

## **Sierra Health Council Membership Meeting, September 7, 2011 (draft)**

**Board Members Present:** Jennie Shepperd, Reilly Hamil, MJ Dyke

**Members Present:** Terri Markel, John Mulcahy, Dale Twyeffort, Klarene Rich, Michele Herling, Wendy Sager-Evanson, Tom Hamil, Ari Cervantes, Debra Northam, Val TwoWolves, Juliet Sullivan, Melissa Muniz

President/Chair, Jennie Shepperd, called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. Agenda Adoption discussed.

August SHC Minutes reviewed. Ari Moved to accept the minutes as is. Wendy Seconded. Minutes Approved.

Secretary's Report reviewed. MJ moved to accept. Dale seconded. Report approved.

Treasure's report reviewed. Ari motioned to accept. Dale seconded. Report approved.

**Melissa Muniz from the Alzheimer's Association**, presented information about a Veteran's Alzheimer's project called, the Savvy Caregivers training course. These courses have been conducted and well-received in other parts of New Mexico. The course will be offered in Truth or Consequences on November 2, 9 and 16<sup>th</sup>; noon to 4pm. Meeting place To Be Announced. For more information call 1-800-272-3900.

**Board Member Officer Elections:** Letters of Interest were submitted by: Deborah Northam-Sierra Health/Hospice, Terri Markel-Ben Archer School Based Clinic, Ari Cervantes T or C Housing Authority Section 8 FSS Coordinator/HANM, Reilly Hamil-Nurse Educator, Nadine Knowles-DWI Prevention, Jennie Shepperd- Housing Authority/Teen Outreach Program, Klarene Rich-Domestic Abuse Intervention Center.

In accordance to bylaws, the slate of individuals was presented for a vote by the membership.

Dale moved to accept the slate. Val seconded. Motion carried. Above slate accepted as SHC Board Members.

### **Round Table:**

**Domestic Abuse Intervention Center**-Klarene Rich, Director and Coordinator, relates that the center has 3 full time/2 part time employees. No funds for the promotoras. Confidential groups, education and counseling continue. TRO (temporary restraining orders) can be handled by agency, getting the paperwork done and serving as well.

**Compassionate Touch Network**-Michele Herring has received funding to do outreach across New Mexico with a project called *Minds Interrupted*. In April, she is planning to bring this project to Sierra County. Workshops will be conducted to help those with

mental illness or their loved ones create monologues presentations sharing their stories. The goal of the project is to help reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and provide information, awareness, compassion, and encourage people with mental illness to seek help. More information will be available later this year.

**Studio de la Luz and Medicinal Arts**-Wendy Sager Evanson helped write the grant to get funding for *Minds Interrupted* to come to Sierra County. She announced that she is on the board of the *New Mexico Association for Infant Mental Health*. She expressed delight that the T or C swimming pool is finally being covered. Yay!

**Sierra County Arts Council**-Tom Hamil says he is participating in the health council from the perspective of the Arts and Seniors.

**T or C Housing Authority**-Ari Cervantes, Family Self Sufficiency program, announced that Homeownership Classes are scheduled at the Housing Authority September 13 and 27 (flyers available)

**T or C Municipal School District**-Juliet Sullivan, Social Worker, says the Health Fair at the school is scheduled for January or February. Presentations will be scheduled in hopes of bringing more parents. An anti-bullying program in accordance with 2012 legislation will be implemented to aid in positive actions for K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Consequences are currently in place for offenders. Juliet remains very concerned about homeless school children and is committed to finding resources for them.

**Sierra Health Care Center**-Deborah Northam, Director of Home Health and Hospice, reports that the Granny Harke's wing (14 to 20 beds) is open. The *Men Who Cook* fund raiser is being held September 24, 2011, parking at Sierra Health Care, \$20/ individual and \$30/ couple. Contact her for tickets.

**T or C Housing Authority, Teen Outreach Program (TOP)**-Jennie Shepperd says that TOP participants will be helping with the *Men who Cook* fundraiser at the SHCC.

She is looking for local agencies to provide mentorship positions for Family Self Sufficiency candidates from the Housing Authority or TOP participants to help with job skills improvement: communications, work etiquette, showing up on-time, etc.

Collaboration with Copper Flats Mine and WNMU for more jobs and vocational courses is in progress.

**Ben Archer School Base Clinic**-Terri Markel, Office Manager, relates that Dental is now available at Ben Archer Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8am to 5pm.

The Welcome Baby program and car seat distribution, run by Shirley Hanna is still thriving. Some transportation for those with Molina and Salud insurance is available.

**AppleTree Educational Center, Manzano Christian School**-MJ Dyke, Social Worker, says enrollment is up 50%, pre-K provides transportation via bus; some pm slots available. They are having a Harvest fund raiser soon.

**New Mexico State Veteran's Home**-Val Two Wolves states she has 2 months and some days left for her service at the VA. A different contract team was on site for a survey. New building is proceeding, architects plan for construction to be consistent with the old buildings.

NMSVH will be holding Veterans Day ceremony on Friday, November 11, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Tours and coffee and light pastries will be available beginning at 9 a.m.

**Sierra County Economic Development Organization (SCEDO)**-John Mulcahy relates that Virgin Galactic is hosting Industry Day on October 18, by invitation only. Contractors from all over the world are expected to participate.

Question on Race track- answer- no race track.

Copper Field Mine Community Meeting is on September 22, 2011. John is concerned that Sierra County has the second lowest rating for employment in the State.

**Ministerial Alliance, The Bountiful Alliance (TBA)**-Dale Twyeffort says that money is being given out at a quick rate for the homeless for hotels, food, gas etc. The police have vouchers.

The November *Thanks Service* is the fund raiser, all local churches will contribute.

**Community member**-Reilly Hamil, continues to volunteer managing the SHC website. She continues to work on the NMNEC state-wide BSN curriculum. She collaborated with Jennie Shepperd in writing a Regional TUPAC grant for the T or C Housing Authority.

Further SHC Business:

**Community Needs Assessment update**- SVH hired NMSU to conduct the NA. SHC is committed to provide up to \$10,000 to this project.

**The Teen Health Forum** is October 21, 2011; held during the Parent/Teacher Conferences at the High School Cafeteria. Contact Jennie if you are interested in planning or participating.

**Survey Monkey** results about changing date and time of this membership meeting: Reilly Hamil reported that 20 people completed the survey. The membership voted overwhelmingly (16 to 4) to change to the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month. However, the results were split 50/50 concerning changing the day and the time. In the meeting, we decided

to leave the meeting date and time the same for now and revisit this issue with the new BOD.

**Meeting Adjourned** at 12:30pm. Next meeting: October 5, 2011.

Submitted by  
Ari Cervantes