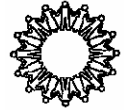


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THE ADVOCATE



The Newsletter of the Greater Taunton Health & Human Service Coalition (GTHHSC) and the Greater Attleboro Taunton Health & Education Response (GATHER) – www.geocities.com/gathercoalition

Volume XVI, No.3

March 2006



“What’s In a Name?”

You are cordially invited to Attend

A Joint Meeting of
The Greater Attleboro/Taunton Health and Education Response
(GATHER)
And
The Greater Taunton Health & Human Services Coalition (GTHHSC)

- ♥ Examine Strengths and Challenges
- ♥ Decide the Future Course of These Groups

Tuesday, March 21, 2006
9:00 a.m.
Associates for Human Services
68 Allison Ave., Taunton (Home Depot Plaza)

For more information
Please contact Lorraine Rosa, 508-823-4822

Taunton Emergency Task Force

The Taunton Emergency Task Force (ETF) is a citywide organization that has been in existence since March 1985, and became incorporated in February 1995. Originally, this group came together through the efforts of several committed individuals who were interested in taking action to address and improve the affordable housing situation in the greater Taunton area. Founding members included Roland Ducharme [former district president for St. Vincent de Paul and former ETF chairperson], Dick Johnson [former mayor of Taunton], Bob Cammarata, [director of the Taunton Department of Human Services], Senator Marc Pacheco, Paul Pagano [former director of United Way], Natalie Leckhart [concerned community representative], Deb Araujo [director of the Taunton office of Citizens for Citizens and former ETF chairperson], and Anne Bagge [executive director of Triumph Head Start].

The Task Force has evolved over time and now includes a membership of over 40 organizations, businesses, city departments, churches and individuals. It is a non-profit, citywide task force that represents local agencies dealing directly or indirectly with conditions that are detrimental to the health, safety or social well being of individuals and families in the Greater Taunton area. The Task Force draws upon all available resources to assist those in need, raising funds and materials to accomplish this. It is not the intention of the Task Force to compete with existing services. Rather, the group

strives to supplement existing services in its approach to solving problems with those in emergency-situations. This spirit of cooperation amongst the member agencies is unique in Southeastern MA. The current officers are: Milly Burrows, chairperson; Julia Wood, vice-chairperson, Charlene Sanger, treasurer; and Donna DeFaria, secretary. The ETF meets on the first Tuesday of the month at the GATRA Administration Building conference room. Anyone interested in membership may call Donna DeFaria, **508 822-0051**.

During 2005, the Task Force assisted 517 individuals representing 258 families. A total of \$ 25,606.95 was expended to help alleviate emergencies in the following areas: rental assistance, fuel assistance, non-heat related utilities, long distance and fixed bus route transportation, and childcare arrearages. Funding has been made possible by charitable donations, the United Way of Greater Attleboro/Taunton, Bristol County Savings Bank Charitable Foundation, and the First Annual Warm Homes for the Holidays led by Senator Marc Pacheco, Representative James Fagan and the owners of Bella Roma Restaurant.

In addition to the monthly meetings to address issues in the area, the Task Force currently has three financial programs available for citizens in the area. The Community Impact Emergency Fund and the Fuel Assistance programs are offered to citizens in Taunton, Raynham, Berkley and Dighton. The fixed

bus route transportation program is offered to residents in Taunton only. All three programs are unique regarding their guidelines. All programs facilitated by the Taunton Emergency Task Force are available subject to funding availability. Intakes for all programs are by appointment only.

➤ **The Community Impact Emergency fund** addresses rental, non-heat related utility (excludes cable and telephone), long distance transportation and child-care arrearage emergencies. An agency referral is required. This program offers up to \$200.00 in assistance in the above areas on a first come, first serve one time only basis. The United Way of Greater Attleboro/Taunton funds this program.

➤ **The Fuel Fund** officially opens December 1st of each year. The fuel fund provides emergency financial assistance for fuel related costs to individuals and families who are over income for the state and federal entitlement fuel assistance programs and the Salvation Army Good Neighbor Energy Program. Over the past few years the Task Force has made adjustments to provide limited assistance to those who have qualified for the previously mentioned programs. Determination is on a case-by-case basis. This program is made possible because of the

generosity of donations from area citizens and businesses.

