

Ottawa County Human Services Coordinating Council 2006 Annual Report

The Ottawa County Human Service Coordinating Council (OCHSCC) consists of sixteen members from local organizations who collectively seek fulfill the Council Mission: to enhance the quality of life for all Ottawa County residents through a coordinated and prioritized strategic response to county and regional human services needs.

Originally known as the Multi-purpose Collaborative Body, the OCHSCC reorganized, by resolution of the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners, in November 2005. This reorganization increased the efficiency and effectiveness of the council. Since the reorganization, the OCHSCC has had much success and many accomplishments.

Under the direction of the Ottawa County Health and Human Services Committee, the council is responsible for the review and approval of grants and endorsements for the county. Services providers and collaboratives make presentations to the council seeking the approval and endorsement of their projects. During the process, the council seeks to determine if each project is the most beneficial way of filling gaps and if there is any duplication of services.

Strategic Accomplishments

In October 2005, the OCHSCC adopted a strategic plan to take them through 2006. While much work has been done, some goals will continue into 2007.

- The council selected three primary focus areas: Access to Health Services, Successful Families, and Financial Sustainability.
 - Two workgroups have been since been adopted – Access to Health Services and the Great Start Collaborative.
 - The council is actively exploring potential funding streams in an effort to bring additional dollars into the community.

- The HSCC created six operating guidelines to create a structure promoting collaboration and coordination. They include:
 - Adoption and Amendment of the Operating Guidelines
 - Format for the Operating Guideline
 - Financial Reporting – this operating guideline is designed to provide a timeline and system to receive financial reported from grant fiduciaries.
 - Attendance – to help members understand what is expected of them
 - Executive Committee – to outline election procedure for the Executive Committee
 - Program Involvement – this is the endorsement policy for the OCHSCC. Organization can receive one of four levels of involvement.
 - **Level One: Lead** – given to an organization that is requesting our direct involvement
 - **Level Two: Fund** – given to an organization whom we are providing funding through grant received by the HSCC

- **Level Three: Endorse** – given to an organization who seeks an endorsement from the HSCC for grant purposes or for new program support
 - **Level Four: Inform/Encourage** – given when other levels are not requested or do not apply.
- A new organization chart was developed and is attached to this document

Program Involvement

Through out the year, the OCHSCC met with several organizations. What follows is a summary of those activities as they relate to the Program Involvement Operating Guideline.

- Level One: Lead
 - The Great Start Collaborative
- Level Two: Fund
 - Strong Families Safe Children
 - Arbor Circle Corporation
 - Children's Assessment Center of Ottawa County
 - 211 of Ottawa County/CALL 211
 - Advocacy and Resource Center (ARC)
 - Bethany Christian Services
 - Children's Resource Network
- Level Three: Endorse
 - Ottawa County Substance Abuse Prevention
 - Communities Helping Ottawa County Obtain a Safe Environment (CHOOSE)
 - 10-year Plan to End Homelessness
 - 211 of Ottawa County and Call 211 of Muskegon County merger
 - Senior Resources Network Strategic Plan
 - Pathway's Grant
 - Ottawa Area Housing Coalition Emergency Assistance Grant and Homeless Assistance Grant
 - Arbor Circle Homeless Assistance Grant
- Level Four: Inform/Encourage
 - Ottawa County Wellness Coalition
 - West Michigan Strategic Alliance
 - Friends of Transit

Staff

- In May 2006, Andrea Mulder joined the HSCC efforts as the Administrative Coordinator.
 - Ms. Mulder has been an integral part in the work of the HSCC enhancing council organization.

- Ms. Mulder actively participates in meetings of local and statewide community collaboratives thereby increasing information sharing and coordination.
- Funding for this position is provided by:
 - Strong Families Safe Children grant dollars
 - Ottawa County Health Department
 - Greater Ottawa County United Way
 - Holland Zeeland Community Foundation
 - Greater Grant Haven Community Foundation

Membership

- Currently, there are eighteen members. During the past twelve months, the HSCC has experienced dynamic change in membership. Seven members are new to their current positions and consequently, new to the council.