how we can extend resources to children of single parents and expand work from home solutions.

Suggested Changes for Community Council Meetings:

- Community Council leaders proposed the following changes for Community Council meetings: 1) presenters will be asked to prepare their top three policy recommendations for Community Council meetings, 2) CAN staff will attempt to provide Community Council members with presentations, reports, or recommendations prior to each meeting, and 3) meeting agendas will be more balanced with time for presentation of information and for formulation of recommendations. After discussion about these proposed changes and the Community Council meeting schedule, the Community Council passed three motions.
- **Motion One:** Expedite the presentation to the Community Council on health care as the national health reform bill just passed. At the April Community Council meeting, CAN staff should provide Community Council members with a handout outlining the immediate effects that the national health reform bill will have on people in our community.

- **Motion Two:** Community Council presenters on dashboard indicators should be provided with a template for their presentation that ensures that they cover the following information: 1) What CAN partners the presenting organization is funded by, 2) their top three recommendations related to the issue that require CAN partner collaboration (short-term or long-term recommendations), and 3) other information as deemed pertinent. CAN staff should attempt to provide presentations to Community Council members prior to the televised meeting for their review. Presenters should then be able to give a summary of their issue at the Community Council meeting.
- **Motion Three:** Community Council meetings should alternate so that televised meetings on dashboard indicators are followed by non-televised discussion meetings where Community Council members can consider recommendations to the CAN Board of Directors. CAN staff are to implement these proposed changes as soon as possible given planning preparations that have already been made.