

East County One Stop Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 27, 2006 – 9 AM
Gresham Main City Park – under the large shelter

Host: Child Care Development Services

NOTE: NEXT BOARD MEETING: OCTOBER 25, 9 AM AT THE ROCKWOOD COMMUNITY OFFICE, 18719 SE STARK.

MEETING NOTES

Board members in attendance: Natalie Mitchell – Rockwood Weed and Seed, Carolyn Morrison – CCDS, Debbie Foote – DHS, Jeannie Schuster – Avita, Derek Beaudry – Human Solutions, Karen Hubbard – Linfield School of Nursing, JoAnn Espinosa – Springdale Job Corps, Joan Pasco – Easter Seals Oregon.

Introductions and welcome: Partner reports – news, events, and announcements

Child Care Development Services: Still waiting word on the Dept. of Education grant awards – partnering with Parkrose School District and ECOS on a Parental Involvement Strategy. In process of getting all child care provider training workshops in an electronic, on-line format. CCDS is doing more provider training than anyone in the state. Working with PSU Career Development Center to get all CCDS staff training certifications. A recent state forum focused on the importance of the Child & Adult Care Food program to quality child care. A partnership with Linfield School of Nursing will begin next week, with students doing health assessments in provider homes.

DHS – Have started a new pilot program with the Housing Authority of Portland GOALS project. Currently working with 10 persons that have gotten a job and can pay more for rent...the increased rent payment goes into an interest-bearing personal escrow account that accrues for up to 5 years. The cash payout can be significant and pay for education or a down payment on a home. Oregon's former waivers for Welfare to Work rules have expired. The new rules limit people to five years on TANF – over their lifetime. Debbie will bring more information on the implications of this new limit to the next meeting.

Job Developers Network: JDN is seeking funds from worksystems inc to support a person to keep the JDN information network going. They may need to find a new host site for their activity.

Weed and Seed: their new VITA center is open in the Rockwood Community Office. (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance). The office is located in the Fred Meyer annex building on Burnside and Stark. It is open from 9 AM to 5 PM and is a designated "Safe Haven" place for youth. There is a 24 hour 9-1-1 phone on the outside of the building. They have two conference rooms available for meetings. Contact Mavis Murray at GPD to reserve a room.

Human Solutions has its new Living Solutions program located in the Rockwood office as well. The program provides training for persons interested in entry level jobs in Health and Human Services.

The Minutes from August 23rd board meeting were approved as presented.

Regional reports:

WSI and state workforce; Workforce Connections and Gresham Employment Office – no reports at this meeting.

ECOS Project reports

Rockwood Weed and Seed – In addition to the VITA project listed above, Rockwood Weed and Seed is supporting an October 3rd candle-light vigil for victims of domestic violence and the programs that support these victims. Volunteers are needed to support VITA services during tax season. Volunteers will receive 40 hours of training at PSU. They are also seeking a part time coordinator to direct the VITA project. The August 26th event and September 9th Back-to-School fair went well with over 650 people attending the fair. It was considered a big success and generated good media coverage. The Urban Renewal Committee is inviting input from the community. They are working on a vision and ID Branding project for Rockwood and uses for the Fred Meyer site/triangle.

SSP – Senior Safety Pin Project – 48 isolated seniors who are still living in their own homes are being recruited to participate in this project. Nursing students from Linfield School of Nursing will check in with these seniors twice a month. Students gain good practicum experience with geriatric care and medication management and the seniors receive support and health and safety assessment. 7 students are already seeing clients of the project. More seniors are needed in order for the students to have a full component of persons in their care. Karen made an appeal for ECOS partners to help find persons that would benefit from this service.

SCSEP – Senior Community Service Experience Project, a collaboration with Easter Seals – Host sites are needed that will provide work experience for persons over the age of 55 who need to get back into the workforce. There is no charge to the host agency. The project pays the seniors minimum wage for up to 20 hours a week. The goal is for them to acquire work skills, references and work history in order to be competitive in a job search.

