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FCHSC, Inc. 2006 Year End Report

Fayette County Human Service Council, Inc., P.O. Box 1112, Uniontown, PA 15401
www.fayettehumanservicecouncil.org
FCHSC Mail [announcements@fayettehumanservicecouncil.org] Phone 724-425-1818

A Word From the Chair *John Rapano*

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In 2006, The Fayette County Human Service Council, Inc. took several significant steps toward accomplishing its mission of establishing partnerships between the human service system and the larger community to improve the quality and delivery of health, human and education service. The Family Fun Fest, Community Builders, Diversity Training, the Leadership Forum, a new “web blast” feature and major revisions to our website were among our more visible and successful activities.

Behind the scenes, the committees of the Council are working closely with leading county organizations public officials. Partnerships with the Fayette County Office of Human and Community Services, the Community Health Improvement Partnership, the Fay-Penn Economic Development Council, the Penn State Cooperative Extension, Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus, and the Mid Mon Valley Providers Council have assisted us in moving toward the accomplishment of our goals.

We are looking forward to building on our accomplishments in 2006 to make 2007 a breakthrough year!

Financial Report

The Fayette County Human Service Council is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose main source of revenue is provided through membership dues. Dues are divided into two categories, individual and agency membership. In 2006 the HSC had a membership of approximately 90.

Other funding has been acquired through the Human Service Development Fund which has supported programs such as the Community Builder’s training and the Leadership Forum.

Special event funding for the Family Fun Fest was attained through requests for sponsorship from member agencies as well as the community, foundations and businesses at large.



Nearly 1200 attend the
HSC Family Fun Fest



Graduates receive
certificates at the 2005
Community Builders
graduation ceremony.

Committee Accomplishments

The **Special Activities Committee** collaborates with member agencies to reach out into the community to increase community awareness of available services. The committee also enhances collaboration within the group through yearly planned events such as:

- Over 1300 people attended the Annual Family Fun Fest, held June 17, 2006 at the Fayette County Fairgrounds. A full day of family fun, entertainment, and food provided the backdrop for dozens of agencies to highlight their services with information tables and activities.
- Summer Picnic Membership Meeting, Dunlap Creek -(held August 18, 2006)
- Christmas Membership Gathering at Rotelli's Restaurant

The **Professional Development Committee** has continued to be the support committee of the Community Builder's training. This past year with an award from the Office of Human and Community Services, Community Builder's was able to present a third round of training at no cost to students. Chris Becker, the new project coordinator through the Penn State Cooperative Extension, has done a great job at scheduling experts in the field presenting a diverse selection of topics. Community Builder's will graduate 16 students. It will be the focus of the committee to sustain this project in the coming year. In October the Professional Development Committee offered the human service community several diversity workshops at the "Building Community through Our Differences" conference at the Uniontown Country Club. This conference came about as a result of discussions held at the

The **Research and Development Committee** disseminated the results of the 2005 "A Study of Social Conditions in Fayette County" through speaking engagements, community presentations, and presentations at the 2nd International Conference on Qualitative Inquiry, the Midwest Psychological Association, and a virtual presentation at the Sixth International Conference of Knowledge, Culture, and Change in Organizations. Results of the study were also published in the Spring, 2006 edition of *Sociological Viewpoints*, The Journal of the Pennsylvania Sociological Society.

The through a grant from the Office of Community Services, the committee, in partnership with the Community Health Improvement Partnership and the Fay-Penn Economic Development Council, HELD A Leadership Forum to address the recommendations from the study in the areas of healthcare, human services, education, and economic development. Action

Board of Directors

2006

John Rapano, Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus, Chair

Frances Brownfield, Child Care Information Services, Co-Chair

Tara Rack, Secretary

Michelle Manos, Crime Victim's Center, Treasurer

Jami McCahill, Fayette County Housing Authority, Services to Sr. Citizens

Donna Roe, Fayette County Housing Authority, Services to Sr. Citizens

Sister Margaret Tuley, RENDU Services

Fr. Damian Cesanek, O.S.B.

Patricia Tobal, Fayette County Nurse Family Partnership

Doreen King, Communities in Schools, Success Academy

Jessica Hajek, Commercial Center Associates

2007

Newly Elected Board Members

Jim Syphers, California University of Pennsylvania, Emeritus Faculty

Tammy Knouse, Fayette County Community Action Agency

Sandra Morris, Steps to a Healthier PA



steps were identified and will be monitored by the committee in the coming year.

The Membership Committee worked closely with Webmaster Rob McGee and Council Administrative Assistant Cheryl DeCarlo to make major renovations to the Council website, www.fayettehumanservicecouncil.org.

The committee also initiated an important new service of the Council, the e-mail blast feature, which enables us to contact both members and non-members with timely information about upcoming events.

The committee also surveyed its members to find ways to improve our services to members. A survey of former members and non-members is now underway to provide data to be used in developing a new Strategic Plan for the Council in 2007.