- **Transportation Program** - Due to a generous donation from the Bristol County Savings Bank Charitable Foundation, the Taunton Emergency Task Force in-conjunction with Department of Human Services and GATRA is able to provide a no-cost transportation program to low-moderate income individuals and families. This transportation program, based on funding


availability, provides public transportation passes for Neighborhood Fixed Route Buses (does not include Dial-A-Ride/cab fares) to eligible individuals, elders, and families. The Transportation Assistance Program hopes to alleviate the transportation costs of those who are eligible. A short application is required as well as income verification, a positive ID and proof of City of Taunton residency. The number of passes provided will be

based on current individual/family usage of public transportation. The income guidelines are based on 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

Individuals and families in need should contact Charlene Sanger, Community Relations Counselor at the Department of Human Services Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm at **508-821-1420.** ♠



Did You Know That...?

Morton Hospital and Medical Center is offering “*Fighting Illnesses*”, **3/3/06**, 8:00 am, Silver City Galleria Community Room, free, no registration required. Also, at the Margaret Stone Conference Room, 6:30 pm,  “*Female Stress Urinary Incontinence*”, **3/15/06**, and “*Parenting Children and Adolescents with Behavioral Problems*”, **3/20/06**. 6:30pm, free, registration required. Please call **508-828-7777**


Mulligan Center is offering the following trainings: *Adult CPR*, **3/28/06**, 9:00-1:00, \$60; *Adult CPR and First Aid*, **3/29/06**, 9:00-4:30, \$75. To register, contact Jane Dickey at 508-583-2250, x211, or register online at www.hcsm.org.

Center for NonProfit Management 2006 BreakFACTS Series is offering *Financial Reporting for Your Grants*, **3/28/06**, 8:30-11:00am. For information or to register,

call **508-565-1856**, or see www.stonehill.edu/nonprofit/breakfacts.htm

5th Annual MA Suicide Prevention Conference: Action for Life, Voices of Hope: Suicide Prevention Across the Lifespan, **4/25/06** (2:00-6:30) and **4/26/06** (9:00-4:30pm), at the Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center, 366 Main St., Sturbridge. For information, registration, CEUs and fee schedule, please contact Janice.ventre@state.ma.us or call AdCare at **508-752-7313**.

New Developments in Understanding and Treating Self-Injury will be held **3/14/06**, 9:00-Noon, at College of the Holy Cross, Worcester. For information, registration, CEUs and fee schedule, contact Janice.ventre@state.ma.us

"Pathways To Hope" is a one-hour talk show where  guests from a human/social services agency or program chat about

helpful services available to greater Taunton area residents. It airs live on Tuesdays from 1-2 PM. If you are interested in some free publicity/visibility for one or more of your service programs, please call Dan LeBrun at **1-800-333-8000** or **508-997-9353**

Buckle Up in Massachusetts - Tragically, 35% of us do not buckle up, the worst record in 49 states, next to Mississippi. Our mandatory belt law is only enforceable secondary to another violation, like speeding. Primary belt states have an 85% compliance rate, ours is 64.8% in the latest survey. Passing the primary seat belt bill will save more lives than any other single traffic safety initiative we could implement.

www.ExpectMore.gov provides the public with candid, easy-to-understand assessments of federal programs. Taxpayers can see what the government is doing to improve program performance so the public to

hold the government accountable for how their programs work. It includes summaries of the assessments of the nearly 800 federal programs assessed to date, including approximately

43 EPA programs. Each summary provides a program overview, some of the key findings of the assessment, and the follow-up actions agencies are taking to address those

findings and improve program performance. Each summary also links to the full program assessment details, the program's Web site, and the search results for similar federal programs.

COALITION/COMMITTEE MINUTES & REPORTS



GATHER Domestic Violence, Violence Prevention. 2/16/06, 3:30, New Hope



Discussion Highlights:

Announcements:

- **Men's Support Group** - Family Nonviolence, Inc. in Fairhaven is offering a Men's Support Group for men who see themselves as being abused. For information, call **508-996-1100**, or email info@familynonviolence.org. More information at www.noexcuse4abuse.org.
- **Arbour-Fuller Hospital** publishes a Referral Guide which contains a clinical specialties grid with information from each of their facilities. For 24-hour access, call **800-652-5222**.
- **Basic Utility Rights of Consumers** will be held **3/1/06**, 10-2:15, at the Southern New England School of Law in North Dartmouth. Register at cforney@ncla.net or call **800-244-9023, x3006**.
- **White Ribbon Campaign** - Plymouth South High School's PRIDE students sponsored a White Ribbon Campaign (stop violence toward women) on 2/14/06.
- **Resources** - Bureau of Justice Statistics Reports may be accessed at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs
- **Sexual Assault Victimization Brochure** by the Office for Victims of

Crime, may be accessed at www.ncvc.org

- **GATHER/GTHHSC Organization** - February and March GTHHSC meetings (2/21 & 3/21) will be decisive in the future course of both coalitions. All members of both organizations are encouraged to be part of the process.

