

URBAN APPALACHIAN COUNCIL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Minutes

September 12, 2008

Present: John Besl, John Bryant, Maureen Dillon, Ronnie Horner, Rebecca Lee, Bob Ludke (chair), Ann McCracken, Kay Russ, Debbie Zorn

Introductions

Ann McCracken will be asking for Research Committee input into the 2010 Community Health Status Survey.

UAC Strategic Planning and Action Plan Development

Debbie Zorn guided Committee members through the “Strategic Plan 2015” document, *a.k.a.*, the placemat (June 12, 2008 draft). She pointed out the Goals and Objectives section, noting that there is no 1-to-1 correspondence, with 3 goals and 5 objectives.

The next Research Committee meeting will be devoted to developing an Action Plan for the Research Objectives.

Data Collection to Eliminate Health Disparities in Cincinnati

Monica Mitchell of Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center made a presentation on a project she referred to as the City Survey Project. The project involved multiple modes of data collection, including telephone survey, point-of-contact survey, and focus groups. UAC contributed to the success of the project in Price Hill. The City Survey Project had 3 primary goals: (1) Collect data on race and geographic health disparities; (2) Understand health challenges; (3) Identify strategies to reduce health disparities. A distinguishing feature of the project was a high level of community involvement in survey design and implementation, data entry, analysis, and interpretation, and action planning.

Summary of Parent & Caregiver Survey and Focus Group Data

Dr. Mitchell presented a summary of data collected for the Price Hill neighborhoods of Cincinnati on early childhood education. This project is part of the Place Matters initiative at United Way of Greater Cincinnati. Santa Maria Community Services probably has copies of the report. Selected findings: (1) Many families eligible for child care vouchers do not use them; (2) Early childhood education is generally not highly valued by parents in Price Hill; (3) Trust is a big factor inhibiting parents from enrolling their children in high-quality early childhood education programs; (4) Other obstacles include affordability, transportation, and scheduling.

Telephone Survey Component of City Survey Project

Bob Ludke reported that the telephone survey component of the City Survey Project interviewed 1,500 adults in listed land-line telephone households in 21 low-SES Cincinnati neighborhoods. The low-SES neighborhoods were identified through Maloney and Auffrey's *Social Areas of Cincinnati* report. The phone version of the questionnaire consisted of 120 questions covering disparities prevalence and access to care.

The next meeting of the Research Committee is scheduled for Friday, November 14 at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by John Besl, September 15, 2008.