

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

MEETING APRIL 12, 2013

Present: Olive Hauser, Debra Hertz, Nancy Herling, Rachael Martin, Jennifer Geddes, Ali Ramsteck, Melisse Reardon, Polly Lowman, Inta Adams, Beverly Kelsey.

Minutes: The minutes of the special meeting of March 22, 2013 were approved as presented.

Agenda Items Covered:

- **Review of Quarterly Report:** Olive reviewed the Quarterly Report for January through March, 2013, a copy of which is attached.
- Program Highlights included the following:
 - EAP on line applications have been very productive
 - Human Services has been authorized to be an intake site for applications to Operation Fuel which will greatly help our clients.
 - We have begun an inventory of Back to School supplies to determine our needs. We will use funds from the Salvation Army and other donated monies to acquire larger backpacks. We don't need any smaller ones, we have plenty.
 - Clients served in the past quarter are a little down but complexity of cases is up.
 - The Home Goods Closet has been used extensively and needs restocking each month.
 - An article online showed the penny jar in our office and asked for donations from the public. Two people came in after seeing the article. Rachel said she would see if the girl scouts at her school would like to challenge each other to see who can collect the most change.
 - Bob Locke, Treasurer of the Salvation Army is retiring and a replacement is being sought. The Salvation Army has a budget of between \$6-7,000 annually. Referral are made by Darien Human Services for the use of the funds.
- **Homes with Hope:** Olive reviewed this 501C3 established in Westport by the Rev. Peter Powell to solve homelessness in Fairfield County.
- **The New Face of NEON:** CTE and Neon have merged into one anti-poverty agency. For now this agency will be called Neon Norwalk and Neon Stamford. Olive went to a meeting in which the merger was discussed and the plan for reorganization was outlined.

- **Commission on Aging:** The Commission will meet next week. Jennifer Geddes advised that in the proposed fiscal 2013-2014 CT budget funding for CT hospitals has been slashed by significant amounts with a potential negative impact on the elderly and children. She urged the commission to encourage an email chain to legislators protesting this action.
- **Casework Review:** Olive reviewed two anonymous cases, reflecting the needs of clients and the challenges facing them.
- **Other Business:** There was no other **business** presented.

Respectively Submitted:

Beverly Kelsey

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