



CAMConnect, E & R Bldg, 401 Haddon Ave., Camden, NJ 08103; Phone (856) 968-9506, Fax (856) 757-9779,
www.camconnect.org

MEMO

To: CAMConnect Executive Committee
From: Derek Ziegler
Date: February 2, 2006
Re: Executive Director Update

REQUESTS

Bus pass for Sean Brown (CAMConnect VISTA) – Sean is attending at least 3-4 meetings out of the office per week with various community groups, such as the Police District councils, community groups, and others. Trips to and from work are the VISTA's responsibility, but for transportation to community meetings, VISTAs are supposed to be reimbursed by the sponsoring project. Given the volume of meetings that Sean is attending, a monthly bus pass will be more efficient and cost-effective. *REQUEST: Retroactive to January 2006, CAMConnect will purchase a monthly bus pass for Sean Brown at a cost of \$41. Estimated total cost for 2006 is \$451.*

Advertising for Data Manager position – I have advertised the Data Manager position through several universities and free services so far and will continue to expand my efforts to do so. However, I think it is also necessary to post through several paid services, such as the CareerBuilder on Philly.com, the American Public Health Association, and idealist.org, among others. *REQUEST: Authorize the Executive Director to spend up to \$1,000 for advertisement of the Data Manager position at his discretion, in consultation with the Executive Committee and the Fiscal Agent where appropriate.*

FUND DEVELOPMENT / PROPOSALS

Casey – We have received the first portion of our 2005-06 funds for \$30,000. I submitted an interim report this week. The remaining \$20,000 of this grant is a match for funds raised by CAMConnect, which I documented along with my interim report.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: Various - Jeff Brenner and Susan Liu from Cooper have received another grant from RWJF to develop the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers. \$20,000 of this grant will be dedicated to supporting CAMConnect's creation of a database to synthesize this information.

Members – Heart of Camden Housing Corp., Lauren Hill, and Virtua Health have joined as members in the past month. Volunteers of America – Delaware Valley has also expressed interest in joining at the Large Organization rate. Board members were asked to identify 3-5 potential members at the 1/26/06 meeting.

Abbott Indicators – Education Law Center has funding from the William Penn Foundation for additional work in Camden. ELC is recruiting a consultant to accomplish the objective of more fully engaging Camden residents around public education. There will likely also be some funding for CAMConnect to prepare an updated version of the Abbott Indicators Report, including the most recent data.

PROJECT UPDATES

Camden Center for Youth Development / CCYSC – This is a two-year contract for \$18,000 that began in September 2005. Work includes updating existing indicators used by CCYSC, developing a report card for Camden's youth, and other tasks. I presented to CCYSC's Advisory Board on Tuesday 1/10. The work for CCYSC will take approximately 10% of the ED's time over the next 2 years (less if a Data Manager is hired)

Kids Count Summary – We have received funding from CCYSC to complete a summary brochure of the Camden Kids Count report

Mapping – Volunteers of America - I met with Volunteers of America last week and prepared a map of parcels for a development they are doing. Using our existing parcel map that we contracted the City to prepare several years ago, this was fairly easy to prepare. Similar services could be beneficial to market to CDC's and other potential developers.

Health Report - Data files have been cross-checked and cleaned, and summary analysis on 2003 data from all three hospitals has been prepared. We also have received 2004 data from Cooper and Virtua which we will begin cleaning. Jeff Brenner has been working on preparing a database to synthesize the data, which our new Data Manager will expand and refine. I will work on preparing a summary of the potential of this data so organizations may work with CAMConnect to use it as an evaluation tool.

Camden Police Department Data – Sean has persistently pushed the Police Department to provide us with copies of the maps they are preparing for their CompStat program, and they have promised us copies of monthly maps of violent crimes by police district, which I will then post online. I will keep the Executive Committee posted on the progress of this effort.

CRA – Mapping Discussion – I am meeting with Josh Warner from the CRA next week to discuss their current mapping resources and possible opportunities for partnership around mapping issues and data sharing.

Online Opinion Leader Survey – This survey was done online in November and was targeted to opinion leaders in the City of Camden. The goal is to help inform the Camden agenda for Governor Corzine. We received 75 responses, with the largest group coming from the non-profit community. The CRA expressed concerns about the sample, methods, and implications of the survey. The Data Chair and others met with the Executive Director last week to discuss other concerns with the sampling, context of the analysis, and wording of questions.

Cramer Hill CDC Surveys – We are working with the CDC on a survey of about 500 residents and business owners related to desired community benefits in any redevelopment that takes place.

Newsletter – I prepared our first newsletter of 2006 and distributed it at the Board meeting and will mail it to the membership shortly. The newsletter is also posted online. Comments and suggestions for the future are appreciated.

SCHEDULE

March Executive Committee Meeting – Thursday, March 2

April Board Meeting – Thursday, April 20th (10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Catholic Charities)