April Events: National Sexual Assault Awareness Month:

- **Attleboro** - New Hope will hold a basic and open forum on sexual assault for community members on **4/19/06**, at the Attleboro Library, 10:00-Noon. They are outreaching to agencies, police and hospital workers to wear teal ribbons for sexual assault awareness. Other libraries may be interested in displays.
- **Taunton** - National Crime Victims Rights Week "Victims' Rights: Strength in Unity" Silent Vigil featuring campaign signs will be held **4/24/06**, 4:30-6:30, throughout Taunton in locations such as Taunton Green, Taunton High School area, and anywhere volunteers are willing to participate in the awareness campaign. There may also be an Attleboro presence.

- **Yellow Dress** play is tentatively scheduled in March for Taunton High School juniors and seniors. A mini health fair may be held in the auditorium foyer.
- **Garden of Hope** - The Make a Difference Day gardening activity at Headstart was cancelled due to the emergency at the Whittenton Dam. SEMA VAV will work on the garden from March to June. Several grant applications have been sent to supply tools, shrubs, plants and other supplies. Volunteers are asked to contact Annemarie and "Dress for Dirt" to help this cause.

Grants - GATHER fills gaps that direct services can't provide, and information/resources are shared among GATHER communities.

- **Community Educational Outreach** - Educational and informational outreach through small gatherings/workshops throughout the GATHER communities would target the following issues: Early intervention (birth to 5), child abuse, no bullying (elementary & middle schools), teen dating violence, domestic violence and sexual assault,

gay/lesbian violence and elder abuse.

- **Kit Materials Distribution**
- The American Bar Association developed a kit to raise awareness of and prevent teen dating violence. Deb has received the "Dating and Violence Should Never Be a Couple – Never" posters, fact sheets, warning signs and a DVD. Information can be shared

with GATHER high schools. Grant funding could allow for a wider sharing of materials, perhaps utilizing cable TV programming.

Next Steps:

- Get information on a model juvenile first offenders program
- Fax Battered Men's group to Arbour-Fuller
- Get a copy of a CDBG grant
- Work out a budget for a

Community Education Outreach grant budget

Next Meeting:

GATHER DV/VP: **3/16/06**, 3:30, (3rd Thursday of the Month), New Hope, 39 Taunton Green

Contact Person: Annemarie Matulis, **508-922-7278** cell, amatulis@tmlp.com or matulisannie@msn.com



GATHER/GTHHSC Substance Abuse Committee. 2/8/06, 3:30, CCBC



Discussion Highlights:

Networking/Coalition Building

– One of the topics Attleboro adjustment counselors discussed at a recent meeting was that of school drug policies. Attendees expressed interest in the "Guiding Good Choices" parenting program. Attleboro schools have been active in several Substance Abuse Round Tables (SARTs).

School Drug Policies – Good examples of school drug policies are those of colleges and universities. These educate and present boundaries. Schools often deal with discipline problems and leave substance abuse problems to the community. Taunton's policy is drafted and includes use of a breathalyzer test. Other high schools have used these successfully, and may use Ph strips and a flash light devise that shows when alcohol is present on breath.

Youth Treatment - Group counseling is difficult to provide to teens due to insurance coverage and shortage of science based research at this time, to prove that it works well with youth. Juvenile court, judges,

probation, case management and parents need to be involved in mandated treatment and consequences. The local first offenders program, Community Drug Education, is a good example of a program that works. Attendees can maintain a clean record by attending the program, keeping them eligible for college loans, entering the military and not limiting employment possibilities. (Possession with intent is a felony).

After Prom Parties Concern

– It is essential that parents and youth be involved in planning and supporting successful after prom parties. The following are area best practices:

- North Attleboro High School is using the YMCA for an all night party, and has use of the community room, computer labs, and pool with lifeguard supervision. Parents are welcome and invited, and are encouraged to bring pizza and other food. Area businesses such as Dominos Pizza and Dunkin Donuts have donated snacks at past school events. YMCAs work closely with schools and are insured.

