

CAMConnect Board Meeting October 19, 2006

Present: Hilary Colbert, CPAC; Jean Mouch, Medical Mission Sisters; Lauren Hill, Education Law Center; Joe Myers, Cooper's Ferry Development Assoc.; Derek Ziegler, CAMConnect; Sean Brown, CAMConnect-VISTA; Krista Briglia, United Way of Camden County; Jerome Harris, Harris Organization; Alice Markey, OLLMC; Bernadette West, UMDNJ; Carol Dann, and Kevin Hickey, Catholic Charities

- The review and approval of July 2006 Board meeting minutes was postponed.
- Executive Director's Update
 - CAMConnect has 40 plus members who are paid and in good standing, our goal is to have 60 members by the end of the year. For a listing of members please contact Derek. Staff and Board members will be involved in recruiting new members.
 - Organizational Structure consists of 40-50 members who are residents, organizational representatives that elect Board and participate based on their availability; 20 Board members who meet quarterly; and 9 officers and committees of one.
 - Foundations – Annie E. Casey Foundation has funded CAMConnect for the past five years, however no additional funding will be available from AECF; the \$20,000 match funding will be provided.
 - Contracts to provide general purpose data analysis and review are underway with Camden City Youth Services Commission, the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers, and Abbott Indicators.
 - Other projects include Camden Numbers & Data (Snapshots), Camden Facts (identified as the most useful and are frequently downloaded), and Poverty data examined and QuickFacts created which includes explanatory information about the data. Jerry indicated that Ralph Smith, AECF, presented to the County/Community College Trustees and challenged the two-year institutions to help address issues of poverty. What partnership can we develop with Gary Diven, Camden County College - Camden to provide data support?

- Board nominations – Derek will contact nominees to determine their interest in be considered on the election ballots, Survey Monkey will be used to conduct the Board elections.
 - Budget – Members reviewed the 2006 Budget document. A new laser color printer was purchased; Derek indicated that we should be able to break even; there are still funds in the bank from previous years.
 - Bernadette asked whether CAMConnect received the funding from its work on the Health Survey, Derek indicated that the funds were not received. Bernadette will follow-up with UMDNJ to determine the status of the funds.
 - Carol stated that members should provide contact/connection to foundation and institution representatives for CAMConnect to explore funding opportunities.
- Sean's/VISTA Update
 - Outreach – neighborhood collaboration remains a challenge, however strong relationship with the library has been developed to generate information regarding why people use the library, who are they, when do they come, when people request Camden data encourage library staff to direct people to CAMConnect website. Sean intends to focus on recruiting more diverse members including Camden residents, business owners, etc.
 - Camden Public Schools – Sean will develop a correspondence presenting an overview of the potential advantages of a relationship between Camden Public School and CAMConnect, Lauren agreed to assist Sean as necessary.
 - Activity on the CAMConnect website has increased.
 - Future activities will include: CAPA reports, Camden Numbers & Facts, OPRA requests regarding Randy Primas and DCA, MOU, contact some of the large organizations in the city like CCOEO and Center for Family Services to determine whether CAMConnect could support their data needs, create posters for use in Camden schools and business that promote CAMConnect, and CAMConnect members as Ambassadors to promote the organization and ensure that members are aware of the services and data supports provided.

- Vista activities – on October 27th local Vista workers will be at check cashing companies to encourage customers to use the local banks to conduct their banking activities, local banks will decrease their regulations for identification in order to accommodate Camden residents to be eligible to conduct their banking business at area banking institutions. There will also be tours of the city provided, members are encouraged to participate. Carol indicated that data which reflects potential savings for customers of check cashing shops should be presented. A recommendation to contact Aaron Cooper at CCYD to ask for youth participation was offered.
- Board responsibilities document was presented and discussed
- CAMConnect Data Fair will be held on Friday, December 1, 2006 at Rutgers-Camden, potential data presentation include: Housing Community Development Network of NJ, Health Data, Poverty Data, Safer Cities, Hopeworks, Homeless, Information booth of Microsoft. The member breakfast will precede the Data Fair. A member survey regarding CAMConnect strategic priorities could be conducted at the Data Fair. This information will be helpful in charting future activities, projects, etc.
- A new CAMConnect budget will be prepared for the January 2007 meeting, in-kind funding support from Cooper will be included to recognize their contributions and as a marketing tool to pursue additional support from large local organizations and institutions
- CAMConnect receives an internal audit conducted by Cooper Foundation, the issue of discussing a CAMConnect 501 (c) (3) application may be revisited to obtain an independent status, must examine the pros and cons of this endeavor.
- Board goals for 2007 include updating strategic plan and guiding documents, ½ day retreat for Board training at or about the end of January or mid February 2007, Derek will provide Joe with possible retreat dates to reserve space at Cooper's Ferry; secure major funders for organizational support, perhaps an individual with high wealth to adopt CAMConnect; recruit businesses as a way to enhance funding streams, Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Initiatives, LAEDA, universities; discuss and develop how to leverage talents and abilities to help grow membership, provide access to data, and distribute our

data. One possible area of work is to prepare data presenting the status or transitions post MEIRA legislation, how can we impact/produce data that will be useful to next steps, ex. Workforce, poverty, etc.

- Jerry asked whether the staff performance evaluation was completed, Derek indicated that it has been completed and is posted on the website along with workplan.
- **The next meeting will be Friday, December 1, 2006 prior to the Data Fair at Rutgers.**
- Meeting Adjourned.