

# Project Unity's Community Partnership Board Meeting



**Tuesday, May 24, 2016**

Center for Regional Services  
3991 East 29<sup>th</sup> Street

**MINUTES**

**WELCOME!**

**Welcome:** Jeannie McGuire opened the meeting with an overview of the agenda. A special edition to the CPB meeting is having the Brazos Valley Health Coalition conducting their meeting within the CPB meeting so we can all hear about what their health assessment has revealed. Twenty additional people will be arriving around 11:30 a.m.

**Introductions:** All CPB attendees introduced themselves and which agency they represented.

**8:30 A.M.-10:00 A.M. Family Self Sufficiency Program, How Does It Work?**

**Karla Flanigan:** A lot of you may have heard about the Housing Choice Voucher program. Today I want to talk about the Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Program which is within the Housing Choice Voucher program. What Does It Take To Become Self Sufficient? The program helps Housing Choice Voucher participants who want to volunteer to become involved with the FSS program. The program can help participants earn a college degree, get the job they have always wanted or even purchase a home. Personal services include:

- Personal and career counseling
- Job training and placement
- Life skills
- Computer skills training
- Adult basic education/GED
- Homeownership counseling
- Credit counseling
- Childcare assistance

Please see PowerPoint attached. And go to <http://www.bvcog.org/programs/housing-choice-voucher-program/>

Delores, a graduate of the Family Self Sufficiency Program told her story. She talked about the struggle to become self-sufficiency. There were times when I had to smile when our lights were being turned off. Delores is now an entrepreneur who helps others become self -sufficient. She started out as a single mom with five kids. When she sat in the room many years ago listening to the family self -sufficiency program, she heard the word “Money”. A lot of money can be like winning the lottery. How long does that money last? Not long. Delores said becoming self- sufficient is falling down, getting back up, falling down, getting back up, falling down, getting back up.

### **GED**

Brazos Valley Council of Governments (BVCOG) is offering free GED classes. If you do not have your high school diploma and you need your GED, call (979) 595 – 2801 ext. 2313. You can also e-mail [Phyllis.James@bvcog.org](mailto:Phyllis.James@bvcog.org). For a GED Schedule:

<http://www.bvcog.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/GED-Flyer-Rev.-6-26-2014.pdf>

For more information got to the Adult Education Student Handbook at: <http://bvjobs.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/AEL-Student-Handbook.pdf>

### **Financial Fitness Center**

**Paul Turney:** Byron Haney is the Director of Financial Coaching ([Byron.Haney@bvahc.org](mailto:Byron.Haney@bvahc.org) ). The Financial Fitness Center provides one-on-one financial coaching which includes:

- Staying on a budget
- Managing a checking account
- Improving one’s credit rating
- Paying off debt
- Saving for the future

Family Self Sufficiency clients participate in financial coaching to help them achieve their five year goals. For more information on Financial Fitness Center:

<http://bvahc.org/financial-fitness/>

### **Workforce Solutions of the Brazos Valley**

**Trish Buck:** Workforce Solutions Brazos Valley is a publicly funded employment and training service where all job seekers can conveniently access a network of information and services responsive to their individual needs. Services are provided in the 7-county region which included:

- Brazos
- Burleson
- Grimes
- Leon
- Madison
- Robertson
- Washington

Phone: (979)-595-2800 or toll free at: ((800) 386-7200

Website at: [www.bvjobs.org](http://www.bvjobs.org)

Like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/WorkforceSolutionsBrazosValley](http://www.facebook.com/WorkforceSolutionsBrazosValley)

See brochure attached for more information.

### **Child Care Management Services**

**Gaylen Lange:** Workforce Solutions Brazos Valley provides subsidized child care services to low income families in the 7-county region. Income is based on the Federal Poverty Guidelines chart and is determined by the number of people in your household. To receive subsidized child care services, parents must be employed, in an approved training program, or some combination of both. Eligible families pay a parent fee that is based on their level of income. Parents who participate in other Workforce Programs like WIOA and Choices could also be eligible for subsidized child care. Its takes about 20 days turnaround once the application is turned in. Recertification will be moved to one year. With the changes October 1<sup>st</sup>, there will likely be a waiting list for childcare.

