



**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*

**Steering Meeting: October 20, 2006, 1:00, RAPP Resource Center, 49 State St.,
Dartmouth, Pequot Bldg, Suite 105.**

Attendees: Jocelyn Andrade, Judith Coykendall, Jean DeCoffe, Katie Dos Santos, Cathy O'Connor, Ron O'Connor, Marcia Picard, Dan Riding, Lorraine Rosa (via phonenumber), Tim Velho

Discussion Highlights:

Financial Management – The Coalition budget has increased substantially, leading to a discussion of hiring a fiscal agent. By-laws need to be adjusted to allow for fiscal management outside the coalition. An independent audit will be scheduled.

Coalition Offices – A nominations committee will be formed at the November general meeting, with elections at the December 7th general meeting.

Best Practices – David Weed, Healthy Fall River and Greater Fall River Partners for a Healthier Community (CHNA) was invited to speak at our November general meeting about the effective changes the group has made. GNB C.O.A.S.T. new chairpersons are coalescing and implementing information to take the coalition and committees in new directions. Recognition is an issue, because the average resident doesn't know about the CHNA. Possible events to showcase the membership might include a health fair. This will be discussed further at the November general meeting.

Moore and Isherwood has established a team to act as liaison for the new website. They need our feedback to do the mechanics of the site. Some suggestions given include a search engine, as well as a phone line search engine.

Partners for a Healthier Community Presentation will be held at the November 2 General Meeting. David Weed and BJ Valente will present. Questions will include:

- How did you select an auditor?
- How did you establish the nominating committee? What were their roles? Describe your election process
- Please describe your mini-grant RFR process
- Discuss financial management of your CHNA
- Are there any challenges you have faced?

Next Steps:

- Final draft of updated bylaws at 12/15/06 Steering Committee meeting.
- Schedule an independent audit.
- Convene a Nominating Committee at the November 2 general meeting.
- Schedule elections at the December 7 general meeting.
- Send RFRs to fiscal agencies
- Establish a coalition 4 year plan

Next Meetings:

- General Meeting: December 7, 2006, 9:00, Coastline Elderly Services
- Steering Committee: November 17 and December 15, 2006, 1:00pm, RAPP Resource Center, 49 State St., Dartmouth, Pequot Bldg, Suite 105.

Steering Committee Agenda:

November 17, 1:00pm, RAPP Resource Center, 49 State St., Dartmouth, Pequot Bldg, Suite 105.

I. Set up Computer or Phone Line, Assign Minutes Taker

II. Advocates for Youth: Response from interested membership

III. Financial Management

- Draft of By-Laws
- Independent Audit
- RFRs to Fiscal Agencies

IV. Nominations and Elections

V. GNB C.O.A.S.T. Four Year Plan

VI. Other Business

VII. Next Meeting: November 17, 1:00pm, RAPP Resource Center, 49 State St., Dartmouth, Pequot Bldg, Suite 105