



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, September 7, 2006, 9:00, Coastline Elderly Services

Attendees: Gail Brennan, Robin Cleveland, Karin Coppola-Araia, Judith Coykendall, Jean DeCoffe, Roger Dextrateur, Pauline Macedo, Jim Merchant, Kathy Patistas, Dan Riding, Tim Velho

Discussion Summary:

Announcements: Events, flyers and other information are always welcome at our information table at meetings.

- **This Could Never Happen to Me**, the many faces of HIV/AIDS, the 3rd Annual Women's Conference, will be held Thursday, **10/19/06**, 9:00-1:00, at 800 Purchase St. UMass Dartmouth Conference Room. RSVP by September 29, to Debbie Gilbert, **508-992-6553, x173**
- **2nd Annual Heart of Fatherhood Essay Contest Awards Dinner** will be held **11/13/06**, 6:00pm, at the Hawthorne Country Club, to honor and recognize fathers who go above and beyond every day in Southcoast communities, and allow children an opportunity to acknowledge their fathers' efforts. Awardees will receive dinner and their awards and have their photos taken with the kids who nominated them at this event. Excerpts from the original winning essays will be read. New England Patriots Tedy Bruschi is one of this year's winners. \$50 for adults, \$35 for children 12 and under. For more information, call Tim at **508-994-0548**.
- **Maxfield City Garden** will be the site of the ceremony for burying away all the negative issues affecting the youth in our community, on 9/21/06, 3:00-5:00pm. The purpose is to make a statement and beautify the area. RAPPY Youth Council members will be presenting to the community. Call Tim at **508-994-0548**.
- **Proud Dads Initiative: All Fathers Welcome** - Southeast Hospitals Group, St. Luke's Hospital, RAPPY Program Family Center Unit, "Welcomes Our Proud Dads", every Tuesday and Friday, 4:00-5:00pm at the Conference Room across from the 3rd Floor visitors' elevators. It is a basic training for new dads and father's recognition and support initiative. New Father's Rounds held Tuesday 4:00-6:00pm and Friday 3:00-5:00pm involves contact with both parents and an invitation to dad to have some light refreshments, video learning and fellowship in the waiting area across from the 3rd floor elevators. A "Dad's Survival Pack" includes information pamphlets, gift items, and resources in the community specifically for new fathers including Tim's business card and follow up support for the new father. Contact person is Tim Velho, **508-994-0548**.
- **Global Charter School** - "Making Proud Choices" is working with grades 9-11, with focus on pregnancy, STD, STI prevention and education, contraception, and Get Real About Violence
- **Making Seniors Social** grant from community development provides speakers, a hot meal and socializing at no charge, at Grace Episcopal church, Thursdays 5-7pm during Sept & October and from April-June. There are currently 35 participants with 8 on waiting list. Volunteers appreciated. Contact Pauline at **508-961-3135**
- **Buprenorphine Program** - The outpatient program has anti-abuse build in so individuals will not continue to use opiates along with suboxin. For information, contact Roger at **508-295-7990**.
- **Drug Free New Bedford** - High Point incentive program offers at-risk youth a discount card for staying drug free. The kick off press conference will be held 9/29/06 at noon, at city hall. Mayor Lang and Lt. Gov Kerry Healy will be among those in attendance. Light lunch is provided. A student will be randomly selected to receive a Host and Drug Free Party DJ with donated food and a private screening of a movie, through PAACA. Open to any student in NB school system grades 6-12. Participating businesses receive free advertising. Oral swabbing is used to random test for drug use. If a student tests positive, parent notified and referred. Testing can be done with frequency if requested. Confidentiality will be maintained.
- **A Prostate Screening** will be held 10/3/06 at Truesdale Medical Clinic from 9:00-11:30, then from 1-3pm at the family medical clinic. Participants receive a \$25 gift certificate to Pub 99. 18 and older can get. Persons with family history should be tested at age 35. Contact person is Jim Merchant, **508-472-6566**.
- **Southeast Center for Healthy Community** - A Southeast Substance Abuse Prevention and Youth Development Network Luncheon will be held **10/4/06**, 9:00-11:00, at SCHC. Southeast Social Norms Network Meeting will be held **10/20/06**, 9:00-1:00. Call Stephanie at **508-583-2350, x237**.
- **Fore the Children 18th Annual Golf Tournament** to benefit the Schwartz Center for Children will be held **9/25/06**, 11:30. Dinner 5:00 at the Allendale Country Club, Dartmouth. For information, call **508-996-3391**.
- **New Bedford Rehabilitation Hospital Health Expo 2006** will be held 9/21/06, Noon-4:00, at the hospital. For information, call Alice at **508-995-6900**.