- Old Rochester High School has provided all night use of the YMCA and facilities (rock climbing wall)
- Other all night events with a donated pancake breakfast and a raffle at 5:00 am for a donated used car or a year of car insurance
- Durfee High School is doing a bus trip to a ship in Boston. Attendance requires parents pick them up at 1:00am.
- A Hawaiian Luau or other theme-based party.

Grant Proposal – T.H.S. SADD Chapter has written a \$200 Governor's Safety grant for parent awareness and peer leadership. They are looking into distribution of a 15 minute CD for parents, a cable show with parents and youth, and use of a pre-prom awareness video.

Committee Goals for 2006:

- Reduce the availability of alcohol to minors.
- Increase balanced representation by increasing attendance and variety of membership
- Encourage involvement and support of parents in the

prevention and treatment of adolescents

- Explore SARTs as a vehicle to educate the community
- Address mental health needs of adults and children and the harm reduction model
- Support a social norms approach to promote positive behavior among youth

Announcement: Arbour-Fuller Hospital publishes a Referral Guide which contains a clinical specialties grid with information from each of their facilities. For 24-hour access, please call **800-652-5222**.

Fact Sheet: From Policy Impact Communications Awareness Campaign (Fitchburg Sentinel) targets adults to combat problems of underage drinking. Parents feel pressure to provide alcohol to their children hosting parties at their homes, and young adults purchase alcohol for teenagers. Drinking is hitting middle schools now. The Fitchburg and Leominster group is starting with YRBSurvey and interviews with children, parents, business owners and school officials to grasp the amount of underage drinking and who is providing

the alcohol. They are also doing a sticker shock campaign that states “Providing alcohol to underage people is a CRIME! Penalties may include: Arrest, A fine up to \$2,000 and/or imprisonment up to six months. Thank you for being part of the solution”.

Working Together to Prevent Underage Drinking (Medford Transcript) – Two actions that reduce underage drinking include: 1. Parents keeping tabs and keeping lines of communication open and giving logical consequences. 2. Make it difficult for minors to access alcohol at home or through other adults.

Trends: (Metrowest Daily News, “Treatment Pays Off” – MA exceeds the national average in substance abuse. Almost 40,000 in the state need treatment but aren’t receiving care.

- Alcohol abuse causes more than 200 traffic deaths each year
- Last year’s cost was \$304.5 million
- Drug overdose caused another 574 deaths in 2003
- Millions more are needed to process, feed and house the

1 in 5 prisoners convicted of a drug related crime, plus offenders who commit crimes under the influence or to support a habit.

New Choice in Drug Abuse (Boston Globe) – Prescription drugs, available in family medicine cabinets and online for \$2-5 per dose, are the new gateway drug.

Next Steps:

- Create a parent letter citing the concern of unsupervised youth renting hotel rooms after prom
- Look for funding to bring Teen Topics back to Taunton middle schools and for an awareness campaign about the trend towards after prom parties in hotel rooms.
- Attend “3 Rs of Volunteer Management” workshop

Next Meeting: 3/15/06, 3:30, CCBC Family Conference Room, Mill River Professional Center, 1 Washington St.

Contact Persons: Arlene Dickinson, **508-223-4691**, Lorraine Rosa, **508-823-4822**.



GTHSC/GATHER Preplanning Meeting. 2/21/06, 9:00, Associates for Human Services

Discussion Highlights:

Purpose – Both Coalitions collaborate on many activities, but remain separate and distinct. This Pre-planning meeting was called to look at their relationship, discuss both backgrounds, frame topics and decisions, identify issues, and in March, see if it makes sense to make structural changes as we move forward.



CHNA Establishment – The MA Department of Public Health created the Community Health Network Areas (CHNAs) in 1993, making smaller, more manageable geographic areas to improve health status indicators and inform the DPH on policies. MassChip health indicator data is arranged by CHNA. Initially, each CHNA chose one status indicator for focus. Attleboro

worked on Injury Prevention. Agencies that contract with DPH are required to participate in the CHNA. This places these agencies at the table, along with consumers and others who through working together, are able to better serve the community. Determination of Need (DON) funding requires health organizations give 5% of capital expenditures for services such as MRI back to the

community through health services projects, either with input or managed by the CHNAs. DPH is a partner with the CHNA that is willing to work with us on what works best in our community.

