

ECOS Board Meeting May 26 2004
CAL Center – 1484 NW Civic Drive, Gresham
8:15 to 10:30 AM

MEETING NOTES:

PARTICIPANTS: Derek Beaudry – Human Solutions, Brenda Butler – Weed and Seed, RuthAnne Cox-Carothers –Easter Seals Cares, Debbie Foote – DHS Self-Sufficiency, Marian George – New Care Directions, Renee Sessler – MT. Hood Consortium, Bob Hall – David Douglas School District, Joan Pasco – ECOs project manager

Introductions and welcome: Around the table – news, events, and announcements

- Human Solutions – announced their annual golf tournament will be held June 22nd at Persimmon CC – this is one of their largest fund raisers for the year
- Rockwood Weed and Seed – Brenda thanked the ECOS board for its support for both weed and seed and the Rockwood International Marketplace – both strategies to revitalize the west Gresham area.
- DHS- Carolyn Graff is the new manager of Child Welfare in the Multnomah County region. August 1st is the estimated date that all persons on the Standard Oregon Health Plan will lose their coverage. This will have serious implications statewide.
- Easter Seals Cares – they need referral to their Latino rehabilitation programs – Ruthanne will get the criteria to Joan to be broadcast via the ECOS email system. They have 50 employers that will hire people with limited English skills as well as a disability.
- MC Aging and Disability Services – gearing up for the August 1st changes brought about by thousands losing their health coverage. The agency is interested in establishing a pre-vocational class for the East County area – (WRAW)
- David Douglas – Ron Hall, the vocational transfer coordinator works on employment services for youth with disabilities and is interested in networking with ECOS partner agencies.
- New Care Directions is chartered as both a for profit and not-for-profit organization. Their non-profit will be hosting a Care Givers Conference in November; the for profit is a school that provides education for certified nursing assistance, care givers, and family members that have suddenly been required to care for persons with medial conditions.

Old Business:

The board approved the minutes from April 28, 2004

Budget/finance report – the board accepted the financial report as presented by the Finance Committee.

Grants pending - Joan

United Way - \$11,000 – coaching institute – announcements should be made by end of May

Paul Allen Foundation - \$25,000 – Marketplace – Selections will be announced in June

Reminder to partners to consider annual contributions – Partners contributing to date: Springdale Job Corps, Mercy Corps, Oregon Vocational Services, Oregon Employment Department and MHCC Workforce Connections, Child Care Development Services

Briefing on the Rockwood International Marketplace – Joan Pasco

Joan described the opening week activities and many delays and crisis’ that occurred – but everything fell into place by Saturday AM.

Feedback from the first weekend from those able to attend: well organized, good attendance in spite of the weather, need more volunteers for set up and take down – especially Friday and Sunday evenings with the stage. Pluses and minuses:

What went very well	Improvements needed
Good entertainment, great fun	Have booths more compact – vendors closer together
Liked the Spanish Dancer	More food booths
Kids and teenagers were into the music	Figure out how to get neighbors out of their apartments
Nice event	Better PR – to get more foot traffic
Well organized	Do more door to door outreach
Good articles in the newspapers	Capture the demographics of who is coming
Good start	Put clowns on street entrances to kaiser
	Get on-site radio remotes

Idea: try to get the county to let the marketplace purchase a blanket food/restaurant license and allow small startup food vendors to sell under our permit. We lost four, perhaps five ethnic food vendors due to the high cost of county licensing.

New Business:

Discussion item – draw one partner idea and have extensive discussion – item drawn:

“Loaves & Fishes is working on it – but senior meal site in Rockwood area – there is a significant distance between current senior meal sites in Gresham and East Portland” – Brenda Butler

Discussion included: A multi-generational community service center is badly needed in the Rockwood area. This continues to be a huge unmet community need for many services in addition to Meals on Wheels/senior meal site. The unmet needs of our senior population will continue to grow with costs of health care, housing, and prescription drugs continuing to increase at a disproportionate rate to inflation. As a community, we will need to be aware of the safety nets needed for the over 65ers.

Project reports - Joan

InterCultural Coaching Institute – on hold until funding is secured for the next Institute. This Project needs at least \$10,000 of subsidy in order to produce a successful Institute. The planning team is recommending that until funds are in hand, we not set dates. Grant funding is being solicited and if obtained, a program will begin in the fall with classes scheduled on selected Saturdays throughout the winter months.

DuBois Spa and Salon – nearing the end of this one year project – final report and evaluation will be completed by July 15. The Salon will then continue this training without public sector funding.

Re-entry team – meeting on June 10 with RuthAnne and Sherleen from a new reentry group called Its-Progress. The SOROS grant is still viable – no rejection letter has been received yet.

Rockwood Weed and Seed – Brenda Butler – the DOJ will be conducting its review of the project in July – third year funds are expected to be approved. Brenda just returned from a Weed and Seed Conference in Buffalo – after the fifth year of a Weed and Seed designation, locales may reapply for a new designation if it is for an entirely different space – i.e. Fairview, Wood Village, or Troutdale.

Regional reports: No one was on hand to report from our regional partners.

WSI and state workforce

Workforce Connections

Gresham Employment Office

Announcements:

Next Rockwood Marketplace – June 19-20

Next Board Meeting: June 23 – CAL Center 8:15 to 10:30

Finance and Management Team: Monday, June 14th – 1:30 PM at Multnomah East – Chinook Room (8th and Kelly in Gresham – on the MAX line)