- **Kennedy Donovan Center** - Early Intervention has a waiting list. Needed are OT, nurses and licensed speech therapists. Open House will be held **10/25/06**, 4:00-5:00pm, at 19 Hawthorn St., New Bedford. RSVP by October 18th to Karen Croteau, **508-997-1570**.
- **MassHealth Tobacco Cessation Benefit** serves MassHealth members through a new grant. For information, contact Judith at **508-995-3026, x231**.
- **Call for Flags** – Mayor Lang has for a display of American flags to demonstrate solidarity of 9/11/06.
- **Resignations** – Both Robin Cleveland and Karin Coppola-Araia announced they would be unable to continue as co-chairpersons. Many thanks for all their tireless work over the past two years.

7th Annual Legislative Breakfast Update – Coalition members are encouraged to fill in nominations forms for the New Bedford area. Three individuals will be selected from each of the two CHNAs to be recognized at the Breakfast. Forms may be found at www.geocities.com/gnbhsc/FRNB2006CommunityAwardsnomination.doc. Registration forms are also posted on our website at <http://www.geocities.com/gnbhsc/FRNB2006lbinvite.pdf>. Representation from the Greater New Bedford C.O.A.S.T. is needed at the planning meetings. Please contact Lorraine at mcaprosa@yahoo.com if you are interested in attending.

A Day Away III: A Day at the Zoo – The full report from the summer strategic planning day is found at <http://www.geocities.com/gnbhsc/DayAwayIIIReport.doc>. Isherwood and Moore now represent COAST to put together the website. Dan will join the Media Ad Hoc Committee.

Steering Committee Meeting will follow this meeting to discuss costs associated with the Legislative Breakfast speaker and a thank you recognition to Coastline Elderly Services for their hosting regular monthly meetings. The regular Steering Committee Meeting will be held 9/22/06, 2:00, at Family Planning.

Next Meetings:

General Meeting: **10/5/06**, 9:00, Coastline Elderly Services

Steering Committee Meeting: Date, time, location

Contact Person: Tim Velho, Co-chairperson, **508-994-0548**.

Coalition Member Tasks:

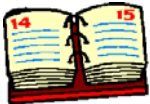
- Send announcements to mcaprosa@yahoo.com for inclusion in the new C.O.A.S.T. Connections newsletter.
- Contact Lorraine at mcaprosa@yahoo.com to submit an article for the next C.O.A.S.T. Connections newsletter
- Include a quarterly treasurer’s report (General Meeting), and monthly treasurer’s report (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 listserve. (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 listserve. (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



Oct. 5, 9:00	GNB COAST General Meeting	Coastline Elderly Services, 1646 Purchase St., NB
Oct. 6, 12:30-2:00	Domestic Violence Committee Meeting. To register, contact cforney@ncla.org	South Coastal Counties Legal Services (Formerly SMLAC), 21 South Sixth St.
Oct. 6, 5:00	Deadline to submit <u>Community Awards Nomination Form</u> for Legislative Breakfast.	Nominations accepted beginning August 2006. Click link to the left to download.
Oct. 11, 9:15	Health Access Committee. Contact Judith at 508-995-3026, x231	Greater New Bedford Community Health Center 874 Purchase St., NB
TBA	GNB COAST Steering Committee	TBA
Oct. 27, 8:00	7th Annual Legislative Breakfast.	Whites of Westport. <u>Registration Form</u> at www.geocities.com/gnbhsc