GTHHSC - The GTHHSC has been in existence for over 20 years. Over the years since the establishment of the CHNA system, there has been a blending of existing groups, such as the GATHER Addictions Committee and the GTHHSC Substance Abuse Committee. At one time both Attleboro (#21) and Taunton (#24) had separate CHNAs to reflect their different geographic areas. GATHER has continued to outreach to the Attleboro area and has had some success at the committee level. Both communities have also worked well together through GATCH in addressing housing issues, the Substance Abuse Committee, and the Domestic Violence/Violence Prevention Committee. Attleboro Area Council addresses basic needs and is similar to Taunton's Emergency Task Force.

Technical Assistance – The DPH contract with Health Care of Southeastern Massachusetts

for the Southeast Center for Healthy Communities (SCHC) includes a limited amount of technical assistance for CHNAs. The primary focus of the SCHC is in providing technical assistance to selected community-based Substance Abuse coalitions. CHNAs have access to trainings, assistance with the development of mission & vision statements, etc.

Geographic Area – The GATHER area, as defined by the DPH includes Attleboro, Berkley, Dighton, Middleboro, Lakeville, Norton, North Attleboro, Mansfield, Raynham, Rehoboth, Seekonk and Taunton. GTHHSC includes the 8 cities and towns of greater Taunton (Berkley, Dighton, Middleboro, Lakeville, Raynham, Rehoboth, Seekonk and Taunton)

Successes:

- Both GATHER and GTHHSC have survived a long time
- Successful grants and projects
- Accomplishments / innovative projects
- Networking, information and resource sharing

- Meetings are a great way to know what's going on and to share agency information and trends
- Very successful committees
- Coordinator position
- Substance Abuse Round Tables, Safe Families/Safe Pets, Homelessness committee, Community Crisis Intervention Team.

Challenges:

- Membership recruitment and maintenance
- Geographic area
- Resources and funding
- Examine dues requirement
- Mission change?
- What are we trying to change

Next Steps:

- March meeting will be a joint working meeting of both GATHER and GTHHSC to examine the strengths of each, benefits of staying separate, and benefits of staying together.
- Find out if a CHNA can collect dues.

Next Meeting: 3/21/06, 9:00, A.H.S.

Contact Person: Richard McMahon, 508-979-7160, 3010.



GTHHSC Child & Family Focus Committee. 2/21/06, 10:15, A.H.S.

Discussion Highlights:

Bookmarks and Posters –



There is a need to change the 10th item in “10 Ways to Save a Child’s Life”. The hotline does not provide ready access to counseling, and therefore doesn’t suit the needs of a parent in crisis. Other items need further clarification before finalizing.

Safety Mascot – A kangaroo and joey were chosen as an appropriate symbol of the parent role in keeping children safe. A contest can be held to name the kangaroo and child.

Media Presentations:

Cinema PSAs – One month of cinema advertisement costs between \$2,000-3,000.

Pathways to Hope radio show is an appropriate venue to discuss child safety. There is no cost.

Next Steps:

- The 10 items will be reworked, abbreviated and then translated into Spanish and Portuguese.
- Begin writing a grant using a common proposal form to

support distribution of the safety posters and bookmarks.

Begin writing a grant using a common proposal form to support distribution of a PSA at a local cinema.

Research and add safety websites to bookmarks in all 3 languages, as appropriate.

Sketch a safety mascot.

Look for police department safety booklets.

Contact AAA about promoting a coloring contest.

Next Meeting: 3/21/06, 10:30, A.H.S.

Contact Person:
Lorraine Rosa, 508-823-4822

Safe Neighborhood Initiative. 3/1/06, 8:00, Bristol-Plymouth Silver Platter.

Discussion Highlights:

Introductions - Steve Turner, Chairman, welcomed members and local dignitaries. He thanked members for their support and commended SNI on its accomplishments and impact on the community.

Remarks - Mayor Nunes welcomed Cheryl Beauregard as the new SNI Chairperson. He stated that SNI has made a difference in our neighborhoods and schools. He discussed various policing scheduling changes, assignments of police officers to state and federal task forces, policing strategies and the effects of these changes. He informed members of the importance of Neighborhood Watch and the need for the community to call the Anonymous Tip Line. He noted the many school initiatives in place.

Criminal Justice Committee - The goal of the committee was stated. The committee continues to dialog on high-risk individuals and to focus on the target neighborhood.

