



GNBHSC

**Greater New Bedford
Health & Human Services Coalition
P.O. Box 7567, New Bedford, MA 02742-7567**

The Vision: A healthy environment where everyone experiences community, opportunity, access, safety and trust (COAST)

The Mission of the GNBHSC is to channel our community into action to achieve a better quality of life for everyone. We

1. Provide information about resources and services in order to promote coordination and to encourage their use by the public
2. Address needs and build on community assets
3. Celebrate and reward community successes

General Meeting, October 5, 2006, 9:00, Coastline Elderly Services

Attendees: Carl Alves, Gail Brennan, Sharon Costa-Smith, Judith Coykendall, Roger Dextrateur, Paula Doherty, Katie Dutille Dos Santos, Gladys Medina, Pauline Macedo, Ron O'Connor, Kathy Patistas, Marcia Picard, Suzanne Raposo, Dan Riding, Tim Velho, Karen Vernen-Thompson

Discussion Summary:

Assign a Note-Taker: Judith Coykendall volunteered to take minutes and forward them to Lorraine Rosa.

Welcome and Introductions: New Co-Chairs of COAST introduced themselves. They are Tim Velho of RAPP and Dan Riding of Drug Free New Bedford. All attendees signed in. Updates were as follows:

Announcements:

- **Schwartz Center** will hold an open house at the new location off Old Westport Road on October 26th 3-5 p.m. for professionals and 6-8 p.m. for general public. Parking at UMass/Dartmouth will be available with shuttle buses to the new Center. For more information, call **508-996-3397**.
- **Kennedy Donovan** Open House will be held **10/25/06**, 4-5 p.m., on the corner of County St. and Hawthorne. The Early Intervention Partnerships Program (EIPP) is seeking more referrals for high risk pregnant women; all are eligible with or without insurance. High risk women receive prenatal nursing visits and then monitor the child for the first year of life. Women involved in substance abuse, housing issues, domestic violence are served.
- **Healthy Families** is running groups at Parenting Teen Program for the whole school year. They are going for national credentials and will be undergoing site visits in the spring 07.
- **Mass DPH** is preparing for a pandemic flu by development of Continuation of Operations Plans which is a series of "table top" exercises for municipalities and human service agencies. There are 25-29 exercises starting in October and going through Thanksgiving. They are developing plans and testing them.
- **Women's Health Network** is offering a Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Health Education Curriculum for health educators and human service organizations. Contact Paul Doherty at **781-774-6624** for more info.
- **DrugFree New Bedford Student Assistance Program** is a voluntary and free student testing program. Flyers are available for parents and they need to get the word out to recruit businesses for discount cards for the youth involved. Email Dan Riding with business suggestions at www.drugfreenb.org.
- **Latin American Health Institute** is a new program in New Bedford. It helps families develop better parenting skills. They work with families for 3-6 months. They are currently setting up the office on Middle Street. Contact Gladys Medina at **508-941-0005** for more information.
- **Healthcare of Southeast Mass** conducted a Substance Abuse Conference October 4th and 30 people attended. Unfortunately nobody from New Bedford was able to attend. The next meeting will be the end of January, 2007 and it will be an opportunity to see Best practices and networking. Food will be provided. On Oct. 20th there will be a Conference on Social Norms and the Law featuring the Montana State Highway Patrol on measuring the perception of law enforcement. In Plymouth. (Note: Date has changed to October 19th)
- **Partners for Clean Air** announced a new Medical Foundation Youth Initiative grant available to youth groups in the amount of \$2,000 to focus on Tobacco in the Entertainment Industry. For more information call Judith Coykendall at **508-995-3026, x231**
- **Girl Scouts** has lots of registrants in over 70 towns in Massachusetts. Please read the article on the front page of the GNB COAST newsletter for more information. Girls Scouts is more than arts and crafts; it is a life skills program that enhances girls' lives in many positive ways. Contact is Marcia Picard, mpicard@gscsm.org, or call **800-242-0925, x41**.
- **Habit Management** recently received its Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Services (CARP) accreditation for 3 years. It offers a substance abuse outpatient program in Wareham and it provides substance abuse treatment for non opiate dependent clients. The program requires counseling with every Suboxone prescription they write.

- **Making Seniors Social** informed the group that there is a one time grant of 5500 from the Council on Aging for women 65 and over for a one time unit. Call Felice Monteiro at **508-991-6250** for more information.
- **Home of Hope** announced the 3rd Annual “This Could Never Happen to Me” The Many Faces of HIV/AIDS Women’s Conference on **10/19/06**, 9 a.m.-1:00 p.m., free of charge. Includes lunch at UMass/Dartmouth at 800 Purchase Street, NB. Call Debbie Gilbert at **508-992-6553, x173** to register. The Home of Hope conducts outreach in its Acushnet Ave location as well as on the street. They are in the process of opening a new outreach center in Fall River. It will have one male and female program, one female program and one MSM (men who have sex with men) program. Open house will be planned and invitations sent in the near future.
- **PAACA** announced an event at the New Bedford Whaling Museum based on the TV Program “Intervention” on A&E. It is a reality program that reveals interventions for families who have someone who is addicted to drugs. One of the stars will be at the event to serve on a panel with Chief Teachmen to discuss substance abuse. Invitations will be sent. It is an America’s Promise Initiative. A proposal has been made to designate New Bedford as being one of the “100 Best Communities”. Also, Dec. 1st is World AIDS Day and breakfast will be free. Notifications are coming.
- **Transitional Support Services (High Point)** is a DPH program. It recently received its two year site visit and passed. Harmony House in New Bedford is looking for two Masters level clinicians.

