



**Youth Task Force**  
**Subcommittee of the GVPCCC**  
Meeting Minutes December 17, 2008

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**Present:**

Kathy Johnson  
Charlie French  
Maria Perkins

Karen Baker  
Dottie Scarborough  
Sherrina Scott

Denise Green  
Fred Watson  
Robert Bagley

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*The BEST for Youth Task Force is a coalition of professionals in the Greater Hampton Roads region dedicated to promoting:*

- *The principles of youth development, and*
- *Capacity building for youth work professionals.*

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• Announcements:

- The Office of Children, Youth and Families (Fred Watson) has joined the Dept. of Human Services and moved to Rouse Towers on Jefferson Avenue in Newport News. Fred extended open invitation to visit his new office on the fifth floor.
- Hampton's VA Cooperative Extension Office sponsored their annual Volunteer Recognition Appreciation celebration on Dec 9, 2008. Due to economic budgetary shortfall, they need donations that include program supplies, volunteer time and talents. Contact Karen Baker.
- The Extension Office also needs African American Master Gardeners. Ages 5-18 can be Jr. Master Gardeners. Ages 19 and above are Adult Master Gardeners.
- Karen Baker needs volunteers on 3/23/09 for the "Reality Store" at Phoebus High. This is a fun, meaningful event where young people experience the reality of managing a career, finances and family. The outcome is having high school students develop career aspirations and financial management skills.

• Business:

- Peninsula Agency on Aging is sponsoring a Governmental Summit on Jan 15, 2009 to assess the impact of budget cuts on communities and families.
- Because many service organizations are unable to meet the overwhelming requests for assistance, the GVPCCC is sponsoring a "Call To Action" on Jan 20, 2009. Continuum of Care wants to identify who has the capacity to provide assistance to needy families and how these families can access that assistance. PAA will also report out findings from their Summit.
- The "Call To Action" forum will also identify ways that human service agencies can work together to address needs. For example, the Peninsula Food Bank has a major

food shortage. Agencies could organize a combined effort to collect food to donate to the Food Bank.

- Considering budget shortfalls, non-profits can also leverage and share resources to save money i.e. collectively purchase office supplies in bulk.
- Kathy encouraged YTF to attend the Education and Training Committee (Workforce Investment Board) meeting at 8:30am on Jan 20, 2009. Location TBA.
- Charlie French, Ft. Monroe Child & Youth Services, is training guidance counselors and principals on the Peninsula about the effects of a parent/guardian's military deployment on their children. He presents information on what children experience and how it may affect their behavior. We discussed Charlie doing a presentation for non-school related youth service staff and YTF will sponsor Charlie's presentation. Further discussion at the February meeting.
- YTF ended the year with a great "pot luck" breakfast and lots of fun with "To Tell the Truth" group game!
- January meeting agenda: discuss workforce readiness curriculum with Education & Training Committee representatives; discuss presentation on effects of military deployment (time permitting)
- February meeting agenda: discuss 'effects of military deployment' presentation for youth service staff; Youth Career Café *Career Expo* reminder
- **Mark Your Calendar:**
  - January 20, 2009, 8:30am Education & Training Committee meeting, location TBA
  - January 20, 2009, 2:00pm "Call To Action Forum", MIH Resource Center
  - January 21, 2009, 9:00-10:30am Youth Task Force meeting at Alternatives Inc.
  - February 18, 2009, 9:00-10:30am, YTF meeting

