

Commission on the Elimination of Poverty

Living with Dignity Working Committee

December 3, 2009 - 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Dwight Lucas – East Central Illinois Community Action Association (Chair)
State Representative Sandra Pihos
Tom Yates – Health & Disability Advocates
Jim Lewis – Chicago Community Trust
Karen Bayer – Ecker Center
Andy Kulczycki – Community Service Center of Northern Champaign County
Lanita Kostner – State Board of Education
Cheryl Boyd – The H-Group
Reggie Lewis – Office of State Senator Jacqueline Collins
Macfarland Bragg - Peoria Citizens Committee for Economic Opportunity
Jen Hrycyna – Shriver Center
Grace Hou – Illinois Department of Human Services
Amy Rynell – Social IMPACT Research Center of Heartland Alliance
Amy Terpstra – Social IMPACT Research Center of Heartland Alliance
Frank mcniel – Illinois Department of Children and Family Services
Sharon Hess – Southern Illinois Coalition for the Homeless
Rene Luna – Access Living
Cheri Neal Detzig – Zion Township
Doug Schenkelberg – Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights

1. Introduction – Dwight Lucas (Chair)
 - a. Committee chair and committee members introduction
 - b. Review committee roster
 - i. Committee members were asked to recommend a committee co-chair and additional committee members.
2. Overview of the Commission – Doug Schenkelberg (staff)
 - a. Commission history and goal
 - b. Correlation of human rights and poverty
3. Presentation of Data of Special Interest to the Committee – Amy Rynell – Social IMPACT Research Center of Heartland Alliance
4. Review Committee Role and Responsibility – Dwight Lucas
 - a. Explanation of committee goals and responsibility

- i. All of the working committees will ensure the following are addressed/taken into account during their deliberations:
 - 1. The work, process, and recommendations are all consistent with international human rights standards.
 - 2. The process takes into consideration all of the issues area stated in the Act – food, health care, housing, childcare, income supports, transportation, education, & training, work
 - 3. The work is focused on the specific goal of the plan – cutting extreme poverty in half by 2015. With this focus, each committee will develop specific, measurable recommendations.
- ii. Heartland and the Governor’s office are staffing the commission and committees. They will provide support, but all committee members should be prepared to give time and energy between meetings to make sure we stay on task and produce a quality product. We cannot rely solely on staff to do the work between meetings.

5. Next steps & Homework (Dwight Lucas & Doug Schenkelberg)

- a. Suggested meeting progression
 - i. Meeting One – Data for population/logistics/human rights
 - ii. Meeting Two – Determine Indicator/Measurement tools & Presentation of Existing Recommendations
 - 1. Staff prepared set of recommendation an potential indicators tied to data
 - iii. Meeting Three – Recommendations Discussion
 - iv. Meeting Four – Recommendations Discussion
 - v. Meeting Five – Finalize/Approve Recommendations
- b. Creating Recommendations
 - i. Come to the next meeting with suggested recommendations that address the data, the goal, and are consistent with international human rights standards.
- c. Establishing Progress Indicators/Measurement Tools
 - i. The Federal Poverty Line does not give a sufficient picture of poverty nor does it allow us to adequately measure progress.
 - ii. Participants should think about indicators they think are of value for the next meeting for a full discussion.