

Minutes
CARE Coalition

December 8th, 2009

The Coalition meeting was held at 12:00 p.m. at:

The Solutions Foundations
2975 S Rainbow Blvd, Ste. K-2
Las Vegas, NV 89146

The following members were present:

Jeff Iverson	Donna Ruthe
Olga Mendoza	David
Sandra Stahl	Jordan Stern
Lisa Iverson	James Massey
Don James	Joe Hardenbrook
Susan Benassi	Cynthia Polsnelli
Jennifer Knox	Veronica Romo
Jeanne Toscano	Larry Ashley
John Lybbert	Babette Laman
Lindsey Laman	Shelly Laman
McCall Phillips	Kevin Murphy
Cynthia Watson Catha	Erik Badgett
Blendine Hawkins	Lindsay Grace
Paula Squitieri	John Collins
DeShana Allen	Danielle Scott
Frank Karr	Corey Taylor
Arlene Hummel	Anita Garritano
David Marlon	Aimee Couture
Angela Baur	

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 by David Marlon.

David welcomed everyone to the CARE Coalition meeting.

Dave asked the coalition members if they had read over the minutes of the last meeting. Anita Garritano motioned to approve the minutes, and the motion got a second from Sandra Stahl. The minutes were approved at 12:15pm.

All members of the Coalition introduced themselves.

Dave introduced guest speaker Olga Mendoza of the Luz Coalition. Olga spoke about her experience starting a coalition six years ago. She gave a brief history of the LUZ Coalition, which targets mainly the Latino population. She spoke about the importance of

finding your target audience as a coalition by completing a needs assessment. Olga stated that a scientific based community assessment will tell your coalition what your community needs, and will let you know if there is a need for your coalition. There are already two other coalitions in Clark County but the size of our County warrants more coalitions. Olga spoke about the LUZ Academy that will begin next month and will feature many different training programs, specifically some that will be helpful in starting a nonprofit organization or a coalition, including training to become eligible for government funds.

Olga also spoke about the function of coalitions. She stated that coalitions do not provide direct services, but rather raise funds to allocate to local providers of direct services in areas that are in need. She stated that avoiding duplication is important, so as not to have too many providers in one area and none in another area of the community. She spoke about building capacity, and learning what prevention is and what it isn't. Lastly Olga talked about meeting requirements vs. being effective as a coalition. She said it is easy to get buried in the paper work and that our main focus should always be on strategies for being effective in the community, and really making a difference in the community.

Dave Marlon asked Olga what percentage of the population the LUZ Coalition serves. She replied that they mainly serve the Latino population, which accounts for roughly 30%, but that they don't discriminate. Their programming is geared toward Latinos, but not restricted to only that population.

Sandra Stahl asked about building our road map as a coalition and how we go about finding that direction. Olga answered that we use our community assessments, surveys, focus groups, and capture all data that we can find and balance those together to see what issues float to the top. Of the issues that come to the top of the list we have to decide which issues we can effect as a coalition. A coalition must make a strategic plan and address a few of those issues that surfaced from collecting the data each year. She mentioned that we have an advantage of being able to learn from the other coalitions that are already in place and have been around for years. For instance the LUZ coalition already has those processes for doing assessments and collecting data in place and we can use them. Olga mentioned that the best strategy for effecting the youth of your community is to get into the school district, and no coalition has been able to up to this point.

Dave Marlon thanked Olga Mendoza for coming to the meeting a sharing her knowledge with us, and welcomed her back anytime.

Dave Marlon and Lisa Iverson presented an update on the coalition's application for SAPTA certification. Dave stated that all coalition members would need fingerprints on file and asked how many members already had their fingerprints done and how many need them done. He asked if the members would be willing to go on their own to get fingerprints if he paid for them, or if he should bring a mobile fingerprint unit to the next meeting. Olga mentioned that we may not all need fingerprints on file, that only those that would be working directly with kids would need them, and since our coalition

doesn't provide direct services this shouldn't be necessary. Dave Marlon replied that he would rather have all the requirements complete, just in case. Lisa Iverson also said that it was stated as a requirement at the last meeting she had with the SAPTA representative. Lisa Iverson then requested that everyone fill out a time log, and begin to keep minutes at committee meetings that can be turned in to Aimee Couture.

Lisa Iverson updated the coalition on the status of the DFC Grant application. She said the grant committee met last week and the coalition would hear from them before the next meeting. She also asked that everyone fill out the assessment survey.

Anita spoke briefly about the coalition's strategies for impacting the community. It was also decided that the coalition would be emailed the policies and procedures so they could read over them and be ready to vote at the next meeting.

David Marlon stated that in order to get our SAPTA certification we had to vote in a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary to the Board of Directors. Aimee Couture nominated Dave Marlon for President. Sandra Stahl seconded the nomination. Dave Marlon was approved to be the president of the CARE Coalition. Lisa Iverson nominated Anita Garritano as Vice President. Aimee Couture seconded the nomination. Olga stated that the Executive Director could not also be a board member for the Coalition, but for now, in order to get certified by SAPTA that would be okay. The coalition voted and Anita Garritano was approved as Vice President of the board. Aimee Couture and Lisa Iverson were nominated for Secretary. The coalition voted Aimee in as Secretary of the board. Jeff Iverson and Jeanne Toscano were nominated for treasurer. Jeff Iverson was voted in as the Treasurer of the board.

Dave thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05pm.