Treatment and Prevention Committee - The mission, vision and goal of the committee were stated. Programs/activities were highlighted such as 'Guiding Good Choices', strengthening ties between Attleboro and Taunton, environmental strategies and social norms, and the Substance Abuse Roundtables. The committee will be working on prom issues.

Education Committee - Accomplishments were noted such as the connectivity that has been developed between the three high schools, the close relationships with the Taunton Police and Taunton Fire Departments, coordinating with other schools regarding Internet Safety and cyber-bullying and the relationship with Juvenile Probation.

Guest Speaker: Linda Pacheco, Assistant Director of Public Programs, Bristol County Sheriff's Office: A PowerPoint presentation on the I Safe (Internet safety) program was provided. The presentation touched on topics such as

computer sites; responsibility of parents to monitor their children while they are on the Internet; youth today are tech savvy; cyber-predators; youth needing to know that there are boundaries around responsible behavior, education and safety; that the Internet facilitates child pornography, piracy, plagiarism, fraud, identity theft and predators. Mrs. Pacheco stated that they are looking for people to be certified on presenting this program.

Program Update - Bob thanked all for their commitment to SNI. He announced new committee co-chairs; SNI will be working on graffiti removal; target neighborhood will remain the same for the upcoming year.

Other - Steve Turner was given a Certificate of Appreciation for his term as Chairman. Cheryl Beauregard was welcomed as the new chair.

Contact Person: Robert Cammarata, 508-821-1420

Taunton Emergency Task Force. 2/7/06, 9:35, GATRA Conference Room, Oak St.

Discussion Highlights:

Fuel Fund / Emergency Services - Milly has requested a

copy of the grant from United Way. Art stated Taunton will be receiving \$53,500 FEMA funds

(if there are no additional cuts). These funds will be split between 6 organizations with the

bulk of the funds going for rental and fuel assistance. Deb stated the moratorium has been extended to April 15th.

Family Self-Sufficiency Program stated there is an affordable housing lottery in Taunton for single-family homes. Info can be obtained at the library and city hall. Gill stated he contact Chiefs of Fire and Police and both are interested in attending future meetings.

By-Laws - The committee will be reviewing the by-laws for the

TETF. Anyone interested please contact Milly or Donna.

Bay State Gas - Stephen Bryant, president of Bay State Gas attended the meeting to get feedback concerning clients in need during this time of rising heat costs. He stated there are many protections out there to help individuals and encouraged agencies to work with clients in obtaining needed paperwork. Most importantly, individuals who are having difficulty paying their bill should contact the utility company immediately and

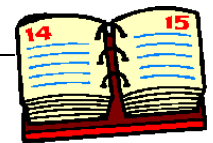
Speak to a representative to work on a solution.

Next Steps:

- Obtain application for renewal of United Way community impact funds.
- Review bylaws for any needed changes.

Next Meeting: 3/7/06, 9:30, Bloom Bus Terminal, Oak St.

Contact Person:
Milly Burrows, 508-880-0202



UPCOMING AREA MEETINGS

March 1, 8:30	Safe Neighborhood Initiative Annual Meeting. Bristol-Plymouth Silver Platter.
March 7, 9:30	Taunton Emergency Task Force. GATRA Administrative Bldg, Conference Room, 10 Oak St.
March 8, 9:00	Greater Taunton Mayor's AIDS Consortium. Morton Café Annex. CAB follows.
March 15, 3:30	GATHER/GTHHSC Substance Abuse Committee. CCBC, Mill River Place
March 16, 3:30	GATHER Domestic Violence Committee. New Hope Taunton Office. 39 Taunton Green.
March 21, 9:00	GTHHSC Networking Meeting. Associates for Human Services, 68 Allison Rd.
March 21, 10:30	GTHHSC Child & Family Focus Committee. A.H.S., 68 Allison Rd.
April 1, Noon-3	2006 Partners in Health Spring Health Fair. Galleria Mall. Contact is Lisa, 508-588-7700.
April 26, 8:00	GATHER/GTHHSC Community Health & Wellness Committee. Morton Café Annex.

This month's Advocate was published by Lorraine Rosa, Coordinator, with funds from GATHER MRI and GTHHSC dues. To submit an article, announcement or other information, email mcaprosa@hotmail.com, or call 508-823-4822 by March 30, 2006. You may also access copies of The Advocate at www.geocities.com/gathercoalition. 🎵



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