To find out if you are eligible for these services, please contact Child Care Services at (979) 595-2801. The Child Care link is full of information: <http://bvjobs.org/programs/childcare/>

**10:15 A.M.-11:00 A.M. The Heroin Epidemic in Bryan/College Station**

**Justin's Story**

Jeannie McGuire introduced the segment on A&E's Intervention that spotlighted her son Justin and his opiate addiction. After the segment, Justin was skyped in from his sober living apartment in California. He shared his experiences with drug use in Bryan/College Station.

**Brazos Valley Council on Alcohol and Substance Abuse**

Cynthia Solis introduced the Baby Luv program and a new program targeting outreach to women who are pregnant and addicted to heroin. Pregnant/Post-Partum Intervention Services, also known as "Baby Luv," is program that can help pregnant and postpartum women and adolescents find needed resources with the help of case management services. Baby Luv's mission is to intervene in the lives of pregnant and postpartum women and adolescents to prevent the negative effects of alcohol and drugs on infants.

- Case Management-educational groups, parenting skills, health care referrals, community resources, and crisis counseling.
- Parenting Resources- attend parenting and educational groups at no charge.
- Social Activities- join in activities that support and encourage bonding with you child in a fun, drug-free environment. For more information, go to <http://bvcasa.org/programs/pregnant-intervention-program/>

**11:00 A.M.-11:30 A.M. Rudder High School Choir Voices of Praise**

Melva McGee brought students from Rudder High School Choir to sing for CPB members.

**11:30 A.M.-12:15 P.M. Brazos Valley Health Coalition Health Assessment Report**

Sara Mendez introduced the Brazos Valley Health Coalition and Dr. James Burdine then gave a presentation of the Health Assessment which is attached.

**Key Findings: Ongoing Concerns were:**

- Lack of Public Transportation
- Lack of Access to Primary Care
- Inadequate Infrastructure related to Growing/Aging Population
- Affordable Housing
- Unemployment/Lack of Jobs

- Lack of Recreation/Leisure Activity Resources
- Poor Communication and Poor Coordination Around Health and Human Services

**Key Findings for Greater Brazos Valley: Emerging Issues were:**

- Problems with Local Educational System
- Access to /Availability of Health Foods
- Access to Specialty Care
- Need for Assisted Living/Nursing Homes
- Increasing Crime Rate
- Lack of After-school and Summer Activities for Youth
- Limitations of Insurance/Uninsured
- Racial Inequality
- Dwindling Numbers of Volunteers

**12:15 P.M.-1:00 P.M.**

**What's Up with CPB?**

Agency representatives gave announcements about what was coming up as events within their organizations. Flyers or information is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie McGuire