III. September Meeting Minutes and The COAST Connections: Attendees were reminded to review minutes when received from Lorraine Rosa. Katy Dutille Dos Santos said she has not been receiving emails from Lorraine, probably because of her name change. Her new email address is: kdutille@hcsn.org

IV. 7th Annual Legislative Breakfast Update: Nomination forms for Community Awards must be sent to BJ Valente no later than Friday, October 6th. Co-Chairs ask for volunteers to review the community award nominations for the Fall River CHNA. Dan Riding, Marcia Picard, and Judith Coykendall volunteered to review the nominations at Family Services, 151 Rock Street, Fall River. All COAST members were encouraged to RSVP for the breakfast ASAP. The group decided that we would have a COAST resource table at the breakfast. Ron O’Connor and Katy Dutille Dos Santos said they would get some data and past success information to put on a tri-fold display. Judith has one that can be used with Velcro attachments. Ron will ask Liz Isherwood to design a COAST sign with logo to attach to the display. Maria Alves offered to help with the set up of the table.

V. Action Plan of Coalition Events: Tim has asked Dr. David Weed to attend the next COAST meeting to update the group on the activities that have been undertaken by Partners for a Healthier Community in Fall River. We would like to model their successes since we are sister cities and have so much in common.

VI. Fiscal Management of Increased Coalition Funding: The Steering Committee has been discussing the possible need for a Fiscal Manager for COAST. With the increased funding that will become available through present and future D.O.N.’s we will need strong accounting guidelines with monthly financial reports. Ron O’Connor will get us a copy of an RFR that was released by another CHNA for a fiscal manager. We need to move quickly on this process so we can begin to release our own RFR’s into the community, so we will have accounting guidelines and financial reports according to accounting principles. We now have the possibility of \$140,000 per year available to local community groups and organizations to provide additional services and programs to the residents of Greater New Bedford. This is exciting news but will require strong financial oversight.

VII. Steering Committee will be discussing the DON applications and the RFR for Fiscal Management.

VIII. Subcommittee Reports:

Domestic Violence: No Report

Health Access: working to bring the Peri-natal Connections Model that deals with peri-natal and postpartum depression to New Bedford. Ron O’Connor has been working with DPH to bring the appropriate contacts to a Health Access meeting to make this happen.

Advocates for Youth: Have not met yet. Katy will contact Jocelyn Andrade to set up the first meeting. The group decided that this is a most important subcommittee and would like to see it start up ASAP.

IX. Next Meetings:

General Meeting – 11/2/2006, 9:00 a.m., Coastline Elderly

Steering Committee Meeting – 10/20/2006, 1-3 p.m., RAPP Resource Center, 49 State St., Dartmouth, Pequot Bldg, Suite 105.

Legislative Breakfast Planning – 10/12/2006, 8:30 a.m. Family Services, 151 Rock St, Fall River

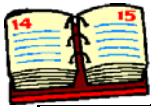
Contact Person: Tim Velho, Co-chairperson, **508-994-0548**; Dan Riding, Co-chairperson, **508-994-0885, x3157**

Coalition Member Tasks:

- Send announcements to mcaprosa@yahoo.com for inclusion in the new C.O.A.S.T. Connections newsletter.
- Contact Lorraine at mcaprosa@yahoo.com to submit an article for the next C.O.A.S.T. Connections newsletter
- Include a quarterly treasurer’s report (General Meeting), and monthly treasurer’s report (SC) (Carl)
- Submit DV Committee summaries and Health Access Committee minutes to Lorraine (Jaqui, Robin)
- Check the resource directory at www.geocities.com/gnbhsc to check for accuracy. Send corrections or updates to mcaprosa@hotmail.com (Membership)
- Send mcaprosa@hotmail.com a brief description of yourself/ agency, including website, for posting on www.geocities.com/gnbhsc, and sharing as received, with the Coalition listserv. (Membership)
- Send events and meeting information to Lorraine Rosa, mcaprosa@hotmail.com, for inclusion in the Calendar section of www.geocities.com/gnbhsc, and for sharing with the Coalition listserv. (Membership)

Staff Tasks:

- Monthly Newsletter publication.
- Update mail list and list serve with new members; remove any who have missed 4 meetings.
- Upload minutes and meeting dates on website, send email and hard copies, new web features, and tasks to membership, with a reminder on the weekend before the next Coalition meeting.
- Continue to update resource directory at www.geocities.com/gnbhsc



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Calendar of Meetings and Events: October-November

Oct. 27, 8:00	7th Annual Legislative Breakfast. \$15.00	Whites of Westport, Route 6, Westport.
Nov. 2, 9:00	GNB COAST General Meeting	Coastline Elderly Services, 1646 Purchase St., NB
Nov. 8, 9:15	GNB COAST Health Access Committee. Contact Judith at 508-995-3026, x231	Greater New Bedford Community Health Center 874 Purchase St., NB
Nov. 11, 12:30-2:00	GNB COAST Domestic Violence Committee. RSVP to cforney@ncla.net	South Coastal Counties Legal Services (Formerly Southeastern Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corp), 21 South Sixth St., New Bedford, MA.
TBA, 1:00	GNB COAST Steering Committee	RAPP Resource Center, 49 State St., Dartmouth, Pequot Bldg, Suite 105