

▶ JEFFERSON COUNTY ALLIANCE OF SERVICE COUNCILS, INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2009

WWW.JEFFCOALLIANCE.ORG

LeA'nn Glover ▶ President September 2008- May 2009

The mission of the Jefferson County Alliance of Service Councils, Inc. is to improve quality comprehensiveness, and accountability of the local human service delivery system, by strengthening the collaboration, effectiveness and efficiency of all its members through the sharing of services, information, resources, and appropriate funding.

Our Corporation is comprised of representatives of local agencies, organizations, governmental entities, inter-agency service councils, and task forces, across Jefferson County which provides human services to all age groups. These groups provide services, resources, and technical assistance to children, youth, families and adults.

Jefferson County Alliance Members

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Topeka, Inc.
Children's Mercy Family Health Partners
Cottonwood, Inc.
DCCCA, Inc.
Doves
F.W. Houston Medical Center
GaDuGi Safe Center
Independence, Inc.
Jayhawk Area agency on Aging
Jefferson County Early Childhood
Jefferson County Health Department
Jefferson County Service Organization
Jefferson County Sheriff's Department
Keystone Learning Center
KVC Behavioral Health Care
New To You Thrift Store
NEKS Multi-County Health Department
Oskaloosa Public Library
Reading Opportunities of Jeff. Co.

The Guidance Center
USD 339 School District
USD 340 School District
USD 341 School District
USD 342 School District
Women's Transitional Care Services
YADA

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The following activities outline the progress of the Jefferson County Alliance and its members from 2008-2009 towards organizational development, collaboration, and advocacy.

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

- Developed the organizations strategic plan for 2008-2009
- Improved the method for fulfilling the strategic plan goals by having subcommittees form and meet monthly to work on each area of focus: Marketing, Planning and

Collaboration, Prevention, prior to the regular Alliance meetings.

- Developed a website, logo, and letterhead.
- Continued development, updating, and use of a "Resource Guide" to effectively inform community of available resources.
- Conducted a Stakeholders Survey to focus on priorities.
- Continued work to locate resource funding to be of assistance to service providers addressing issues of poverty, social, and medical services.

COLLABORATION

- Continued to offer “Assistance grants” to Alliance member organizations that help support the purpose of the Alliance.
- Continued support and oversight of the “Family Centered Systems of Care” Flexible Funds grant money that assist and benefit families in Jefferson County, which have Severely Emotionally Disturbed children.
- Support and pursuit of the St Francis Health Center Grant, which was used to develop the Lakeside Village Initiative. This initiative offers free monthly health clinics to help county residents who are uninsured or under insured to gain access to health care. Preventative primary healthcare and mental health screenings are also available. The clinics are staffed by medical personnel from the McLouth Medical Clinic, the Jefferson Health Department, and The Guidance Center for mental Health services. Social Service organizations are also present to highlight organizations and resources.
- Support and pursuit of the Healthy Kids/Healthy Communities Grant that addresses childhood obesity in rural areas. The Alliance took the lead on the grant and partnered with 5 other counties in Northeast Kansas region. The Regional Prevention Center served as the administrative agency.
- Quality of Life Survey results placed on Alliance newly developed website to inform residents of needs in Jefferson County.
- The Alliance members met and noted positive forces in social/medical service realms of the county.

COLLABORATION

- Stakeholders survey and responses to determine continued priorities.
- Planning and Collaboration Committee working to increase awareness of resources and availability to county residents, by updating resource guide and find means of dissemination/availability through bound copies and CD's.
- Prevention Committee working to provide insight and effects of poverty to understand effective ways to address social concerns through Poverty Simulation and Ruby Paine training.
- Marketing Committee working to continue development of newly created website and growth of this media to reach a greater population. Focus on volunteer recognition in the community through "The Spirit of Humanitarianism Award" and awards ceremony.

ADVOCACY

- Working to provide training on the issues of poverty, to better understand and be able to address the needs of our community, in these areas.
- Supported the collaborative effort of area social agencies and providers, to establish the “Lakeside Village Initiative”, which helps the uninsured and underinsured gain access to healthcare.
- Continued the 9th year of support for the oversight of the FCSC Flexible Funds money, which provides funds for those families in the community, who have severely, emotionally disturbed children, and need assistance with housing, utilities, and other daily living essentials, but do not have the community resources to address these needs.
- Supported efforts and collaboration with other health depts. and Regional Prevention Center, to target policy changes through “Healthy Kids/Health Communities” grant for helping reduce obesity.
- Provided support to The Jefferson County Sheriff’s Dept. in their presentation “Drug Endangered Children”, which provides education and the goal of future legislative action, to reduce the negative effects of dangerous drugs and their manufacturing on children. Further advocated to help Deputy Debbie Seifert expand and present to another community council/social agencies in Leavenworth.
- Provided a venue for policy discussion, shaping, and influence.

Report prepared by: LeA’nn M. Glover

President of The Jefferson County Alliance
of Service Councils, Inc. May 2009