

CAPS Board Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, July 14, 2015

I. Open Meeting

- a. Welcome, opening prayer: Dillard Horton, Vice President (Main St. United Methodist Church)
- b. Introduction of attendees and new secretary (Pastor Cordell Carter from Higher Ground Outreach)
- c. Devotion: Pastor Myrtle Hatcher (Main St. United Methodist Church)
- d. Description of CAPS: Hayden Blythe (Westminster Church)
 - i. History of CAPS: CAPS is the result of churches that began meeting in 2010 to share information and resources for assisting individuals in need. As we discussed our strategies and experiences with helping individuals, it became clear that we needed to form a true partnership in order to more effectively serve our community. In 2012, the Coalition Against Poverty in Suffolk was formed with 13 churches that pooled their funding to hire a services coordinator who would provide direct emergency assistance to people experiencing crises. Today, we are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with 17 member churches and organizations.
CAPS provides gospel-centered crisis assistance, connection to other services and a resource center for the city of Suffolk.
 - ii. Role of Services Coordinator: Majdah Schiavi
 1. Emergency assistance: bill assistance, prayer, connection to resources
 2. Connecting individuals to needed services
 - iii. Membership: Connie Schubert, Vice President of Membership Development (Magnolia United Methodist Church)
 1. Partners: more effective assistance for those in need
 2. GAP Ministries: the time of churches is freed up to invest in relationships and outreach
 3. Funding: our programs are funded through churches!
 4. Volunteers: CAPS connects volunteers to those in need
 5. Role of Representative: liaison with your church
- e. Services Coordinator Report: Majdah Schiavi (CAPS Staff)
- f. Upcoming Events: Fundraiser to be held on August 1st at Western Branch Bowling Lanes from 2-4 pm. Every church is asked to bring a team. The cost is \$300 per team or \$50 per individual. Up to 6 people can be on one team. There will also be a raffle and silent auction.
- g. Questions

II. Business Meeting

- a. Adjustment and Approval of minutes: minutes were approved without correction
- b. Services Coordinator report: Majdah Schiavi (see attachment)
- c. Treasurer's Report: Beth Pipkin (see attachment)
- d. President's Report: Hayden Blythe (Westminster Church)
 - i. Need for greater membership and greater involvement from current members.
- e. Final Questions and Sharing Resources
 - i. Friday Community Dinners continue to be hosted
 - ii. Faith & Finances: financial stability workshop begins August 29th from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. It is free and helps low-income people gain financial stability.