Project Unity

<b>CPB Meeting Sign-In Names</b>		
<b>5/24/2016</b>		
1	Patrick Pierce, QC Tech	Maximus
2	Maggie Gray, Family Support Facilitator	Project Unity
3	Pat Morse, Program Manager	Brazos Valley Center for Independent Living
4	Katie Pfeiffer, Caseworker	Aggieland Pregnancy Outreach
5	Diana Gaytan, Family Support Facilitator	Project Unity
6	Mary Clare Carden, Director of Spiritual Care	CHI St. Joseph Regional Health
7	Mari Malaga, Pregnancy Consultant	Catholic Charities of Central Texas
8	Cary McCord, Director of Clinical Services	Telehealth Counseling Clinic
9	Martha O, Executive Director	SARC
10	Ken Bost, Director	B.C. Health Dept.
11	Marcy Bartula, Family Services Coordinator	Scotty's House
12	Brain Piscaceck, Community Development Analyst	City of College Station
13	Charles Michalewicz, Community Development Analyst	City of College Station
14	Robert Payne, AQT AT ARMS	Bikers Against Child Abuse
15	Barbara Burns, Housing Self-Sufficiency Specialist	BVCOG
16	Belinda Nichols, Housing Self-Sufficiency Specialist	BVCOG
17	Karla Flanagan, HCVP Manager	BCVOG
18	Michelle Gunter, Staff Attorney	Lone Star Legal Aid
19	Candi Baker, ISU Paralegal	Lone Star Legal Aid
20	Ruby Harris, Medical Case Manager	Project Unity
21	Nancy Winn, LCDC	3rd Day Treatment Center
22	Terri hay, Service Delivery Coordinator	Big Brothers Big Sisters
23	Eric Roberts, Transition Coordinator	College Station ISD
24	Shweta Ambwani, Volunteer	BVCOG
25	Stephen Galvin, CHIMES Navigator/Aging Specialist	Area Agency on Aging/BVCOG
26	Marcia Montague, Co-Director,Adjunct Asst. Professor	Bridge to Gear Up Texas A&M University
27	Shazia Sultan, CHIMES NAVIGATOR	BVCOG
28	Phebe Simmons, Director	Family Promise
29	Dave Ruesink, President	Sister Cities
30	Jessica Pierce, Health Planner	BVCOG
31	Teresa Jenkins, Founder of Personal Inspirations	Personal Inspirations

32	Judy LeUnes, Director of Development & Communications	Project Unity
33	Liz Dickey, Executive Director	Health For All
34	Cindy Soltis, Director of DSHS Treatment Services	BCVASA
35	P. Mooney, Chair	Brazos Valley YMCA
36	Sonia Roberts, Medical Case Manager	Project Unity
37	Michelle Boulding, Family Support Facilitator	Project Unity
38	SanJuanita Quintero, Family Support Facilitator	Project Unity
39	Brittany Johnson, Medical Case Manager	Project Unity
40	Jorge Cantu, Healthy Communities Intern	CHI St. Joseph Regional Health
41	Fawn Preuss, Healthy Communities Coordinator	CHI St. Joseph Regional Health
42	Katie Watson, Project Unity Intern	Project Unity
43	Raschel York, Director of Healthy Communities	CHI St. Joseph Regional Health
44	Ron Crozier, Director of Community Relations	Twin City Mission
45	Laury Kasowski, Youth & Family Services Program Director	Twin City Mission
46	Tara Dupper, Homeless Services	Bryan ISD
47	Lety Corpes, Homeless Services	Bryan ISD
48	Joyce Jones, Teacher	Bryan ISD
49	Amy Hamilton, Social Worker	Bryan ISD
50	Melanie Rogers, Student Intervention Coordinator	Bryan ISD
51	Debbie Muesse, Program Manager	BVCCP
52	Linda Bailey, Community Outreach Specialist	United Healthcare Community
53	Amy Tutoki, Program Director	Early Childhood Intervention
54	Elizabeth Gonzales, CHWII	BVCCP
55	George Caudle, President	Society of St. Vincent de Paul
56	Sara Mendez, Health Education Director	Brazos Co. Health Department
57	David Sher, Laboratory Asst.	Brazos Co. Health Department
58	Normas Riuas, Nurse	Brazos Co. Health Department
59	Jessica Paul, Environmental Health Specialist	Brazos Co. Health Department
60	Nicole Vargas, Health Educator	Brazos Co. Health Department
61	Kristi Hanle, Program Manager	BVCOG
62	Levi Garrett, Administrative Programs Assistant	Project Unity
63	Jeannie McGuire, President	Project Unity
64	Ella McGruder, Programs Coordinator	Project Unity
65	Trish Buck, Bd. Manager	WSBV
66	Gaylen Lange, Project Manager	WSBV
67	Charles Baldwin, BS Program Specialist	WSBV
68	Monty Hunt	The Bridge
69	Paul Turney	Brazos Valley Affordable Housing