MIPO – Microenterprise Inventor Project of Oregon – funded by the Lemelson Foundation, the coaching and mentoring services will begin this month. A full calendar of events is posted on the ECOS web site under MIPO. www.eastcountyonestop.org. Kedma is attending a two day International Conference sponsored by the foundation and bringing together project managers from their funded programs located world-wide. She will have a complete report at the next ECOS meeting. 25 persons from Coos Bay have signed up for MIPO. Inventors are excited about the project. MIPO will offer a cost effective way to avoid scams; access patent support, design engineers, research agents and more. The project is considering an out-post in Eugene.

DBA – Differently-Abled Business Association – This is a mini Chamber of Commerce to support persons with a disability who are self-employed or running a small business. The project includes training, mentoring, networking, resources, and procurement assistance. Check the ECOS web-site for complete information and a calendar of events. The project has strong support from VR counselors. A grand opening will be held on Friday October 13th at the AVITA training room – 2240 N. Interstate Ave. from 4 to 6 PM. Several elected officials have indicated they will attend. The membership fee is only \$79 and is good through December of 2007. The coaching and jump start your business workshops are free to members and \$10 for non-members.

OECD MVIP – Market Vendor Incubator Project – The vendor training is currently being conducted for vendors in the Hollywood Farmers Market, Forest Grove Market and Portland Saturday Market. The project supports training and booth observation to help these vendors maximize sales through a market format.

CEO/JOLI project with Easter Seals – CEO – Creative Earning Options is still supporting 56 self-employed persons through this project. The project ends in February, 2007 and no additional businesses will be added. Support for those engaged includes business coaching, monthly workshops and training, and access to small business loans.

Budget/finance report – refer to finance report – attached, separate excel doc. The Board accepted the finance report as presented.

2006 ECOS partner contributions are still due – If you need a second invoice, please let Joan know. Contributions have been received from Springdale Job Corps, Mercy Corps, MHCC, Goodwill Industries, Rockwood Weed and Seed, Easter Seals Oregon, OVRs, Worksource Oregon, and Portland Habilitation Services – Thank you all for your prompt response – and a gentle reminder to other partners – your support is needed to cover the 501 c3 obligations for our organization. There are certain expenses that cannot be covered from grant funded projects.

Pending grants:

- Growing Tomorrow's Parents Today – CCDS, ECOS and PSD – We received word on October 2nd that this proposal was not funded.

New Business:

TANF 5 year status report – Debbie Foote – A complete report will be forthcoming. Right now there is a lot of uncertainty about impacts and numbers of persons likely to lose benefits at the end of the first five year time frame.

Proof of Citizenship requirements – Debbie Foote – Proof of citizenship is now required to receive services from TANF (not for food stamps, however). The proof includes photo ID, passport, naturalization papers, and/or certified copy of birth certificate. The Citizenship Help Center is located in the DHS office at 82nd and Flavel.

Passports needed after Jan. 8th – Unless an eighteen-month extension is granted, anyone traveling outside the US will need a passport after Jan. 8th. This includes children. This will have a large and expensive impact on families that routinely travel back to Mexico each year. Passports cost \$97 each.

Minimum wage raises to \$7.80 after Jan. 1st. This will have budget implications for all ECOS partner organizations as all other wages will go up proportionately.

Other items of interest? Trends that may have implications for partners?

If passed, Governor Kulongoski's proposed tax on cigarettes will help fund health care for Oregon children.

PSU is sponsoring a Non-Profit Career Fair on Thursday, October 19th.

Meeting schedule for fall/winter:

Finance and Management Team: Monday, October 16 - 11:30 Sunny Hans

Board Meetings:

October 25 – Rockwood Community Center (Old Fred Meyer Annex Building)

November 29 – TBD – any volunteers?

No meeting in December

January – annual board retreat – Wednesday, Jan. 24th at Springdale Job Corps.